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**Tara S. Holm** and **Reyer Sjamaar\*** (sjamaar@math.cornell.edu), Department of Mathematics, Malott Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853-4201. *Torsion and abelianization in equivariant cohomology and equivariant Chow theory.*

Let  $X$  be a topological space upon which a compact connected Lie group  $G$  acts. It is well-known that the equivariant cohomology  $H_G^*(X, \mathbf{Q})$  is isomorphic to the subalgebra of Weyl group invariants of the equivariant cohomology  $H_T^*(X, \mathbf{Q})$ , where  $T$  is a maximal torus of  $G$ . This relationship may fail for coefficient rings  $\mathbf{k}$  other than  $\mathbf{Q}$ . We prove that under a mild condition on  $\mathbf{k}$  the algebra  $H_G^*(X, \mathbf{k})$  is isomorphic to the subalgebra of  $H_T^*(X, \mathbf{k})$  annihilated by the divided difference operators. We also obtain a version of this result for the equivariant intersection theory of algebraic schemes acted upon by linear algebraic groups. (Received July 24, 2007)