

Contents

Introduction	vii
1 Finite Generation of Invariants	1
1.1 The basic object of study	1
1.2 Noetherian rings and modules	3
1.3 Finite groups in arbitrary characteristic	5
1.4 Krull dimension and going up and down	5
1.5 Noether's bound in characteristic zero	9
1.6 Linearly reductive algebraic groups	10
2 Poincaré series	13
2.1 The Hilbert–Serre theorem	13
2.2 Noether normalization	15
2.3 Systems of parameters	18
2.4 Degree and ψ	20
2.5 Molien's theorem	21
2.6 Reflecting hyperplanes	23
3 Divisor Classes, Ramification and Hyperplanes	25
3.1 Divisors	25
3.2 Primes of height one	27
3.3 Duality	30
3.4 Reflexive modules	31
3.5 Divisor classes and unique factorization	32
3.6 The Picard group	33
3.7 The trace	34
3.8 Ramification	35
3.9 $\text{Cl}(K[V]^G)$	37
3.10 The different	39
3.11 The homological different	40
3.12 A ramification formula	42
3.13 The Carlisle–Kropholler conjecture	43

4 Homological Properties of Invariants	45
4.1 Minimal resolutions	45
4.2 Hilbert's syzygy theorem	47
4.3 Depth and Cohen–Macaulay rings	50
4.4 Homological characterization of depth	52
4.5 The canonical module and Gorenstein rings	55
4.6 Watanabe's theorem	59
5 Polynomial tensor exterior algebras	61
5.1 Motivation and first properties	61
5.2 A variation on Molien's theorem	62
5.3 The invariants are graded Gorenstein	63
5.4 The Jacobian	64
6 Polynomial rings and regular local rings	69
6.1 Regular local rings	69
6.2 Serre's converse to Hilbert's syzygy theorem	70
6.3 Uniqueness of factorization	73
6.4 Reflexive modules	74
7 Groups Generated by Pseudoreflections	79
7.1 Reflections and pseudoreflections	79
7.2 The Shephard–Todd theorem	82
7.3 A theorem of Solomon	86
8 Modular invariants	89
8.1 Dickson's theorem	89
8.2 The special linear group	91
8.3 Symplectic invariants	92
A Examples over the complex numbers	99
B Examples over finite fields	103
Bibliography	109
Index	116