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Reflections of Regular Algebras I.

Let G be a finite group of matrices acting linearly on a commutative polynomial ring $\mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$. The Shephard-Todd-Chevalley Theorem states that the fixed subring $\mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_n]^G$ is a polynomial ring if and only if G is generated by reflections (matrices whose invariant subspace is of co-dimension 1).

To generalize this theorem to a noncommutative setting, we consider finite groups of matrices acting on an Artin-Schelter regular algebra A . Examples suggest that the proper generalization of the Shephard-Todd-Chevalley Theorem is to find conditions on G so that the fixed subring A^G is AS-regular. We present a new notion of “reflection” (that we call quasi-reflection), and prove that if A^G is AS-regular, then G must contain a quasi-reflection of A . Regular algebras with no quasi-reflections must have A^G of infinite global dimension, and such algebras include 2-generated AS-regular algebras of global dimension 3 or 4, and certain homogenizations of $U(\mathfrak{g})$, for \mathfrak{g} a finite dimensional Lie algebra. Examples suggest that the further generalization to “bi-reflection” is also of interest. (Received February 26, 2007)