

# INVARIANTS OF COMPLEX REDUCTIVE ALGEBRAIC GROUPS WITH SIMPLE COMMUTATOR SUBGROUPS

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ABSTRACT. Let  $G$  be a complex connected reductive algebraic group with simple commutator subgroup  $G'$ . Consider a finite dimensional representation  $\rho : G \rightarrow GL(V)$  and denote by  $\mathbb{C}[V]^G$  the  $\mathbb{C}$ -algebra consisting of polynomial functions on  $V$  which are invariant under the action of  $G$ . The purpose of this paper is to discuss on our partial classification of  $\rho$ 's such that  $\mathbb{C}[V]^G$  are polynomial rings over  $\mathbb{C}$ . Our method is based on the property of PLH defined and studied in [9] and our study on relative equidimensionality of representations under the assumption that  $G'$  is simple.

*Key Words:* coregular representations; relative invariants; reductive algebraic groups; algebraic tori; simple commutator subgroups; equidimensional actions

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

This is a worked out version of the author's talk in the 39-th Symposium on Ring Theory and Representation Theory held at Hiroshima University in 2006.

Let  $\mathbb{C}$  be the complex number field (or an algebraically closed field of characteristic zero) and suppose that algebraic groups are defined over  $\mathbb{C}$ . We denote by  $G$  a reductive algebraic group with its identity connected component  $G^0$  whose commutator subgroup is denoted to  $G'$ . and, without specifying, we may assume that  $G = G^0$ . We use the following notations:

$\mathfrak{X}(G)$  :  $\mathfrak{X}(G)$  denote the group of rational characters of  $G$  whose composition is represented as an addition.

$(V, G)$  : for a finite-dimensional representation  $\rho : G \rightarrow GL(V)$ , we denote  $\rho$  by  $(V, G)$ .

$R_\chi$  :  $R_\chi = \{f \in R \mid \sigma(f) = \chi(\sigma)f \ (\forall \sigma \in G)\}$  for a rational  $G$ -module  $R$ , which is called  $\chi$ -invariants of  $G$  in  $R$ .

$\mathbb{C}[Y]$  : the affine  $\mathbb{C}$ -algebra of polynomial functions on an affine variety  $Y$  over  $\mathbb{C}$ .

$Y//G$  : the affine variety defined by  $\mathbb{C}[Y]^G$  for a regular action  $(Y, G)$  of  $G$  on  $Y$ .

In this paper, we will study on the following classical problem:

*Problem 1.* For a (not necessarily connected)  $G$ , determine all finite dimensional representations  $(V, G)$  such that  $\mathbb{C}[V]^G$  are polynomial rings.

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This paper is based on the author's talk and the detailed proof of some results in this paper will be published elsewhere.

The following case for this problem are studied:

(1) (G. C. Shephard-J. A. Todd [14, 3]). Suppose that  $G$  is finite. Then

$$\mathbb{C}[V]^G \text{ is a polynomial ring} \iff G|_V \text{ is generated by pseudo-reflections.}$$

(2) (G.W. Schwarz-O.M. Adamovich-E.O. Golovina [2, 12]). Suppose that  $G = G^0 = G'$  is simple. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{C}[V]^G \text{ is a polynomial ring} &\iff \\ (V, G) \text{ is listed in the Tables given by [2, 12].} & \end{aligned}$$

(3) (P. Littelmann [5]). For  $G = G^0 = G'$ , the problem has been solved for irreducible representations.

(4) (D. A. Shmel'kin [11]). Suppose that  $G^0 = G'$  is simple. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{C}[V]^G \text{ is a polynomial ring} &\iff \\ (V, G) \text{ is listed in the Tables given by [11].} & \end{aligned}$$

(5) (well known?). Suppose that  $G = G^0$  and  $G' = \{1\}$ . Then

$$\mathbb{C}[V]^G \text{ is a polynomial ring} \iff \mathbb{C}[V]^G \text{ is factorial.}$$

We will study on Problem 1 in the restricted case as follows:

*Problem 2* (The Small Problem). Suppose that  $G'$  is simple. Determine all representations  $(V, G)$  of a connected non-semisimple  $G$  such that  $\mathbb{C}[V]^G$  are polynomial rings. Precisely, we raise the following *problem*:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{C}[V]^G \text{ is a polynomial ring (+some unknown conditions)} \\ \implies \mathbb{C}[V]^{G'} \text{ is a polynomial ring ?} \end{aligned}$$

By Theorem 5 & 12, we obtain this implication for some groups *without conditions*. Then, in this case, the Small Problem can be reduced to Schwarz-Adamovich-Golovina classification (cf. (2)) and coregular toric representation (cf. (5)),

## 2. BLOWING-UP REPRESENTATIONS OF CODIMENSION ONE

Recall that

$$\begin{aligned} (X, G) \text{ is a stable action of } G \text{ on an affine variety } X \\ \iff \exists \Omega \subseteq X : \text{ a non-empty open subset consisting of closed } G\text{-orbits} \\ \iff (X, G^0) : \text{ stable} \\ \iff \text{both } (X, (G^0)'), (X//((G^0)', G^0/(G^0)')) \text{ are stable (cf. [10]).} \end{aligned}$$

**Definition 1.** We define a generalization of stability as follows:

$$(X, G) \text{ is relatively stable} \iff (X//((G^0)', G^0/(G^0)')) \text{ is stable.}$$

Hereafter we suppose that  $G$  is connected reductive, and then we have an epimorphism  $Z \times G' \rightarrow G$  with a finite kernel, where  $Z$  is a connected torus. So, we may assume that  $G = Z \times G'$ .

*Remark 2.* For a representation  $(V, G)$ ,

it is relatively stable  $\iff \mathbb{C}[V]_\chi \neq \{0\}$  implies  $\mathbb{C}[V]_{-\chi} \neq \{0\}$  for  $\chi \in \mathfrak{X}(Z)$ .

Especially in the case where  $\mathbb{C}[V_i]^{G'} \neq \mathbb{C}$  for arbitrary irreducible component  $V_i$  of  $V$ , we see that

$\exists$  a relatively stable subrepresentation  $(V', G)$  of  $(V, G)$   
such that  $\mathbb{C}[V]^G = \mathbb{C}[U]^G$ .

**2.1. Definition and properties of PLH.** Let  $Y$  be an affine variety such that  $\mathbb{C}[Y]$  is a positively graded factorial domain defined over  $\mathbb{C}$  with a grade preseving rational action of  $Z$  as  $\mathbb{C}$ -automorphisms. For an element  $\sigma \in \text{Aut}_{\mathbb{C}\text{-alg}}(\mathbb{C}[Y])$  is said to be a *generalized reflection*, if  $\text{ht}((\sigma - I_Y)(\mathbb{C}[Y]) \cdot \mathbb{C}[Y]) = 1$ . Let  $U$  be a minimal finite-dimensional rational module of  $Z$  admitting an homogeneous  $Z$ -equivariant epimorphism  $\mathbb{C}[U] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}[Y]$ . In this circumstance, we consider;

$(W, w)$  a pair of a  $Z$ -submodule  $W$  of  $U$  and a nonzero vector  $w \in U$   
such that  $U \cap \langle Z \cdot w \rangle_{\mathbb{C}} = \{0\}$

and the morphism

$$(\bullet + w) : W \ni x \rightarrow x + w \in U.$$

**Definition 3.** Suppose that  $(Y, Z)$  is stable. We say that  $(W, w)$  is a PLH of  $(Y, Z)$  or  $(U, Z)$ , if  $(\bullet + w)$  induces the  $\mathbb{C}$ -isomorphism  $\mathbb{C}[U]^Z \cong \mathbb{C}[W]^{Z_w}$ , i.e.,

$$\mathbb{C}[U]^Z \hookrightarrow \mathbb{C}[U]^{Z_w} \xrightarrow{(\bullet + w)^*} \mathbb{C}[W]^{Z_w}.$$

**Lemma 4.** *Suppose that  $(Y, Z)$  is stable and let  $(W, w)$  be a PLH of  $(Y, Z)$  (or  $(U, Z)$ ). Then:*

- (1) *If  $(W', w')$  is a PLH of  $(W, w)$ , then  $(W', w')$  is also a PLH of  $(U, Z)$ .*
- (2)  $\text{Cl}(\mathbb{C}[Y]^Z) \cong \text{Cl}(\mathbb{C}[Y]^{Z_w})$ .

For a ring monomorphism  $S \rightarrow R$  of Krull domains such that  $S = \mathcal{Q}(S) \cap R$  and  $\mathfrak{q} \in \text{Ht}_1(S)$ , let  $X_{\mathfrak{q}}(R) = \{\mathfrak{P} \in \text{Ht}_1(R) \mid \mathfrak{P} \cap S = \mathfrak{q}\}$ , where  $\text{Ht}_1(\circ)$  stands for the set consisting of all prime ideals of  $\circ$  of height one. In the case where  $S = R^L$  for a subgroup  $L$  of  $\text{Aut}(R)$ , the sets  $X_{\mathfrak{q}}(R)$  ( $\forall \mathfrak{q} \in (S)$ ) are not empty (cf. [7]).

**2.2. Notations for representations.** Suppose that  $(V, G)$  is relatively stable. Let  $V_{G'}$  denote the  $G$ -submodule of  $V$  satisfying

$$V = V_{G'} \oplus V^{G'}.$$

We express

$$\mathbb{C}[V]^{G'} = \mathbb{C}[V^{G'}] \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} \mathbb{C}[f_i, g_j, h_k],$$

where a homogeneous generating system

$$\{f_1, \dots, f_l, g_1, \dots, g_m, h_1, \dots, h_n\}$$

of  $\mathbb{C}[V_{G'}]^{G'}$  as a  $\mathbb{C}$ -algebra can be chosen in such a way that the following conditions are satisfied:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ht}(f\mathbb{C}[V] \cap \mathbb{C}[V]^G) &= \text{ht}(g\mathbb{C}[V] \cap \mathbb{C}[V]^G) = 1, \\ \text{ht}(h\mathbb{C}[V] \cap \mathbb{C}[V]^G) &\geq 2, \\ |X_{f\mathbb{C}[V] \cap \mathbb{C}[V]^G}(\mathbb{C}[V]^{G'})| &= 1, \\ |X_{g\mathbb{C}[V] \cap \mathbb{C}[V]^G}(\mathbb{C}[V]^{G'})| &\geq 2. \end{aligned}$$

We apply the concept of PHL for the pair of  $Y$  and  $U$  to the affine variety  $Y$  defined by  $\mathbb{C}[V]^{G'}$  and

$$U = V^{G'} \oplus \langle f_i, g_j, h_k \rangle_{\mathbb{C}}^{\vee}$$

with the natural  $\mathbb{C}$ -epimorphism

$$\mathbb{C}[U] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}[Y] = \mathbb{C}[V]^{G'}$$

having grade preserving  $Z$ -actions.

**2.3. The Main Theorem for blowing-up representations.** The main result of this Section is

**Theorem 5.** *Suppose that  $G'$  is simple and  $(V, G)$  is relatively stable. Suppose that*

$$\{\mathfrak{q} \in \text{Ht}_1(\mathbb{C}[V_{G'}]^{G'}) \mid |X_{\mathfrak{q}}(\mathbb{C}[V]^{G'})| \geq 2\}$$

*is nonempty and the action of  $Z$  on the  $\mathbb{C}$ -subalgebra  $\mathbb{C}[V_{G'}]^{G'}$  is non-trivial. Then the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (1)  $\mathbb{C}[V]^G$  is factorial.
- (2) The stabilizer  $Z_w|_{\mathbb{C}[V]^{G'}}$  is a finite group generated by generalized reflections in  $\text{Aut}_{\mathbb{C}\text{-alg}}(\mathbb{C}[V]^{G'})$ , where  $w$  is a point in  $U$  such that  $(W, w)$  is a minimal PLH of  $(Y, Z)$  for some  $W \subseteq U$ .
- (3)  $\mathbb{C}[V]$  is a free  $\mathbb{C}[V]^{G'}$ -module and the condition (2) holds.
- (4)  $\mathbb{C}[V]^G$  is a polynomial ring.

The assumption of this theorem is characterized by

**Proposition 6.**  *$m > 0$  if and only if the following condition is satisfied:*

$$\{\mathfrak{q} \in \text{Ht}_1(\mathbb{C}[V_{G'}]^{G'}) \mid |X_{\mathfrak{q}}(\mathbb{C}[V]^{G'})| \geq 2\} \text{ is nonempty.}$$

*Remark 7.* Since the condition (2) in Theorem 5 implies that  $\mathbb{C}[V]^{G'}$  is a polynomial ring. Hence, under the condition that  $m > 0$ , we see that

$$\mathbb{C}[V]^G \text{ is a polynomial ring} \implies \mathbb{C}[V]^{G'} \text{ is a polynomial ring,}$$

i.e., the Small Problem is affirmative in this case.

2.4. **A Sketch of the Proof of Theorem 5.** By Lemma 4, we see that

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbb{C}[V]^G \text{ is factorial} &\implies \mathbb{C}[Y]^{Z_w} \text{ is factorial} \\
&\implies (Y, Z_w) : \text{cofree} \\
&\quad \downarrow \\
&(Y, Z_w) : \text{equidimensional} \\
&\implies (Y, (Z_w)^0) : \text{equidimensional} \\
&\quad \downarrow
\end{aligned}$$

Theorem 5 is reduced to the next theorem (cf. Theorem 8).  $\square$

**Theorem 8.** *Suppose that  $G'$  is simple and  $(V, G)$  is relatively stable. Suppose that the action of  $Z$  on  $\mathbb{C}[V_{G'}]^{G'}$  is non-trivial and on  $Y$  is equidimensional. Then*

- (1)  $\mathbb{C}[V]$  is a free  $\mathbb{C}[V]^G$ -module.
- (2)  $\mathbb{C}[V]$  is a free  $\mathbb{C}[V]^{G'}$ -module.

The proof of this theorem, which is regarded as a generalization of a part of [1] and [13], is not ring theoretical but is a consequence of case-by-case arguments on invariants of representatons of simple algebraic groups.

### 3. NO-BLOWING-UP REPRESENTATIONS OF CODIMENSION ONE

We will, now, treat the case where  $m = 0$  and  $n > 0$  (we suppose that  $(V, G)$  is relatively stable).

**Lemma 9.** *If  $\mathbb{C}[V]^G$  a polynomial ring, then the localization  $((\mathbb{C}[V_{G'}]^{G'})^{Z_w})_{h_1 \dots h_n}$  is a regular ring. Here  $w$  is a nonzero point of  $U$  such that  $(W, w)$  is a minimal PLH of  $(Y, Z)$ .*

Express  $V_{G'} = \bigoplus_i V_i$ , where each  $V_i$  is irreducible component of  $V_{G'}$  as a representation of  $G$ . For any polynomial  $h \in \mathbb{C}[V]$ , put

$$\text{supp}(h) = \{i \mid (\mathbb{C}[V] \xrightarrow{\text{can.}} \mathbb{C}[V/V_i])(h) \neq 0\}.$$

Consider the following condition:

$$(3.1) \quad \mathbb{C}[V_i]^{G'} \neq \mathbb{C} \quad (\forall i \text{ such that } V_i \subseteq V_{G'}).$$

**Lemma 10.** *Suppose that the condition (3.1) holds. For any  $1 \leq k \leq n$ , we see that  $\text{supp}(h_k)$  is a set of singleton.*

**Lemma 11.** *Suppose that the condition (3.1) holds. Put  $J := \cup_{k=1}^n \text{supp}(h_k)$ . Then*

$$\mathbb{C}[\bigoplus_{i \in J} V_i]^{G'} \cong \bigotimes_{i \in J} \mathbb{C}[V_i]^{G'}$$

and this is a  $|J|$ -dimensional polynomial ring.

**3.1. The Main Theorem for no-blowing-up representaitons.** We use the following notation: Let  $\Phi_1, \dots, \Phi_r$  be the fundamental irreducible representations of a simple group of rank  $r$  whose numbering are standard (e.g, [15]) and  $\phi\psi$  denote the highest weight irreducible representation in  $\phi \otimes \psi$  of irreducible  $\phi$  and  $\psi$ .

We say that, for example, “ $(V, G')$  contains the irreducible representation *quasi-equivalent* to  $(\Phi_4, \mathbf{D}_5)$ ” if  $(V, \tilde{G}')$  contains  $(\tilde{\Phi}_4, \tilde{G}')$  for a universal covering group  $\tilde{G}'$  of  $G'$ . Precisely, consider an isomorphism  $\nu : \tilde{G}' \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathbf{D}_5$  and regard

$$\tilde{G}' \xrightarrow{\nu} \mathbf{D}_5 \xrightarrow{\Phi_4} GL(\Phi_4)$$

as  $(\tilde{\Phi}_4, \tilde{G}')$ .

**Theorem 12.** *Suppose that  $G'$  is simple and that  $(V, G')$  contains none of the irreducible representations quasi-equivalent to the following list:*

$$(\Phi_1, \mathbf{A}_r), (\Phi_2, \mathbf{A}_r), (\Phi_1, \mathbf{C}_r), (\Phi_4, \mathbf{D}_5).$$

*Then if  $\mathbb{C}[V]^G$  is a polynomial ring, so is  $\mathbb{C}[V]^{G'}$ .*

**3.2. Some auxiliary results.** The following criterion on stability of semisimple group actions on factorial varieties is well known:

**Proposition 13** (V.L. Popov [10]). *Let  $(V, G')$  be any representation of  $G'$ . The following conditions (1) and (2) are equivalent and in the case where  $(V, G')$  is irreducible and  $G'$  is simple, the following four conditions are equivalent:*

- (1) *The generic stabilizer of  $(V, G)$  is reductive.*
- (2)  *$(V, G')$  is a stable action.*
- (3)  *$\mathbb{C}[V]^{G'} \neq \mathbb{C}$ .*
- (4)  *$V$  contains non-trivial closed orbit.*

For a torus  $T_1$  of rank one and a representation  $R$  of  $T_1$ , put

$$q_{T_1}(R) := \min\{\dim R_-, \dim R_+\},$$

where  $R_- = \bigoplus_{j \in \mathbb{N}} R_{-j\chi}$  and  $R_+ = \bigoplus_{j \in \mathbb{N}} R_{j\chi}$  and  $\mathfrak{X}(T_1) = \langle \chi \rangle$ . The number  $q_{T_1}(R)$  does not depend on  $\chi$ .

**Theorem 14** (V.G. Kac-V.L. Popov-E.B. Vinberg [4]). *Suppose that  $G'$  is simple and  $(R, G')$  is any irreducible representation which is quasi-equivalent to neither  $(\Phi_1\Phi_2, \mathbf{A}_3)$  nor  $(\Phi_1^3, \mathbf{A}_3)$ . If  $\mathbb{C}[R]^{G'}$  is not a polynomial ring, then there exists a subtorus  $T_1$  of rank one of  $G'$  such that the following conditions hold:*

- (1)  *$(R^{T_1}, N_{G'}(T_1)/T_1)$  is stable and its generic stabilizer is finite.*
- (2)  *$q_{T_1}(R) - q_{T_1}((\text{Ad}, G')) \geq 3$ .*

In order to study the Small Problem, we need a refinement of Theorem 14 as follows (some results related to this can be found in [8]) :

**Lemma 15.** *Let  $N$  be a reductive algebraic group with its commutator subgroup  $N'$  and  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$  be non-trivial finite dimensional representations of  $N$ . Suppose that the action  $(\varphi//N', N/N')$  is stable (i.e.,  $(\varphi, N)$  is relatively stable) and the generic stabilizer is finite. Then  $(\varphi \oplus \psi//N', N/N')$  is stable.*

**Proposition 16.** *Let  $N$  be a reductive algebraic group and  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$  be non-trivial finite dimensional representations of  $N$ . Suppose that the action  $(\varphi//N', N)$  is stable (i.e.,  $(\varphi, N)$  is relatively stable) and the generic stabilizer is finite. Then  $(\varphi \oplus \psi, N)$  is stable.*

**Lemma 17.** *Let  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$  be non-trivial finite dimensional representations of  $G'$ . Suppose that  $(\varphi, G')$  has a closed  $G'$ -orbit whose stabilizer is denoted to  $H_1$ . Let  $H_2$  be a reductive closed subgroup of  $H_1$  such that  $(\psi^{H_2}, N_{G'}(H_2))$  is stable and its generic stabilizer is finite. Then, for any nonzero homogeneous  $h \in \mathbb{C}[\varphi]^{G'}$ , there exists a nonzero  $x \in (\varphi \oplus \psi)^{H_2}$  such that*

- (1)  $Gx$  is closed in  $\varphi \oplus \psi$ .
- (2)  $h(x) \neq 0$ .
- (3) The stabilizer  $N_{G'}(H_2)_x$  is finite.

**Lemma 18.** *Let  $(\varphi, G')$  be an irreducible representation of a simple  $G'$  such that  $\dim(\mathbb{C}[\varphi]^{G'}) = 1$ . For arbitrary irreducible representation  $\psi$  of  $G'$  and arbitrary nonzero homogeneous polynomial function  $h \in \mathbb{C}[\psi]^{G'}$ , if  $\mathbb{C}[\psi]^{G'}$  is not a polynomial ring, then there exist a subtorus  $T_1$  of rank one of  $G'$  and a nonzero vector  $x \in \varphi \oplus \psi$  such that*

- (1)  $h(x) \neq 0$ .
- (2)  $q_{T_1}(\varphi \oplus \psi) - q_{T_1}((\text{Ad}, G')) \geq 3$ .
- (3)  $N_{G'}(T)_x$  is finite.

**Lemma 19.** *Suppose that  $G'$  is simple, simply connected and let  $\psi_i$  be irreducible representations of  $G'$  such that  $\dim \mathbb{C}[\psi_i]^{G'} = 1$  ( $1 \leq i \leq u$ ). Suppose that  $u \geq 2$ . Then  $\mathbb{C}[\oplus_{i=1}^u \psi_i]^{G'} = \otimes_{i=1}^u \mathbb{C}[\psi_i]^{G'}$  if and only if  $u = 2$  and  $(\oplus_{i=1}^2 \psi_i, G')$  is quasi-equivalent to  $(\Phi_1 \oplus \Phi_3, \mathbf{B}_3)$  or  $(\Phi_1 \oplus \Phi_3, \mathbf{D}_4)$ .*

**Lemma 20.** *Suppose that  $G'$  is simple, simply connected and of type  $\mathbf{B}_3$  or  $\mathbf{D}_3$ . Let  $\psi$  be an irreducible representation of  $G'$  such that  $\mathbb{C}[\psi]^{G'}$  is not a polynomial ring. Suppose that  $(V, G') = (\psi \oplus \Phi_1 \oplus \Phi_3, \mathbf{B}_3)$  or  $(\psi \oplus \Phi_1 \oplus \Phi_3, \mathbf{D}_3)$ . Moreover, let  $h_1$  and  $h_2$  be homogeneous polynomial functions satisfying  $\mathbb{C}[\Phi_1]^{G'} = \mathbb{C}[h_1]$ ,  $\mathbb{C}[\Phi_3]^{G'} = \mathbb{C}[h_2]$ . Then there exists a subtorus  $T_1$  of rank one of  $G'$  and a nonzero vector  $x \in V^{T_1}$  such that*

- (1)  $h_i(x) \neq 0$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ).
- (2)  $q_{T_1}(\varphi \oplus \psi) - q_{T_1}((\text{Ad}, G')) \geq 3$ .
- (3) The stabilizer  $N_{G'}(T)_x$  is finite.

**3.3. A Sketch of the Proof of Theorem 12.** By Lemma 9, 18, 19, 20 and the Slice Étale [6], we see

$\mathbb{C}[V]^{G'}$  is a polynomial ring  $\implies$   
 $(V, G')$  does not contain non-coregular irreducible components.

computation  $\Downarrow$  C.I.T.

$\mathbb{C}[V]^{G'}$  is a polynomial ring.  $\square$

Consequently we conclude that the Small Problem is affirmative also in this case.

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