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Associated forms of binary quartics and ternary cubics. (English) Zbl 1372.14038
Transform. Groups 21, No. 3, 593-618 (2016).

The main object of the paper under review is the complex vector space Q_n^d of n -ary forms of degree d with complex coefficients ($n \geq 2, d \geq 3$). More precisely, the authors are interested in the map Φ sending a nondegenerate n -ary d -form f to the associated form which is an element of the space dual to $Q_n^{n(d-2)}$. Their focus is on the cases of binary quartics and ternary cubics, the only cases when Φ preserves the degree. They show that in each of these cases the projectivization of Φ induces an equivariant (with respect to an action of SL_n) involution on the projectivization of the space of nondegenerate forms with one orbit removed. Furthermore, they show that a such a nontrivial rational equivariant involution is unique. In particular, Φ yields a unique equivariant involution on the space of elliptic curves with nonvanishing j -invariant. They give a simple interpretation of this involution in terms of projective duality and express it via classical contravariants, in the spirit of Cayley and Sylvester.

Eventual applications in singularity theory are also explained.

Reviewer: Boris Kunyavskii (Ramat Gan)

MSC:

- 14L24 Geometric invariant theory
- 11E20 General ternary and quaternary quadratic forms; forms of more than two variables
- 14H52 Elliptic curves
- 32S10 Invariants of analytic local rings
- 32S25 Complex surface and hypersurface singularities

Cited in **1** Review
Cited in **3** Documents

Keywords:

geometric invariant theory; binary quartic; ternary cubic; elliptic curve; contravariant

Full Text: [DOI](#) [arXiv](#)

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