

## On weakly semisimple derivations of the polynomial ring in two variables

Volodimir Gavran and Vitaliy Stepukh

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**ABSTRACT.** Let  $\mathbb{K}$  be an algebraically closed field of characteristic zero and  $\mathbb{K}[x, y]$  the polynomial ring. Every element  $f \in \mathbb{K}[x, y]$  determines the Jacobian derivation  $D_f$  of  $\mathbb{K}[x, y]$  by the rule  $D_f(h) = \det J(f, h)$ , where  $J(f, h)$  is the Jacobian matrix of the polynomials  $f$  and  $h$ . A polynomial  $f$  is called weakly semisimple if there exists a polynomial  $g$  such that  $D_f(g) = \lambda g$  for some nonzero  $\lambda \in \mathbb{K}$ . Ten years ago, Y. Stein posed a problem of describing all weakly semisimple polynomials (such a description would characterize all two dimensional nonabelian subalgebras of the Lie algebra of all derivations of  $\mathbb{K}[x, y]$  with zero divergence). We give such a description for polynomials  $f$  with the separated variables, i.e. which are of the form:  $f(x, y) = f_1(x)f_2(y)$  for some  $f_1(t), f_2(t) \in \mathbb{K}[t]$ .

### Introduction

Let  $\mathbb{K}$  be an algebraically closed field of characteristic zero and  $\mathbb{K}[x, y]$  the polynomial ring. For any polynomials  $f, g \in \mathbb{K}[x, y]$  let us denote  $[f, g] = \det J(f, g)$ , where  $\det J(f, g)$  is their Jacobian matrix. The vector  $\mathbb{K}$ -space  $\mathbb{K}[x, y]$  with operation  $(f, g) \rightarrow [f, g]$  is a Lie algebra over  $\mathbb{K}$ . The center of this algebra coincides with  $\mathbb{K}$ , the quotient algebra  $\mathbb{K}[x, y]/\mathbb{K}$  is isomorphic to the Lie algebra  $sa_2(\mathbb{K})$  of all derivations of  $\mathbb{K}[x, y]$  with zero divergence (see, for example, [2]). For a fixed polynomial  $f$ , the linear

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operator  $D_f$  on  $\mathbb{K}[x, y]$  defined by the rule  $D_f(h) = [f, h]$  is a  $\mathbb{K}$ -derivation of the ring  $\mathbb{K}[x, y]$ . The derivation  $D_f$  is called the Jacobian derivation.

In [7], a polynomial  $f \in \mathbb{K}[x, y]$  was called weakly semisimple if there exists a polynomial  $g$  such that  $D_f(g) = \lambda g$  for a nonzero  $\lambda \in \mathbb{K}$ , the polynomial  $g$  here is an eigenfunction for  $f$  with respect to  $\lambda$ . The latter means that every weakly semisimple polynomial  $f$  induces the Jacobian derivation  $D_f$  which can be included in a two-dimensional nonabelian subalgebra  $L_f = \langle D_f \rangle \wedge \langle D_g \rangle$  of the Lie algebra  $sa_2(\mathbb{K})$ . The structure of two-dimensional (abelian and nonabelian) subalgebras of the Lie algebra  $sa_2(\mathbb{K})$  is very important for better understanding the structure of subalgebras of  $sa_2(\mathbb{K})$ , and it is closely connected with the jacobian conjecture for  $n = 2$ .

In [7], some properties of weakly semisimple polynomials were pointed out and a question was asked about their description. We give a description of weakly semisimple polynomials  $f$  with separated variables, i.e. of the form  $f(x, y) = f_1(x)f_2(y)$ .

We use standard notations. Let us remind that a polynomial  $f \in \mathbb{K}[x, y]$  is called closed if there exist no polynomials  $F(t) \in \mathbb{K}[t]$  and  $g(x, y) \in \mathbb{K}[x, y]$  such that  $\deg F(t) \geq 2$ , and that  $f(x, y) = F(g(x, y))$ . The polynomial  $f$  has a Jacobian mate  $g$  if  $[f, g] = 1$ . If  $D$  is a derivation of  $\mathbb{K}[x, y]$  and  $D(f) = hf$  for some  $h \in \mathbb{K}[x, y]$ , then  $f$  will be called a Darboux polynomial for  $D$  and  $h$  its cofactor.

## 1. Preliminaries

We will often use the next statements which can be found in [7].

**Lemma 1.** *Let  $f, g \in \mathbb{K}[x, y]$  be such polynomials that  $g$  is irreducible and  $[f, g] = hg$  for some  $h \in \mathbb{K}[x, y]$ . Then there exists  $c \in \mathbb{K}$  such that  $g$  divides the polynomial  $f - c$ .*

The first statement of the next lemma summarizes Proposition 2.1 from [7]

**Lemma 2.** *Let  $f \in \mathbb{K}[x, y]$  be a polynomial such that there exist a polynomial  $g \in \mathbb{K}[x, y]$ ,  $g \neq 0$  and  $\lambda \in \mathbb{K}^*$  with  $D_f^n(g) = \lambda g$  for some  $n \geq 1$ . Then:*

- 1)  $f$  is a closed polynomial;
- 2) the polynomial  $f - c$  is square-free for any  $c \in \mathbb{K}$ , i.e  $f - c$  is not divisible by square of any irreducible polynomial.

*Proof.* 1) Let on the contrary  $f = F(h)$  for some  $F(t) \in \mathbb{K}[t]$ ,  $\deg F \geq 2$  and  $h \in \mathbb{K}[x, y]$ . Then

$$D_f(g) = [F(h), g] = F'(h)[h, g] = F'(h)D_h(g).$$

Analogously we get the next relation

$$\begin{aligned} D_f^2(g) &= D_f(F'(h)D_h(g)) = [F(h), F'(h)D_h(g)] = \\ &= F'(h)[F(h), D_h(g)] = F'(h)^2 D_h^2(g). \end{aligned}$$

Using induction on  $k$  one can easily show that  $D_f^k(g) = F'(h)^k D_h^k(g)$ . By the conditions of this lemma

$$D_f^n(g) = F'(h)^n D_h^n(g) = \lambda g \quad (1)$$

Write  $g$  as  $g = F'(h)^m \cdot u$ , where  $m \geq n$  by (1) and the polynomial  $u$  is not divisible by any nonconstant polynomial of  $h$ . Then

$$D_h(g) = [h, F'(h)^m u] = F'(h)^m [h, u] = F'(h)^m D_h(u).$$

Using induction on  $k$  it is easily to show that  $D_h^k(g) = F'(h)^m D_h^k(u)$ . Inserting the last equality in (1) we obtain

$$D_f^n(g) = F'(h)^n D_h^n(g) = F'(h)^n F'(h)^m D_h^n(u) = \lambda g.$$

But  $g = F'(h)^m u$  and therefore  $F'(h)^{m+n} D_h(u) = \lambda F'(h)^m u$ . The last equality shows that  $u$  divides on  $F'(h)$  which contradicts to our choice of the polynomial  $u$ . The obtained contradiction proves that  $f$  is a closed polynomial.

2) Let on the contrary  $c \in \mathbb{K}$  be such an element that we have equality  $f - c = w^k f_1$ , where  $w, f_1 \in \mathbb{K}[x, y]$ ,  $k \geq 2$  and  $f_1$  is not divisible by  $w$ . Write  $g = w^m g_1$ , where  $m \geq 0$ ,  $g_1 \in \mathbb{K}[x, y]$  and  $g_1$  is not divisible by  $w$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} D_f(g) &= [f, g] = [f - c, g] = [w^k f_1, w^m g_1] = w^k [f_1, w^m g_1] + f_1 [w^k, w^m g_1] \\ &= w^{k+m} [f_1, g_1] + w^k g_1 m w^{m-1} [f_1, w] + f_1 w^m k w^{k-1} [w, g_1] = w^{k+m-1} t_1 \end{aligned}$$

for some  $t_1 \in \mathbb{K}[x, y]$ . Thus,  $D_f(g) = w^{k+m-1} t_1$ .

Using induction on  $i$  it is easily to show that  $D_f^i(g) = w^{m+ki-1} t_i$  for some  $t_i \in \mathbb{K}[x, y]$ ,  $i = 2, 3, \dots$ . But then for  $i = n$  we obtain  $D_f^n(g) = w^{m+kn-1} t_n = \lambda w^m g_1$ . From here, it follows that  $\lambda g_1 = w^{kn-1} t_n$  which is impossible since  $k \geq 2$  and  $g_1$  is not divisible by  $w$  because of choice  $g_1$ . This contradiction shows that  $f - c$  is not divisible by square of any irreducible polynomial.  $\square$

**Corollary 1.** *If  $f = f_1(x)f_2(y)$  is a weakly semisimple polynomial then the polynomials  $f_1(t), f_2(t) \in \mathbb{K}[t]$  have no multiple roots.*

*Proof.* Since  $[f, g] = g$  then putting in Lemma 2  $n = 1$  and  $c = 0$  we have that  $f(x, y) = f_1(x)f_2(y)$  is not divisible by square of any irreducible polynomial. The latter means that  $f_1(t)$  and  $f_2(t)$  do not have multiple roots.  $\square$

**Lemma 3** (see [3]). *Let  $f(x, y) = \prod_{i=1}^n l_i(x, y)^{r_i}$  be a product of linear polynomials  $l_i(x, y), i = 1, \dots, n$ . Assume that  $n \geq 2$  and the lines  $l_1(x, y) = 0$  and  $l_2(x, y) = 0$  do intersect. If  $\gcd(r_1, \dots, r_n) = 1$  then  $f(x, y)$  is a closed polynomial and the polynomial  $f(x, y) + c$  is irreducible for any  $c \in \mathbb{K}^*$ .*

**Corollary 2.** *Let  $p(x) \in \mathbb{K}[x]$  and  $q(y) \in \mathbb{K}[y]$  be nonconstant polynomials such that  $p(x)$  has no multiple roots. Then the polynomial  $p(x)q(y) + c$  is irreducible for any  $c \in \mathbb{K}^*$ .*

**Lemma 4.** (see, for instance [1]). *Let  $D$  be a derivation of the polynomial ring  $\mathbb{K}[x, y]$  and  $g$  a Darboux polynomial for  $D$ . Then any divisor of  $g$  is a Darboux polynomial for  $D$ . If  $f_1, f_2$  are Darboux polynomials for  $D$  with cofactors  $h_1$  and  $h_2$  respectively, then  $f_1f_2$  is a Darboux polynomial for  $D$  with the cofactor  $h_1 + h_2$ .*

## 2. Weakly semisimple polynomials of the form $f_1(x)f_2(y)$

In this section we give a description of all weakly semisimple polynomials  $f \in \mathbb{K}[x, y]$  of the form  $f(x, y) = f_1(x)f_2(y)$  (that is with separated variables) and their eigenfunctions  $g(x, y) \in \mathbb{K}[x, y]$  such that  $[f, g] = \lambda g, \lambda \in \mathbb{K}^*$ . In fact, we can assume that  $\lambda = 1$  because in other case we can consider  $\lambda^{-1}f$  instead of  $f$ . So, we will consider only the case  $[f, g] = g$ .

**Lemma 5.** *Let a polynomial  $g = g(x, y)$  satisfies the relation  $[f, g] = g$ , where  $f(x, y) = f_1(x)f_2(y) \in \mathbb{K}[x, y]$ . Then the only irreducible factors of the polynomial  $g(x, y)$  are the polynomials of the form  $\delta(f(x, y) + c)$  with  $\delta, c \in \mathbb{K}^*$  or  $\beta(x - c_1), \gamma(y - c_2)$  with  $\beta, \gamma \in \mathbb{K}^*$  and  $c_1, c_2$  satisfying  $f_1(c_1) = 0, f_2(c_2) = 0$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $h$  be an irreducible factor of  $g$ . By Lemma 4  $h$  is a Darboux polynomial for  $D_f$ , i.e.  $[f, h] = hu, u \in \mathbb{K}[x, y]$ , so by Lemma 1 there exists  $c \in \mathbb{K}$  such that  $f - c$  is divisible by  $h$ . If  $c \neq 0$ , then the polynomial

$f - c$  is irreducible by Lemma 3 and therefore  $h = (f + c)\delta$  for some  $\delta \in \mathbb{K}^*$ . Let  $c = 0$ . As  $h$  is irreducible and divides  $f(x, y) = f_1(x)f_2(y)$ , then  $h$  is linear of the form  $\beta(x - c_1)$  or  $\gamma(y - c_2)$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 6.** *Let  $f(x, y) = f_1(x)f_2(y)$  and  $g = g(x, y)$  be polynomials from  $\mathbb{K}[x, y]$  satisfying the relation  $[f, g] = g$ . Then  $g = F(f)g_1g_2$ , where  $F(t) \in \mathbb{K}[t]$  and  $g_1 = g_1(x), g_2 = g_2(y)$  satisfying the equality  $[f, g_1g_2] = g_1g_2$ .*

*Proof.* Write the polynomial  $g$  as a product  $g = h_1^{k_1} \cdots h_s^{k_s}$  of powers of irreducible polynomials  $h_1, \dots, h_s$ . By Lemma 5 the polynomial  $h_i$  is either of the form  $h_i = \delta_i(f + c_i)$  for  $\delta_i \in \mathbb{K}^*, c_i \in \mathbb{K}$  or of the form  $h_i = \alpha_i(x - d_i)$ , or  $h_i = \beta_i(y - r_i)$  for  $\alpha_i, \beta_i \in \mathbb{K}^*$ . The elements  $d_i, r_i \in \mathbb{K}$  are such that  $f_1(d_i) = 0, f_2(r_i) = 0$ . Denote by  $F(f)$  the product of all irreducible divisors of the polynomial  $g$  which are of the form  $\delta_i(f + c_i)$  (this is a polynomial of  $f$ ). Group other irreducible divisors of  $g$  and write their product in the form  $g_1(x)g_2(y)$ . Then

$$[f, F(f)g_1g_2] = F(f)[f, g_1g_2] = F(f)g_1g_2.$$

From this it follows the equality  $[f, g_1g_2] = g_1g_2$ .  $\square$

Thus the problem of finding polynomials  $f$  and  $g$  satisfying the relation  $[f, g] = g$ , is reduced to searching polynomials  $f_1(x)f_2(y), g_1(x)g_2(y)$  with separated variables such that

$$[f_1(x)f_2(y), g_1(x)g_2(y)] = g_1(x)g_2(y).$$

We have from the last relation that

$$[f_1f_2, g_1g_2] = f_1[f_2, g_1g_2] + f_2[f_1, g_1g_2] = f_1g_2[f_2, g_1] + f_2g_1[f_1, g_2]. \quad (2)$$

Further, notice that  $[f_2, g_1] = \begin{vmatrix} 0 & \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial y} \\ \frac{\partial g_1}{\partial x} & 0 \end{vmatrix} = -f_2'g_1'$  and analogously  $[f_1, g_2] = f_1'g_2'$  (we omit here signs of variables while differentiating). Therefore we obtain from (2) that

$$[f_1f_2, g_1g_2] = -f_1f_2'g_2g_1' + f_2f_1'g_1g_2' = g_1g_2.$$

Dividing both parts of this equality by  $g_1g_2$  we get

$$-f_1f_2' \frac{g_1'}{g_1} + f_2f_1' \frac{g_2'}{g_2} = 1. \quad (3)$$

Note that every linear factor of  $g_1$  is a divisor of  $f_1$  by Lemma 5, so  $f_1g_1'$  is divisible by  $g_1$  and analogously  $f_2g_2'$  is divisible by  $g_2$ . Therefore (3) is in fact a relation for polynomials with separated variables.

**Lemma 7.** *Let  $a(x), c(x) \in \mathbb{K}[x]$  and  $b(y), d(y) \in \mathbb{K}[y]$  be polynomials such that*

$$a(x)b(y) + c(x)d(y) = 1. \tag{4}$$

*Then either  $a, c \in \mathbb{K}$  or  $b, d \in \mathbb{K}$ .*

*Proof.* Let us differentiate the equality (4) on the variable  $x$ . Then we have  $a'(x)b(y) + c'(x)d(y) = 0$ . If  $a'(x) = 0$  and  $c'(x) = 0$  then  $a, c \in \mathbb{K}$  and all is done. If  $c'(x) \neq 0$ , then  $\frac{a'(x)}{c'(x)} = -\frac{d(y)}{b(y)}$  and therefore there exists  $\lambda \in \mathbb{K}$  such that  $d = \lambda b$ . Substituting this equality into (4) we obtain  $b(y)(a(x) + \lambda c(x)) = 1$ . The latter equality implies  $b, d \in \mathbb{K}$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 8.** *Let  $f_1(x), g_1(x) \in \mathbb{K}[x]$  and  $f_2(y), g_2(y) \in \mathbb{K}[y]$  be polynomials satisfying the equality (3). Then either  $f_1(x)$  is linear and then  $g_1(x) = c_1 f_1^l(x)$ , or  $f_2(y)$  is linear and then  $g_2(y) = c_2 f_2^k(y)$  for some  $c_1, c_2 \in \mathbb{K}^*$ ,  $k, l, \in \mathbb{N}$ .*

*Proof.* By Lemma 7 we obtain from (3) that either  $f'_1, \frac{f_1 g'_1}{g_1} \in \mathbb{K}$  or  $f'_2, \frac{f_2 g'_2}{g_2} \in \mathbb{K}$ . For example, let the second case hold. Then  $f_2 = \alpha y + \beta$  and  $\frac{f_2 g'_2}{g_2} = \gamma \in \mathbb{K}$ , for some  $\alpha, \gamma \in \mathbb{K}^*, \beta \in \mathbb{K}$ . From the relation  $f_2 g'_2 = \lambda g_2$  we have that  $g_2$  is divisible by  $g'_2$ . But the latter is possible only in the case  $g_2 = \lambda(y + \delta)^k$  for some  $\lambda \in \mathbb{K}^*, \delta \in \mathbb{K}, k \in \mathbb{N}$ .

From the equality

$$\frac{f_2 g'_2}{g_2} = \frac{(\alpha y + \beta)k\lambda(y + \delta)^{k-1}}{\lambda(y + \delta)^k} = \gamma \in \mathbb{K}$$

it follows that  $(\alpha y + \beta)k = \gamma(y + \delta)$ . But then  $\gamma = k\alpha$  and  $\gamma\delta = k\beta$  which gives us  $\delta = \frac{\beta}{\alpha}$ . The latter equality means that  $g_2(y) = c_2 f_2^k(y)$  for some  $c_2 \in \mathbb{K}^*$ . The case  $f'_1, \frac{f_1 g'_1}{g_1} \in \mathbb{K}$  can be analogously considered.  $\square$

**Theorem 1.** *A polynomial  $f(x, y) = f_1(x)f_2(y) \in \mathbb{K}[x, y]$  is weakly semisimple if and only if it has no multiple roots and at least one of the polynomials  $f_1(x), f_2(y)$  is linear, and if for example  $f_2(y) = ay + b, a, b \in \mathbb{K}$  and  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$  are the roots of  $f_1(x)$ , then  $l_i = \frac{1}{a f'_1(\alpha_i)} \in \mathbb{Z}, i = 1, \dots, n$ . Besides, if  $g = g(x, y)$  is an eigenfunction for  $D_f$  with eigenvalue 1, then  $g = F(f)f_2(y)^k \prod_{i=1}^n (x - \alpha_i)^{k-l_i}$ , where  $F(t) \in \mathbb{K}[t], k \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $k \geq l_i, i = 1, \dots, n$ .*

*Proof.*  $\Rightarrow$  Let  $f = f(x, y)$  be a weakly semisimple polynomial of the form  $f(x, y) = f_1(x)f_2(y)$ , i.e. such that for some  $g \in \mathbb{K}[x, y]$  it holds

$[f, g] = \det J(f, g) = g$ . By Corollary 1  $f$  has no multiple roots and taking into account Lemma 8 we see that at least one of the polynomials  $f_1(x), f_2(y)$  is linear. Let for instance  $f_2(y) = ay + b$  for some  $a, b \in \mathbb{K}$ . By Lemma 6 one can assume  $g = g_1(x)g_2(y)$  and any nonconstant polynomial of  $f$  does not divide  $g$ . Using Lemma 8 we can assume that  $g_2(y) = df_2(y)^k$  for some  $d \in \mathbb{K}^*$  and  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then the equality (3) can be written in the form

$$-f_1 a \frac{g_1'}{g_1} + \frac{f_1' f_2 dk f_2^{k-1} a}{df_2^k} = 1$$

Rewriting the latter relation we obtain

$$\frac{-af_1 g_1'}{g_1} + ak f_1' = 1,$$

and as consequence

$$\frac{ak f_1' - 1}{f_1} = \frac{ag_1'}{g_1}. \quad (5)$$

The polynomial  $f_1(x)$  has no multiple roots (by Lemma 6), let  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$  be all the roots of  $f_1(x)$ . Then  $f_1(x) = c_1(x - \alpha_1) \cdots (x - \alpha_n)$  for some element  $c_1 \in \mathbb{K}^*$ , and taking into account the relation (5) we have  $g_1(x) = d_1(x - \alpha_1)^{m_1} \cdots (x - \alpha_n)^{m_n}$  for some  $d_1 \in \mathbb{K}, m_i \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ . The relation (5) can be rewritten in the form  $\frac{ak f_1'}{f_1} - \frac{1}{f_1} = \frac{ag_1'}{g_1}$ . Substituting  $f_1$  and  $g_1$  from the last expressions, we have

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{ak}{(x - \alpha_i)} - \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{f_1'(\alpha_i)(x - \alpha_i)} = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{am_i}{(x - \alpha_i)} \quad (6)$$

(We used the decomposition of the rational function  $\frac{1}{f_1} = \frac{1}{c_1(x - \alpha_1) \cdots (x - \alpha_n)}$  into the sum of elementary fraction of the form  $\frac{A_i}{x - \alpha_i}, i = 1, \dots, n$ ).

The relation (6) implies  $m_i = k - \frac{1}{af_1'(\alpha_i)}$  and since  $m_i \geq 0, k \geq 1$  we have  $l_i = \frac{1}{af_1'(\alpha_i)} \in \mathbb{Z}, i = 1, \dots, n$ . Since  $m_i \geq 0$  we obtain  $k \geq l_i, i = 1, \dots, n$ . But then  $g_1(x) = d_1 \prod_{i=1}^n (x - \alpha_i)^{k-l_i}, g_2(y) = (ay + b)^k, k \geq l_i$

and therefore by Lemma 6  $g(x, y) = F(f)(ay + b)^k \prod_{i=1}^n (x - \alpha_i)^{k-l_i}$ .

$\Leftarrow$  Let  $f = f_1(x)f_2(y)$  with  $f_1(x) = c_1(x - \alpha_1) \cdots (x - \alpha_n)$  and  $f_2 = (ay + b)$ , and let  $g(x, y) = F(f)g_1g_2$  where  $g_1 = \prod_{i=1}^n (x - \alpha_i)^{k-l_i}$  and  $g_2 = (ay + b)^k$ , where  $l_i = k - \frac{1}{af_1'(\alpha_i)}$  are integers. We will show that

$$[f, (ay + b)^k \prod_{i=1}^n (x - \alpha_i)^{k-l_i}] = (ay + b)^k \prod_{i=1}^n (x - \alpha_i)^{k-l_i}$$

Using the equality  $f(x, y) = f_1(x)(ay + b)$  we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 [f, (ay + b)^k] &= \prod_{i=1}^n (x - \alpha_i)^{k-l_i} \\
 &= [f_1(x)(ay + b), (ay + b)^k] \prod_{i=1}^n (x - \alpha_i)^{k-l_i} \\
 &= f_1'(ay + b)ak(ay + b)^{k-1}g_1 - af_1g_1'(ay + b)^k \\
 &= (ay + b)^k a(f_1'kg_1 - f_1g_1').
 \end{aligned}$$

But the relation (5) yields  $af_1'kg_1 - af_1g_1' = g_1$ , so we get  $[f, g_1g_2] = g_1g_2$  and the polynomial  $f$  is weakly semisimple.  $\square$

The next statement allows us to produce infinitely many weakly semisimple polynomials from a given one.

**Corollary 3.** *Let  $f(x, y)$  be a weakly semisimple polynomial and  $g(x, y)$  be such that  $[f, g] = g$ . If polynomials  $p, q$  satisfy the condition  $[p, q] = 1$ , then  $f(p, q)$  is weakly semisimple and  $[f(p, q), g(p, q)] = g(p, q)$ .*

**Example 1.** Let  $f(x, y) = x(x - 1)y$ ,  $g(x, y) = x^{k+1}(x - 1)^{k-1}y^k$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}
 [f, g] &= [x(x - 1)y, x^{k+1}(x - 1)^{k-1}y^k] \\
 &= [x(x - 1)y, y^k]x^{k+1}(x - 1)^{k-1} + [x(x - 1)y, x^{k+1}(x - 1)^{k-1}]y^k \\
 &= y^k(k[x(x - 1), y]x^{k+1}(x - 1)^{k-1} + x(x - 1)[y, x^{k+1}(x - 1)^{k-1}]) \\
 &= y^k(x^{k+2}(x - 1)^{k-1} - x^{k+1}(x - 1)^k) = x^{k+1}(x - 1)^{k-1}y^k.
 \end{aligned}$$

So, the polynomial  $f(x, y) = x(x - 1)y$  is weakly semisimple and  $g(x, y)$  is its eigenfunction with eigenvalue  $\lambda = 1$ .

**Example 2.** The polynomial  $f(x, y) = y(x - 1)(x - \frac{1}{2}) \dots (x - \frac{1}{n})$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $n \geq 2$  is weakly semisimple. Really, putting  $f_1(x) = (x - 1)(x - \frac{1}{2}) \dots (x - \frac{1}{n})$   $1 \leq i \leq n$  we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned}
 f_1' \left( \frac{1}{i} \right) &= \left( \frac{1}{i} \right)^{n-2} \frac{1}{n!} (1 - i)(2 - i) \dots (i - 1 - i)(i + 1 - i) \dots (n - i) \\
 &= (-1)^{i-1} \left( \frac{1}{i} \right)^{n-1} \frac{1}{n!} i!(n - i)! = (-1)^{i-1} \left( i^{n-1} \binom{n}{i} \right)^{-1} \in \mathbb{Z}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore the polynomial  $f(x, y)$  satisfies the conditions of Theorem 1 and is weakly semisimple.

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### CONTACT INFORMATION

**V. S. Gavran**

Institute of Mathematics, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Tereshchenkivska str, 3, 01601, Kyiv, Ukraine  
*E-Mail: v.gavran@yahoo.com*

**V. V. Stepukh**

National Taras Shevchenko University of Kyiv, Faculty of Mechanics and Mathematics, 64, Volodymyrska str. 01033, Kyiv, Ukraine  
*E-Mail: svvhelios@gmail.com*

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