## 28. On Invariant Groups of m-forms

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1. The algebraic dimensions of invariant groups (orthogonal groups) of quadratic forms are uniquely determined by the number of their variables. But, those of the invariant groups of *m*-forms  $(m \ge 3)$  are not uniquely determined with the number of their variables.

We shall determine two types of invariant groups of *m*-forms, the one's algebraic dimension is  $zero^{1}$  and the other's is not zero.

2. Let k be a field of characteristic 0, and V be an n-dimensional vector space over k. We shall say, F(X) is an m-form defined on V, if there exists a symmetric m-linear form  $f(X^{(1)}, X^{(2)}, \dots, X^{(m)})$  defined on the direct product of m-copies of V, such that  $F(X)=f(X, X, \dots, X)$ . Every homogeneous polynomial with n-variables and of degree m is an m-form.

For an *m*-form F(X), the *F*-radical  $N_F$  of *V*, is a subspace of *V* consisting of all vectors *X*, which satisfy the equation  $f(X^{(1)}, X^{(2)}, \dots, X^{(m-1)}, X) = 0$ , for any vectors  $X, X^{(1)}, X^{(2)}, \dots, X^{(m-1)}$ , in *V*.

If  $N_F \neq 0$  then we shall say that F(X) is non-degenerate, and if  $N_F = 0$ , degenerate. When F(X) is degenerate, there exists the non-degenerate *m*-form defined on  $V/N_F$ , induced by F(X).

We shall use E(V) to denote the ring of k-linear endomorphisms of V, and G(F), the subset of E(V) consisting of all endomorphisms  $\Lambda$  which leave F(X) invariant, i.e.  $F(X)=F(X \cdot \Lambda)$ .

Proposition 1. If F(X) is non-degenerate, G(F) is a group.

**Proof.** We have to show that every endomorphism  $\Lambda$ , belonging to G(F) is an automorphism of V.

If  $\Lambda$  is not an automorphism, there exists a non-zero vector X in V, which satisfies  $X \cdot \Lambda = 0$ . Then

 $f(X^{(1)}, X^{(2)}, \dots, X^{(m-1)}, X) = f(X^{(1)} \cdot \Lambda, X^{(2)} \cdot \Lambda, \dots, X^{(m-1)} \cdot \Lambda, X \cdot \Lambda) = 0$ for any vectors  $X^{(1)}, X^{(2)}, \dots, X^{(m-1)}$ . This implies that  $N_F$  contains non-zero vector X. And this contradiction shows that  $\Lambda$  is an automorphism.

If  $F(X) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} a_i x_i^m$ , then we shall say that F(X) is a diagonal form. Proposition 2. When F(X) is a diagonal form, then F(X) is non-

<sup>1)</sup> The algebraic dimensions of the invariant groups of m-forms are zero, if and only if the group is a finite group (cf. C. Chevalley: Théorie des Groupes de Lie, 2, Hermann, Paris (1951)).

degenerate, if and only if  $\prod_{i=1}^{n} a_i \neq 0$ .

Proof. We can prove easily from the definitions.

Let  $C_m$  be the cyclic group generated by a primitive *m*-th root of 1, and  $S_n$  be the symmetric group of *n*-letters. The multiplicative group of non-zero elements of k will be denoted by  $k^*$ . And we shall use  $C_m^{(k)}$  to denote  $k^* \subset C_m$ .

Proposition 3. Let  $m \ge 3$ . If k is algebraically closed and F(X) is a non-degenerate diagonal form, then G(F) is isomorphic to the semi-direct product of  $S_n$  and the direct product of n-copies of  $C_m$ .

Proof. It follows immediately from Prop. 2 and the condition of Prop. that we can assume all  $a_i$ 's are 1. And we shall represent an automorphism  $\Lambda$  of V as a non-singular matrix  $(\lambda_{ij})$ . If  $(\lambda_{ij})$  belongs to G(F), then, comparing the coefficients of the terms  $x_{\mu} \cdot x_{\alpha} \cdot x_{\beta}^{m-2}$ (where  $\alpha \neq \beta$ ,  $1 \leq \mu \leq n$ ) of F(X) and  $F(X \cdot \Lambda)$ , we have the following equations:

 $\sum_{\nu=1}^{n} \lambda_{\mu\nu} (\lambda_{\alpha\nu} \cdot \lambda_{\beta\nu}^{m-2}) = 0$ for all  $1 \le \mu \le n$ . Because  $(\lambda_{ij})$  is non-singular, we have (1)  $\lambda_{\alpha\nu} \cdot \lambda_{\beta\nu} = 0$ for all  $\alpha \ne \beta, 1 \le \nu \le n$ .

It is easily seen that all permutation matrices are contained in G(F). So, we can assume  $\lambda_{11} \neq 0$ , multiplying some permutation matrix to the right side of  $\Lambda$ . Then from (1),  $\lambda_{\mu 1}=0$  for all  $2 \leq \mu \leq n$ . By the induction with respect to  $\mu$ , we can find a permutation matrix P and a diagonal matrix D, whose product is equal to  $\Lambda$ . If  $D=(d_{ij})$  (where  $d_{ij}=0$ , if  $i \neq j$ ), then from the fact that  $\Lambda$  and P belong to G(F), D belongs to G(F). So  $d_{ii}=1$ , for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . Thus G(F) is generated by the direct product of n-copies of  $C_m$  and  $S_n$ .

It is easily seen that the direct product of *n*-copies of  $C_m$  is the normal subgroup of G(F), and the intersection of  $S_n$  and the direct product of *n*-copies of  $C_m$ , contains only the identity matrix. This completes the proof.

For non-zero elements a, b, in k, we shall say a and b to be in the same class, if there exists an *m*-th root of a/b in k. And, if aand b are in the same class, we denote  $a \equiv b$ . When F(X) is a diagonal form, for the coefficients of F(X) we can assume that

$$a_1 \equiv a_2 \equiv \cdots \equiv a_{\alpha}$$
  
 $a_{\alpha+1} \equiv \cdots \equiv a_{\alpha+\beta}$   
 $\cdots \cdots = a_{(\alpha+\beta+\cdots+\gamma)}$   
 $a_{(\alpha+\beta+\cdots+\gamma)+1} \equiv \cdots \equiv a_{(\alpha+\beta+\cdots+\gamma+\delta)}$ 

(where  $\alpha + \beta + \cdots + \gamma + \delta = n$ , and  $a_{\alpha} \neq a_{\alpha+\beta}, \cdots, a_{\alpha} \equiv a_n, \cdots, a_{(\alpha+\beta+\cdots+\gamma)} \neq a_n$ ).

**THEOREM 1.** Let  $m \ge 3$ . If F(X) is a non-degenerate diagonal form and its coefficients are as above, then G(F) is isomorphic to the semi-direct product of, the direct product of  $S_{\alpha}, S_{\beta}, \dots, S_{\tau}$  and  $S_{\delta}$ , and the direct product of n-copies of  $C_m^{(k)}$ .

Proof. Let  $\overline{k}$  be the algebraic closure of k and let  $\overline{V}$  be the scalar extension of V with respect to  $\overline{k}$ . We shall use  $\overline{G}(F)$  to denote the invariant group of F, on  $\overline{V}$ . The general linear groups of V and  $\overline{V}$  are denoted by GL(V) and  $GL(\overline{V})$ , respectively. Then we have  $G(F) = \overline{G}(F) \cap GL(V)$ .

Let  $b_{\alpha}, b_{\beta}, \dots, b_{r}$  and  $b_{\delta}$ , be the *m*-th root of  $a_{\alpha}, a_{\beta}, \dots, a_{r}$  and  $a_{\delta}$ , and let *B* be the diagonal matrix



Then, from Prop. 3, we can identify  $\overline{G}(F)$  with the group,  $B^{-1}\{(C_m \times \cdots \times C_m) \cdot S_n\}B$ . So,  $G(F) = (C_m \times \cdots \times C_m) \cdot (B^{-1}S_nB) \cap GL(V)$ . And from this we can obtain the conclusion.

3. When F(X) is an *m*-form with *m*-variables, we shall say F(X) is a multiple form<sup>2</sup> if  $F(X)=a \cdot X_1 \cdot X_2 \cdot \cdots \cdot X_m$  (where a=0).

It is easily seen that multiple forms are non-degenerate and we can assume a=1.

**THEOREM 2.** If F(X) is a multiple form, then G(F) is isomorphic to the semi-direct product of  $S_m$  and the direct product of (m-1) copies of  $k^*$ .<sup>30</sup>

Proof. If  $\Lambda = (\lambda_{ij})$  belongs to G(F), then, comparing the coefficients of F(X) and  $F(X\Lambda)$ , we have  $\prod_{j=1}^{n} \lambda_{\mu j} = 0$  for all  $1 \le \mu \le m$ . Multiplying a permutation matrix to the right side of  $\Lambda$ , we can assume  $\lambda_{11} \ne 0$  and  $\lambda_{12} = 0$ .

When  $\lambda_{11} \neq 0$ ,  $\lambda_{12} = \lambda_{13} = \cdots = \lambda_{1r} = 0$ , (where  $2 \le r < n$ ), let  $J_{\nu}$  be the set of numbers j, for which  $\lambda_{j\nu} = 0$   $(2 \le \nu \le r)$ . We denote by  $e(\alpha)$  the

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<sup>2)</sup> If K is a separable extension of k of degree m, K has a structure of vector space over k. Then, the norm form relative to the extension K/k is an m-form, and it is equivalent to a multiple form in  $K \cdot \bar{k}/\bar{k}$ , where  $\bar{k}$  is an algebraic closure of k (cf. T. Ono: On algebraic groups defined by norm forms of separable extensions, Nagoya Math. J., 11).

<sup>3)</sup> In this case the algebraic dimension of G(F) is (m-1).

number of  $J_{\nu}$  which contains  $\alpha$   $(1 \le \alpha \le m)$ . And, among the  $\alpha$  which has the largest  $e(\alpha)$ , we pick the minimal one and denote it to be  $\alpha_0$ .

Let  $\{J'_{\nu}\}$  be all  $J_{\nu}$ 's that do not contain  $\alpha_0$ . And we determine  $\beta_0$ from these  $\{J'_{\nu}\}$  just as  $\alpha_0$  from  $\{J_{\nu}\}$ , and so on. Thus, we have the system  $(\alpha_0, \beta_0, \dots, \gamma_0)$ , where  $2 \leq \alpha_0, \beta_0, \dots, \gamma_0 \leq n$  and  $e(\alpha_0) + e(\beta_0) + \dots + e(\gamma_0) = r - 1$ . For this system, comparing the coefficients of the term  $x_1^{n-r+1} \cdot x_{\alpha_0}^{e(\alpha_0)} \cdot x_{\beta_0}^{e(\beta_0)} \cdot \dots \cdot x_{\gamma_0}^{e(r_0)}$  of F(X) and  $F(X\Lambda)$ , we have  $\lambda_{\nu+1} \cdot \lambda_{\nu+2} \cdot \dots \cdot \lambda_{1n} = 0$ . So, we can assume  $\lambda_{\nu+1} = 0$ , multiplying a permutation matrix to  $\Lambda$ . Thus, we have proved that  $\lambda_{12} = \lambda_{13} = \dots = \lambda_{1n} = 0$ . Then, from this it is easily seen that  $\lambda_{21} = \lambda_{31} = \dots = \lambda_{n1} = 0$ . By the induction with respect to m, we can prove that  $\Lambda$  is equal to the product of a diagonal matrix D and a permutation matrix P.

Let  $\mathfrak{D}$  be the subgroup of G(F) generated by all diagonal matrices of G(F). Then it is easily seen that  $\mathfrak{D}$  is the normal subgroup of G(F) and is isomorphic to the direct product of (m-1) copies of  $k^*$ , and  $\mathfrak{D}_{\frown}S_m=(I)$ . This completes the proof.