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Lifting automorphisms of matrix invariants

Let G be a reductive group over an algebraically closed field of characteristic zero. We study the question when automorphisms of the categorical quotient $V//G$ may be lifted to V where V is the representation given by several copies (generally at least two) of the adjoint representation of G. As an application we determine the way an automorphism of $V//G$ may act on the Luna stratification of $V//G$, a question studied earlier jointly with Z. Reichstein in the case of matrices.