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**Trees, wreath products and finite Gelfand pairs.** (English) Zbl 1106.43006

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Let  $G$  be a finite group and  $K$  a subgroup of  $G$ . Let  $L(X)$  denote the complex-valued functions on  $X$ . The pair  $(G, K)$  is a Gelfand pair if the algebra  $L(K/G \setminus K)$  of bi- $K$ -invariant functions is commutative.

Let  $T$  be a finite rooted tree of depth  $m$  and let  $r = \{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_m\}$  be an  $m$ -tuple of integers  $\geq 2$ .  $T$  is of type  $r$  when each vertex at distance  $k$  from the root has exactly  $r_{k+1}$  sons, for  $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, m-1$ . If  $s$  is another  $m$ -tuple with  $1 \leq s_k \leq r_k$  then  $V(r, s)$  denotes the variety of subtrees of  $T$  of type  $s$ . Then  $V(r, s) = \text{Aut}(T)/K(r, s)$  where  $K(r, s)$  is the stabilizer of a fixed  $T'$  in  $V(r, s)$ . The authors show that  $(\text{Aut}(T), K(r, s))$  is a Gelfand pair. This generalizes known examples: the ultrametric space, the Hamming scheme, and the Johnson scheme.

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**MSC:**

- 43A90 Harmonic analysis and spherical functions
- 20B25 Finite automorphism groups of algebraic, geometric, or combinatorial structures
- 20E08 Groups acting on trees
- 20E22 Extensions, wreath products, and other compositions of groups
- 22D15 Group algebras of locally compact groups
- 33C80 Connections of hypergeometric functions with groups and algebras, and related topics
- 43A85 Harmonic analysis on homogeneous spaces

Cited in **2** Reviews

Cited in **17** Documents

**Keywords:**

finite Gelfand pairs; wreath products; rooted trees; finite ultrametric space; Hamming scheme; Johnson scheme

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