

# Alternant polynomial differential forms and coinvariants of finite pseudo-reflection groups

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Based on joint work with  
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Slides: [http://www.math.ucsd.edu/~jswanson/talks/2019\\_SMU.pdf](http://www.math.ucsd.edu/~jswanson/talks/2019_SMU.pdf)

# Outline

- ▶ The *Delta conjecture*, Zabrocki's *super diagonal coinvariant conjecture*, and *alternants*
- ▶ *Pseudo-reflection groups* and *invariant theory*
- ▶ Description of the *alternant invariants* and *coinvariants* via *harmonics*
- ▶ *Perfect pairings* and *differential actions*

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# The Delta conjecture and Zabrocki's conjecture

- ▶  $\mathbb{Q}[\mathbf{x}_n, \mathbf{y}_n, \boldsymbol{\theta}_n]$  = polynomial ring with commuting indeterminates  $x_1, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_n$ , and anti-commuting indeterminates  $\theta_1, \dots, \theta_n$ , so  $\theta_i \theta_j = -\theta_j \theta_i$ .
- ▶  $\mathfrak{S}_n$  = the symmetric group of order  $n$ , acting via simultaneous permutation:  $\sigma(x_i) := x_{\sigma(i)}, \sigma(y_i) := y_{\sigma(i)}, \sigma(\theta_i) := \theta_{\sigma(i)}$ .
- ▶  $\mathbb{Q}[\mathbf{x}_n, \mathbf{y}_n, \boldsymbol{\theta}_n]_+^{\mathfrak{S}_n}$  = the *coinvariant ideal*, generated by homogeneous, non-constant  $\mathfrak{S}_n$ -invariants
- ▶  $\mathbb{Q}[\mathbf{x}_n, \mathbf{y}_n, \boldsymbol{\theta}_n] / \mathbb{Q}[\mathbf{x}_n, \mathbf{y}_n, \boldsymbol{\theta}_n]_+^{\mathfrak{S}_n}$  = the *super diagonal coinvariant algebra*, a tri-graded  $\mathfrak{S}_n$ -module.

The  $\theta$ -degree 0 component is the classic Garsia–Haiman diagonal coinvariant algebra with intimate connections to Macdonald theory. Everything will be hard in full generality!

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## Question

What is the tri-graded  $\mathfrak{S}_n$ -isomorphism type of the super diagonal coinvariant algebra?

## Conjecture (Zabrocki '19)

We have

$$\text{GrFrob}(\mathbb{Q}[\mathbf{x}_n, \mathbf{y}_n, \boldsymbol{\theta}_n]/\mathbb{Q}[\mathbf{x}_n, \mathbf{y}_n, \boldsymbol{\theta}_n]_+^{\mathfrak{S}_n}; q, t, z) = \sum_{i=1}^n z^{n-k} \Delta'_{e_{k-1}} e_n$$

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- ▶ The  $z = 0$  case recovers the famous “*master formula*” conjecture of Garsia–Haiman, which was later proved by Haiman after solving the  *$n!$  conjecture* and *Macdonald positivity conjecture*.
- ▶ The right-hand side is half (one-third) of the *Delta conjecture* of Haglund–Remmel–Wilson, which gives two explicit monomial expansions for this expression as a generating function for labeled Dyck paths.
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$$\text{Hilb}((\mathbb{Q}[\mathbf{x}_n, \boldsymbol{\theta}_n]/\mathbb{Q}[\mathbf{x}_n, \boldsymbol{\theta}_n]_{+}^{\mathfrak{S}_n})^{\text{sgn}}; q, z) \stackrel{?}{=} \prod_{i=1}^{n-1} (z + q^i).$$

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- ▶ First hint:  $\Delta := \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} (x_i - x_j)$  is non-zero in  $(\mathbb{Q}[\mathbf{x}_n, \boldsymbol{\theta}_n]/\mathbb{Q}[\mathbf{x}_n, \boldsymbol{\theta}_n]_{+}^{\mathfrak{S}_n})^{\text{sgn}}$ .
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- ▶  $\Delta$  contributes  $q^{\binom{n}{2}}$ . *What about  $q^{\binom{n}{2}-1}z$ ?*
- ▶ Candidate for  $q^{\binom{n}{2}-1}z$ :  $d\Delta$  where  $d$  is the *exterior derivative*

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## Main results

The rest of the talk is devoted to explaining the following.

Let  $G \leq GL(V)$  be a pseudo-reflection group over a subfield of  $\mathbb{C}$  and let  $M$  be an  $r$ -dimensional  $G$ -module.

### Theorem

Suppose  $J_{M^*} \doteq \Delta_{M^*}$  and  $M^G = 0$ . Then the  $2^r$  elements

$$\{d_{i_1}^* \cdots d_{i_k}^* \Delta_{M^*} \mid \{i_1, \dots, i_k\} \subset [r]\}$$

form a basis of  $\mathcal{H}(S(V^*) \otimes \wedge M^*)^{\det_{M^*}}$ , and their images form a basis of  $(S(V^*) \otimes \wedge M^* / \mathcal{J}_M^*)^{\det_{M^*}}$ .

### Corollary

In this situation,

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# Main results

- ▶ The  $t = 0$ , **sgn** component of Zabrocki's conjecture follows when  $G$  consists of  $n \times n$  permutation matrices and  $M$  is the *standard representation*.
- ▶ As an intermediate step, we also get:

## Theorem

Suppose  $J_{M^*} \doteq \Delta_{M^*}$ . Then either of the sets

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- ▶ The  $t = 0$ , **sgn** component of Zabrocki's conjecture follows when  $G$  consists of  $n \times n$  permutation matrices and  $M$  is the *standard representation*.
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# Invariant theory of pseudo-reflection groups

## Classical theory:

- ▶  $F$  = a field of characteristic 0
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- ▶ We have  $\Delta_M = J_{\det_M}$
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## Corollary

If the pseudo-reflections of  $G$  act on  $M$  as pseudo-reflections or trivially, then  $\Delta_M \doteq J_M$ . In particular,  $\Delta_V \doteq J_V$  and  $\Delta_{V^*} \doteq J_{V^*}$ .

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- ▶ In the case of Zabrocki's conjecture, the discriminant is the *classical Vandermonde*  $\Delta$
- ▶ We have  $\Delta_M = J_{\det_M}$
- ▶ The *Gutkin–Opdam lemma* gives a formula for  $\deg J_M$ . It has the following consequence:

## Corollary

If the pseudo-reflections of  $G$  act on  $M$  as pseudo-reflections or trivially, then  $\Delta_M \doteq J_M$ . In particular,  $\Delta_V \doteq J_V$  and  $\Delta_{V^*} \doteq J_{V^*}$ .

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# Main result recap

## Theorem

Suppose  $J_{M^*} \doteq \Delta_{M^*}$  and  $M^G = 0$ . Then the  $2^r$  elements

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form a *basis* of  $\mathcal{H}(S(V^*) \otimes \wedge M^*)^{\det_{M^*}}$ , and their images form a *basis* of  $(S(V^*) \otimes \wedge M^* / \mathcal{J}_{M^*})^{\det_{M^*}}$ .

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# Perfect pairings and an action

## Lemma

There is a *canonical  $G$ -invariant perfect pairing*

$$\langle -, - \rangle: S(V) \otimes \wedge M \times S(V^*) \otimes \wedge M^* \rightarrow F$$

which extends the perfect pairing  $V \times V^* \rightarrow F$  given by  $(v, \lambda) \mapsto \lambda(v)$ .

(Idea: one extends to symmetric powers using the *permanent of the Gram matrix*, and to exterior powers using the *determinant of the Gram matrix*. Fails outside of characteristic 0.)

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These actions are very old: when  $G$  consists of permutation matrices and we identify the standard basis of  $\mathbb{Q}^n$  and its dual,  $S(V)$  acts on  $S(V^*)$  as *partial differentiation operators*. Similarly  $M$  acts on  $\wedge M^*$  by *interior products*.

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# Harmonics

The space of *G-harmonic* elements of  $S(V^*) \otimes \wedge M^*$  is the *orthogonal complement* of  $\mathcal{J}_M$  with respect to the natural perfect pairing  $\langle -, - \rangle$ :

$$\mathcal{H}(S(V^*) \otimes \wedge M^*) := \{\omega \in S(V^*) \otimes \wedge M^* : \langle \tilde{\omega}, \omega \rangle = 0 \text{ for all } \tilde{\omega} \in \mathcal{J}_M\}$$

- ▶ If  $F \subset \mathbb{C}$ , then  $S(V^*) \otimes \wedge M^* = \mathcal{H}(S(V^*) \otimes \wedge M^*) \oplus \mathcal{J}_M^*$
- ▶ Hence *natural projection* gives

$$(S(V^*) \otimes \wedge M^*) / \mathcal{J}_M^* \cong \mathcal{H}(S(V^*) \otimes \wedge M^*)$$

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## Another action

Let  $v_1, \dots, v_n \in V$  be a basis with dual basis  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$ . The *exterior derivative* is

$$d = \sum_i \partial_{v_i} \otimes m_{\lambda_i} \in \text{End}_F(S(V^*) \otimes \wedge V^*)$$

where  $m_\lambda$  is the wedge-by- $\lambda$  operator. This is *not obtained* from the  $S(V) \otimes \wedge M$  action on  $S(V^*) \otimes \wedge M^*$ . *What operators are missing?*

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## The final piece

- ▶ Let  $d_i^*$  be the action of  $\tilde{\omega}_i^{M^*} \in (S(V) \otimes M^*)^G$  on  $S(V^*) \otimes \wedge M^*$ .
- ▶ This *lowers*  $S(V^*)$ -degree by  $e_i^{M^*}$  and *raises*  $\wedge M^*$ -degree by 1.
- ▶ For Zabrocki's conjecture, we can use  $d_i^* = \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{\partial^i}{\partial x_j^i} \theta_j$ .
- ▶ *Key insight*: apply the  $d_i^*$ 's in all possible ways to  $\Delta_{M^*}$ !
- ▶ Must verify result *stays in*  $\mathcal{H}(S(V^*) \otimes \wedge M^*)^{\det_{M^*}}$  (it does), is *linearly independent* (it is), and *spans* (it does).

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# Main results, one last time

## Theorem

Suppose  $F \subset \mathbb{C}$ ,  $J_{M^*} \doteq \Delta_{M^*}$  and  $M^G = 0$ . Then the  $2^r$  elements

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## Corollary

In this situation,

$$\text{Hilb}((S(V^*) \otimes \wedge M^* / \mathcal{J}_{M^*})^{\det_{M^*}}; q, z) = \prod_{i=1}^r (z + q e_i^{M^*}).$$

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## Theorem

Suppose  $F \subset \mathbb{C}$  and  $J_{M^*} \doteq \Delta_{M^*}$ . Then either of the sets

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or

$$\{d_{i_1}^* \cdots d_{i_k}^* f_1^{a_1} \cdots f_n^{a_n} \Delta_{M^*} : \{i_1, \dots, i_k\} \subset [n], a_j \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}\}$$

form bases of  $(S(V^*) \otimes \wedge M^*)^{\det_{M^*}}$ .

*FIN*

THANKS!