



# Frobenius representation type for invariant rings of finite groups <sup>☆</sup>



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## 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  $\mathrm{GL}(V)$ . If  $V$  is a permutation representation of  $G$ , or more generally a monomial representation, we prove that the ring of invariants  $(\mathrm{Sym} V)^G$  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  $\mathrm{GL}(V)$ , such that the invariant ring  $(\mathrm{Sym} V)^G$  does not have finite Frobenius representation type.

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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  $\mathcal{S}$  of  $R$ -modules such that for each integer  $e \geq 0$ , each indecomposable  $R$ -module summand of  $R^{1/p^e}$  is isomorphic to an element of  $\mathcal{S}$ ; 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  $p \geq \max\{n-2, 3\}$ , 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  $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^k(R)$  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  $\mathrm{GL}(V)$ . 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  $S := \mathrm{Sym} V$  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  $S := k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  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  $S := \text{Sym } V$  and  $R := S^G$ , for  $G$  a finite subgroup of  $\text{GL}(V)$  of order coprime to  $p$ . The rings  $S^{1/q}$  and  $R^{1/q}$  admit  $\mathbb{Q}$ -gradings extending the standard  $\mathbb{N}$ -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  $V_1, \dots, V_\ell$  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  $i = 1, \dots, \ell$ . Then, for each integer  $e \geq 0$ , 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 pseudo-reflections; by [12, Theorem 3.4], the *generalized F-signature*

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

then agrees with

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

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  $R$ -modules 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  $\mathbb{N}$ -graded with  $[R]_0 = k$ . Let  $R\mathbb{Q}\text{grmod}$  denote the category of finitely generated  $\mathbb{Q}$ -graded  $R$ -modules. For modules  $M, N$  in  $R\mathbb{Q}\text{grmod}$ , the module  $\text{Hom}_R(M, N)$  again lies in  $R\mathbb{Q}\text{grmod}$ ; in particular,

$$\text{Hom}_{R\mathbb{Q}\text{grmod}}(M, N) = [\text{Hom}_R(M, N)]_0$$

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

**Frobenius twist.** Let  $e$  be a nonnegative integer. For a  $k$ -vector space  $V$ , we use  ${}^eV$  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  ${}^eV$ , will be denoted  ${}^e v$ , so

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

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

$${}^eV \otimes_k {}^eW \longrightarrow {}^e(V \otimes_k W)$$

with  ${}^e v \otimes {}^e w \mapsto {}^e(v \otimes w)$  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  ${}^e(-): \text{GL}(V) \longrightarrow \text{GL}({}^eV)$  given by  $f \mapsto {}^e f$  is an isomorphism of abstract groups. If  $V$  is a  $G$ -module, then the composition

$$G \longrightarrow \text{GL}(V) \longrightarrow \text{GL}({}^eV)$$

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

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

$${}^e f({}^e x_j) = {}^e(fx_j) = {}^e\left(\sum_i m_{ij} x_i\right) = \sum_i {}^e(m_{ij} x_i) = \sum_i m_{ij}^{1/p^e} \cdot {}^e x_i.$$

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  $F^e: R \longrightarrow {}^e R$  with

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

is a homomorphism of  $k$ -algebras. When  $R$  is a positively graded finitely generated commutative  $k$ -algebra, the ring  ${}^e R$  admits a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -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  $F^e: R \longrightarrow {}^e R$  is degree-preserving and module-finite. Moreover,

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

is an exact functor. If  $M \in R\mathbb{Q} \text{ grmod}$ , 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  $F^e: R \longrightarrow {}^e R$ .

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  $M_1, \dots, M_\ell \in R\mathbb{Q} \text{ grmod}$  such that for any  $e \geq 1$ , one has*

$${}^e R \cong M_1^{\oplus c_{1e}} \oplus \cdots \oplus M_\ell^{\oplus c_{\ell e}}$$

*as (non-graded)  $R$ -modules.*

(2) *There exist  $M_1, \dots, M_\ell \in R\mathbb{Q} \text{ grmod}$  such that for any  $e \geq 1$ , the  $R$ -module  ${}^e R$  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  $1 \leq i \leq \ell$  and  $d \in \mathbb{Q}$ .*

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

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

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

**The twisted group algebra.** Let  $V$  be a finite rank  $k$ -vector space. Let  $G$  be a subgroup of  $\mathrm{GL}(V)$ , and set  $S := \mathrm{Sym} V$ . If  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  is a basis for  $V$ , then  $\mathrm{Sym} V = k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  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

$$sm := (s \otimes 1)m \quad \text{and} \quad gm := (1 \otimes g)m.$$

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  $\mathrm{GL}(V)$ . Set  $S := \mathrm{Sym} V$  and  $T := S * G$ . Let  $T\mathbb{Q}\mathrm{grmod}$  denote the category of finitely generated  $\mathbb{Q}$ -graded left  $T$ -modules, and  ${}^*\mathrm{Ref}(G, S)$  denote the full subcategory of  $T\mathbb{Q}\mathrm{grmod}$  con-*

sisting of those that are reflexive as  $S$ -modules; let  ${}^*\text{Ref } S^G$  denote the full subcategory of  $S^G\mathbb{Q}\text{grmod}$  consisting of modules that are reflexive as  $S^G$ -modules.

Then one has an equivalence of categories

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

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

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  ${}^eS \longmapsto ({}^eS)^G = {}^e(S^G)$ .

### 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  $\text{GL}(k^3)$  generated by the matrices*

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 & t & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & t \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

*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  $\text{Sym}(k^3)$  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  $\sigma^3 = \text{id} = \tau^3$ , 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  $G \longrightarrow \text{GL}_3(k)$  with*

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

*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

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

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  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$  in  $\mathrm{GL}({}^e(V(\alpha)))$  are

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

respectively, so  ${}^eV(\alpha) \cong V(\alpha^{1/3^e})$  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  $(1, 0, 0)^{\mathrm{tr}}$ , and hence has rank one. It follows that  $V(\alpha)$  is an indecomposable  $kG$ -module.  $\square$

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

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

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

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

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

Suppose  $\mathrm{LRep}(M)$  is an indecomposable  $G$ -module. After a possible change of indices, we may assume that  $\mathrm{LRep}(M) = [N_1]_d$  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  $\mathrm{LD}(N_1) = \mathrm{LD}(M)$ . We define  $\mathrm{LInd}(M) := N_1$ . Note that we have  $\mathrm{LRep}(N_1) \cong \mathrm{LRep}(M)$ .

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

$$M_{(d)} := \bigoplus_{i \equiv d \pmod{\mathbb{Z}}} [M]_i,$$

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

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

$$\mathrm{LRep}({}^eS_{(1/3^e)}) = V(t^{1/3^e}),$$

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

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

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

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

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

**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  $S := \mathrm{Sym} V$  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

$$\begin{aligned} f_1 &:= x_1, \\ f_3 &:= tx_1^2x_2 - (t+1)x_1^2x_3 - (t+1)x_1x_2^2 + x_2^3, \\ f_5 &:= t(t-1)^2x_1^4x_3 + t(t^2+1)x_1^3x_2^2 - t(t+1)x_1^3x_2x_3 - (t+1)^2x_1^3x_3^2 \\ &\quad - (t+1)(t-1)^2x_1^2x_2^3 + (t+1)^2x_1^2x_2^2x_3 + x_1^2x_3^3 - (t-1)^2x_1x_2^4 \\ &\quad - (t+1)x_1x_2^3x_3 - (t+1)x_2^5, \\ f_9 &:= x_3(x_2 + x_3)(x_1 - x_2 + x_3)(tx_2 + x_3)(tx_1 + x_2 + tx_2 + x_3) \\ &\quad \times (x_1 - tx_1 - x_2 + tx_2 + x_3)(t^2x_1 - tx_2 + x_3)(t^2x_1 - tx_1 + x_2 - tx_2 + x_3) \\ &\quad \times (x_1 + tx_1 + t^2x_1 - x_2 - tx_2 + x_3), \end{aligned}$$

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  $\mathrm{SL}(V)$  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  $\Gamma$  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  $\Gamma$  such that each  $g \in G$  permutes the elements of  $\Gamma$ .

**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  $S := \text{Sym } V$  extends uniquely to an action of  $G$  on  ${}^e S = S^{1/q}$ ; note that

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

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

$$B_e := \left\{ x_1^{\lambda_1/q} \cdots x_n^{\lambda_n/q} \mid \lambda_i \in \mathbb{Z}, \quad 0 \leq \lambda_i \leq q-1 \right\}. \quad (4.1.1)$$

For  $\mu \in B_e$ , set  $\gamma_\mu$  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  $g_1, \dots, g_m$  be a set of left coset representatives for  $G/H$ , where  $g_1$  is the group identity. We claim that the map

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

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  $\chi$  is a rank one representation of  $H$ . Since there are only finitely many subgroups  $H$  of  $G$ , only finitely many rank one representations  $\chi$  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  $g_1\mu, \dots, g_m\mu$  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  $g_1\mu, \dots, g_m\mu$  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  $i \geq 2$ , the linear independence of  $g_1\mu, \dots, g_m\mu$  over  $S$  implies that  $h(s_1 \mu) = s_1 \mu$ .  $\square$

**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  $\gamma_\mu$  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  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  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  $S := \mathbb{F}_p[x_1, \dots, x_p]$ , 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  $p \geq 3$ . For  $\mu \in B_e$ , consider the  $kG$ -submodule  $\gamma_\mu = kg\mu$  of  $S^{1/q}$ . If the stabilizer of  $\mu$  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  $\{\text{id}\}$  and  $G$ , the only other possibility for the stabilizer of an element  $\mu$  of  $B_e$  is  $\{\text{id}\}$ , 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  $p \geq 3$ , 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  $e \geq 1$  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

$$(x_1 x_2 x_3)^{\lambda/q} \quad \text{where } \lambda \in \mathbb{Z}, \quad 0 \leq \lambda \leq q-1$$

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

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

**Example 4.6.** Let  $k$  be a perfect field of characteristic 2 that contains a primitive third root  $\omega$  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  $\lambda_i$  are integers with  $0 \leq \lambda_i \leq q-1$ . Then

$$(S\mu)^G = \begin{cases} S^G \mu & \text{if } \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 \equiv 0 \pmod{3}, \\ S^G x_1 \mu + S^G x_2 \mu & \text{if } \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 \equiv 2q \pmod{3}, \\ S^G x_1^2 \mu + S^G x_1 x_2 \mu + S^G x_2^2 \mu & \text{if } \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 \equiv q \pmod{3}. \end{cases}$$

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  $n$ th 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

$$(x_1 x_2 x_3 x_4)^{\lambda/q} \quad \text{where } 0 \leq \lambda \leq q-1$$

are fixed by  $G$ ; each such monomial  $\mu$  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  $\mu$  of the form

$$(x_1 x_3)^{\lambda_1/q} (x_2 x_4)^{\lambda_2/q} \quad \text{with } 0 \leq \lambda_i \leq q-1, \quad \lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2$$

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

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

is  $F$ -regular for each prime integer  $p$ , but admits a local cohomology module  $H_{(x,y,z)}^3(R)$  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  $\text{Sym } V$ . But then it has FFRT by [29, Proposition 3.1.4].  $\square$

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  $\text{GL}(V)$  generated by the matrices

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

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

$$x_3 + \alpha x_1 + \gamma x_2 \quad \text{and} \quad x_4 + \beta x_1 + \alpha x_2,$$

where  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$  are in  $\mathbb{F}_p$ . Using Moore determinants as in [7, Chapter 1.3], the respective orbit products may be expressed as

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

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

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

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

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

Since  $C \subseteq S^G \subseteq S$  and  $|G| = p^3$ , it follows that  $\text{frac}(C) = \text{frac}(S^G)$ . 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

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

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

$$t^p - vx_1^p - ux_2^p = t(x_1x_2^p - x_1^px_2)^{p-1}. \quad (5.2.1)$$

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

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

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

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

where  $A$  is a polynomial ring.

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