

82. On the Regularity of Prehomogeneous Vector Spaces

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Introduction. 0.1. Let G be a complex linear algebraic group, and $V (\neq 0)$ a complex vector space on which G acts via a rational representation. Let V^\vee denote the dual space of V , on which G acts naturally.

0.2. If V has an open G -orbit, then (G, V) is called a *prehomogeneous vector space*. A prehomogeneous vector space (G, V) is called *regular* if there exists a (non-zero) relatively invariant polynomial function $f(x) = f(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ on V such that

$$(0.3) \quad \det \left(\frac{\partial^2 \log f}{\partial x \partial x} \right) \neq 0.$$

Let (G, V) be a regular prehomogeneous vector space, and take f so that (0.3) holds. Then the following assertions hold [5, §2].

(0.4) (G, V^\vee) is also prehomogeneous.

(Moreover (G, V^\vee) is regular.)

(0.5) Let O (resp. O^\vee) be the open G -orbit in V (resp. V^\vee). Then $O \simeq O^\vee$.

(0.6) Let $V \setminus O = (\cup_{i=1}^l S_i) \cup (\cup_{j=1}^m T_j)$ (resp. $V^\vee \setminus O^\vee = (\cup_{i=1}^{l'} S_i^\vee) \cup (\cup_{j=1}^{m'} T_j^\vee)$) be the irreducible decomposition, where the codimension of S_i and S_i^\vee (resp. T_j and T_j^\vee) are one (resp. greater than one). Then $l = l'$.

Continue to assume (G, V) regular and prehomogeneous. Bearing (0.5) in mind, H. Yoshida posed the following problem.

Problem 1. $V \setminus O \simeq V^\vee \setminus O^\vee$?

Bearing (0.6) in mind, let us also consider the following problem.

Problem 2. For any integer $c > 1$, $\text{card} \{j \mid \text{codim } T_j = c\} = \text{card} \{j \mid \text{codim } T_j^\vee = c\}$?

We shall settle Problem 1 negatively in §1, and Problem 2 affirmatively in §2.

Convention. If no explanation is given, a lowercase letter should be understood as an element of the set denoted by the same uppercase letter. We define the Bruhat order of a Coxeter group so that the identity element is minimal. We denote the complex number field by \mathbf{C} , and the rational integer ring by \mathbf{Z} .

§1. 1.1. The following argument will be used. Let Z be a complex algebraic variety. We may assume that Z is defined over a field which is finitely generated over the rational number field. Then we can consider its specialization at enough general primes. Especially we obtain a variety over a finite field whenever the characteristic p and the cardinality q of the field are large enough. Let $|Z| = |Z|(q)$ be the cardinality of the rational points of the variety obtained above. We understand that $|Z|$ is a function of q ,