Algebra & Number Theory

Volume 10 2016 _{No. 1}

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On tensor factorizations of Hopf algebras

Marc Keilberg and Peter Schauenburg

We prove a variety of results on tensor product factorizations of finite dimensional Hopf algebras (more generally Hopf algebras satisfying chain conditions in suitable braided categories). The results are analogs of well-known results on direct product factorizations of finite groups (or groups with chain conditions) such as Fitting's lemma and the uniqueness of the Krull–Remak–Schmidt factorization. We analyze the notion of normal (and conormal) Hopf algebra endomorphisms, and the structure of endomorphisms and automorphisms of tensor products. The results are then applied to compute the automorphism group of the Drinfeld double of a finite group in the case where the group contains an abelian factor. (If it doesn't, the group can be calculated by results of the first author.)

Introduction

The larger part of this paper is concerned with general results on Hopf algebras in braided categories generalizing well-known results from the theory of finite groups (or groups with chain conditions), such as Fitting's lemma, the Krull–Remak–Schmidt decomposition, and a description of endomorphisms and automorphisms of products of Hopf algebras. The last section deals with the description of the automorphism group of the Drinfeld double $\mathcal{D}(G)$ of a finite group G. This last problem was the starting point of our work.

In the case that *G* has no nontrivial abelian direct factors, a complete description of the automorphisms was given in [Keilberg 2015]. The case when *G* has such an abelian factor was left open. We will write such a group as $G = C \times H$, where *H* has no nontrivial abelian direct factors and *C* is abelian. In this case we naturally have that $\mathcal{D}(G) \cong \mathcal{D}(C) \otimes \mathcal{D}(H)$ is a tensor product of Hopf algebras.

Thus, we are naturally led to analyze endomorphisms and automorphisms of a tensor product of two Hopf algebras. In [Bidwell et al. 2006; Bidwell 2008] an analysis of the automorphisms of direct products of groups was provided. The basic idea is to describe such automorphisms by a matrix of morphisms between the factors. The machinery of normal group endomorphisms and Fitting's lemma then allows one to

Research partially supported through a FABER Grant by the *Conseil régional de Bourgogne*. *MSC2010:* primary 16T05; secondary 18D35, 18D10, 20D99, 81R05.

Keywords: Hopf algebra, factorization, Fitting's lemma, Krull-Remak-Schmidt.

deduce conditions on the various morphisms from conditions on the factors. For example, when the two factors have no common direct factors, then the diagonal terms of the matrix have to be automorphisms. In Section 8 we derive suitably analogous results for tensor product Hopf algebras. Before this can be done, however, we have to carry over to our Hopf algebraic setting some basic notions and classical results from group theory. In Section 2 we develop the terminology of commuting morphisms (for groups these are just morphisms whose images commute) and dually of cocommuting morphisms, and in Section 3 the notions of normal and conormal Hopf endomorphisms. The analog of Fitting's lemma which will produce tensor product decompositions from binormal endomorphisms and thus, under suitable circumstances, common tensor factors from certain endomorphisms of tensor products, will be proved in Section 5. An important application of Fitting's lemma in group theory is the uniqueness of the Krull-Remak-Schmidt decomposition, which we prove in Section 6. Extensions of the Krull-Remak-Schmidt decomposition were studied previously in [Burciu 2011] for decompositions of semisimple Hopf algebras into simple semisimple tensor factors. By contrast our techniques make no use of semisimplicity but only of chain conditions. It is also worth noting that the Krull-Remak-Schmidt result shows that our results are specific to Hopf algebras and cannot be readily generalized to finite or even fusion tensor categories: Müger [2003] gives an example where the factors in the decomposition of a fusion category into prime factors are not unique.

In fact the above results on the structure theory of finite dimensional Hopf algebras over a field k will be developed in greater generality for Hopf algebras in braided abelian tensor categories that fulfill chain conditions on Hopf subalgebras and quotient Hopf algebras. Apart from the fact that the results will thus immediately apply to objects like super-Hopf algebras, for some purposes the categorical setting is simply very natural, since it allows treating mutually dual notions like normality and conormality or ascending and descending chain conditions on the same footing. If the braiding of the base category is not a symmetry, then some of our basic objects of study may be hard to come by: it is well known that the tensor product of two Hopf algebras in a braided monoidal category can only be formed if the two factors are "unbraided", that is, if the braiding between them behaves like a symmetry. On the other hand, some of our results imply that tensor product decompositions have to exist in certain situations. Thus these results also imply that the braiding has to be "partially trivial". For example, if nonnilpotent normal endomorphisms of a Hopf algebra exist, they have to be isomorphisms by Fitting's lemma unless the braiding is partially trivial. An automorphism of a tensor product of nonisomorphic Hopf algebras (necessarily "unbraided" between each other) has to induce automorphisms on the factors, unless the braiding is partially trivial on one of the factors.

Section 4 deals with some technical issues raised by our categorical framework. In preparation for Fitting's lemma we decompose a Hopf algebra with chain conditions,

for which a Hopf algebra endomorphism is given, into a Radford biproduct (in the generalized braided version due to Bespalov and Drabant [1998]). A technical result on (co)invariants under Hopf algebra endomorphisms has some bearing on the notions of epimorphisms and monomorphisms studied notably for infinite dimensional Hopf algebras in [Chirvăsitu 2010].

In Section 9 we present the application of the general results on the structure of finite Hopf algebras and their automorphisms to the study of automorphisms of Drinfeld doubles of groups. Letting $G = C \times H$ as before, taking the field to be the complex numbers, and defining \widehat{H} to be the group of linear characters of H, then under the isomorphisms $\mathcal{D}(C) \cong \mathbb{C}(\widehat{C} \times C)$ and $\widehat{C} \times C \cong C^2$ the result can be stated as

$$\operatorname{Aut}(\mathcal{D}(C \times H)) \cong \begin{pmatrix} \operatorname{Aut}(C^2) & \operatorname{Hom}^c(\mathcal{D}(H), \mathbb{C}C^2) \\ \operatorname{Hom}(C^2, \widehat{H} \times Z(H)) & \operatorname{Aut}(\mathcal{D}(H)) \end{pmatrix}$$

The only term not explicitly determined by [Keilberg 2015] or standard methods for finite abelian groups is $\text{Hom}^c(\mathcal{D}(H), \mathbb{C}C^2)$, which we define in Section 8. In this case the morphisms can be described entirely in terms of group homomorphisms and central subgroups of *G* satisfying certain relations [Agore et al. 2014; Keilberg 2015], so the description is not a significant problem. In Example 9.10 we completely describe $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{D}(D_{2n}))$ where D_{2n} is the dihedral group of order 2n, for the case $n \equiv 2 \mod 4$ and n > 2. This is precisely when there is an isomorphism $D_{2n} \cong \mathbb{Z}_2 \times D_n$. From this we can easily provide a formula for the order of $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{D}(D_{2n}))$. In particular we find that $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{D}(D_{12}))$ has order $1152 = 2^7 3^2$.

1. Preliminaries and notation

Throughout the paper, \mathcal{B} is an abelian braided tensor category with braiding τ ; we will assume that \mathcal{B} is strict, backed up by the well-known coherence theorems. Algebras, coalgebras, bialgebras, Hopf algebras are in \mathcal{B} . All undecorated Homs, Ends, etc., will be for morphisms of Hopf algebras or groups, as appropriate. We will use the following graphical notations to do computations in \mathcal{B} : the braiding is

$$au_{VW} = \bigvee_{WV}^{VW} \quad \text{and} \quad \tau_{VW}^{-1} = \bigvee_{VW}^{WV}.$$

We shall say that the objects V and W are unbraided if $\tau_{VW} = \tau_{WV}^{-1}$.

Multiplication and unit of an algebra A, and comultiplication and counit of a coalgebra C are

$$abla_A = \bigvee_A^{A} A, \quad \eta_A = ightarrow A, \quad \Delta_C = \bigcup_C^{C} A, \quad \varepsilon_C = ightarrow A.$$

The antipode of a Hopf algebra and, if it exists, its inverse are

$$S = \bigoplus_{H}^{H} \quad \text{and} \quad S^{-1} = \bigoplus_{H}^{H} \quad .$$

In order to have a straightforward notion of Hopf subalgebra and quotient Hopf algebra of a given Hopf algebra, we shall assume that tensor products in \mathcal{B} are exact in each argument.

An object in \mathcal{B} satisfies the ascending chain condition on subobjects if and only if it satisfies the descending chain condition on quotient objects, by which we understand the descending chain condition on subobjects in the opposite category. For Hopf algebras we will use the descending chain conditions on Hopf subalgebras and on quotient Hopf algebras. When a Hopf algebra satisfies the descending chain conditions on both Hopf subalgebras and quotient Hopf algebras, we simply say that it satisfies both chain conditions.

If $f: H \to G$ is a Hopf algebra morphism, we define the right and left f-coinvariant subobjects of H as being the equalizers

$$0 \longrightarrow H^{\operatorname{co} f} \longrightarrow H \xrightarrow{(H \otimes f)\Delta} H \otimes G$$
$$0 \longrightarrow {}^{\operatorname{co} f} H \longrightarrow H \xrightarrow{(f \otimes H)\Delta} G \otimes H$$

And dually, the left and right invariant quotients by coequalizers

$$\begin{array}{c} H\otimes G \xrightarrow{\nabla(f\otimes G)} G \longrightarrow H\backslash G \longrightarrow 0 \\ \hline \varepsilon\otimes G & & \\ G\otimes H \xrightarrow{\nabla(G\otimes f)} G \longrightarrow G/H \longrightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

We note that the coinvariant subobjects are subalgebras of H, and the invariant quotients are quotient coalgebras of G.

We will say a Hopf algebra is abelian if it is both commutative and cocommutative. When working over a field, abelian semisimple Hopf algebras are precisely the duals of abelian group algebras, up to a separable field extension [Montgomery 1993, Theorem 2.3.1]. We will say a Hopf algebra is nonabelian when it is not abelian.

2. Commuting and cocommuting morphisms

In this section we formulate an obvious commutation condition for morphisms to an algebra (for ordinary algebras it just means that elements in the respective images

commute) and its dual, and we collect equally obvious consequences that will be useful in later calculations. We note that for each and every fact on Hopf algebras in a braided category there is a dual fact. We will not always state, but still freely use the duals of our statements

Let *A* be an algebra, *V*, $W \in \mathcal{B}$, and $f: V \to A$, $g: W \to A$ morphisms in \mathcal{B} . We say that *f* and *g* multiplication commute and write $f \lor g$ if $\nabla(g \otimes f) = \nabla(f \otimes g)\tau$ (= $\nabla \tau(g \otimes f)$), or graphically

$$\underbrace{gf}_{g} = \underbrace{fg}_{g} = \underbrace{gf}_{g}.$$

Dually, we say two morphisms $f : C \to V$ and $g : C \to W$ from a coalgebra *C* in *B* comultiplication commute, or cocommute for short, and write $f \downarrow g$ if

We say that f, g bicommute if both $f \land g$ and $f \land g$.

If A and B are algebras in \mathcal{B} , then the natural maps $f : A \to A \otimes B$ and $g : B \to A \otimes B$ satisfy $f \uparrow g$, but they only satisfy $g \uparrow f$ if A and B are unbraided. In fact:

$$\begin{array}{c} A & B \\ f & g \\ A \otimes B \\ A \otimes B \\ A & B \end{array} \qquad A & B \\ A & B$$

Lemma 2.1. Let A be an algebra, C a coalgebra, and U, V, W, X, Y objects in \mathcal{B} .

- (i) Let $f: U \to A$, $g: V \to A$ and $h: W \to A$.
 - (a) If $f \uparrow g$ and $f \uparrow h$, then $f \uparrow (\nabla(g \otimes h))$.
 - (b) If $f \uparrow h$ and $g \uparrow h$, then $(\nabla(f \otimes g)) \uparrow h$.
 - (c) If $f \uparrow g$, then $f a \uparrow gb$ for any $a : X \to U$ and $b : Y \to V$.
- (ii) Let $f, g, h : C \to A$.
 - (a) If $f \uparrow g$ and $f \uparrow h$ then $f \uparrow (g * h)$.
 - (b) If $f \uparrow h$ and $g \uparrow h$ then $(f * g) \uparrow h$.
 - (c) If $f \uparrow g$ and $g \downarrow f$, then $f \ast g = g \ast f$.
- (iii) Let $f, g: C \to A$.
 - (a) If C is a bialgebra, f, g are algebra morphisms, and $f \lor g$, then f * g is an algebra morphism.
 - (b) If A, C are bialgebras, f, g are bialgebra morphisms, f Y g and f ∧ g, then f * g is a bialgebra morphism.
 - (c) If A is a bialgebra, C a Hopf algebra, and f, g are unital coalgebra morphisms, then $f \downarrow g \iff f * g$ is a coalgebra morphism.

Note that $f \uparrow g$ is not necessarily equivalent to $g \uparrow f$ in the braided setting. The first part of the following result says, however, that the two properties are equivalent for Hopf algebras with sufficiently well-behaved antipodes. On the other hand, the second part says that if both properties are fulfilled then either the braiding is close to being a symmetry, or the morphisms are close to being trivial.

Proposition 2.2. Let H, K, and A be Hopf algebras, and $f : H \to A$, $g : K \to A$ Hopf algebra morphisms.

- (i) If f Y g, and if the antipode of A is a monomorphism or the antipodes of H and K are epimorphisms, then g Y f.
- (ii) If $f \uparrow g$ and $g \uparrow f$, then

$$\begin{array}{c} H \ K \\ f \ g \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} H \ K \\ f \ g \end{array}$$

Proof. For the first claim, we calculate



which implies g
ightharpoondown f if the antipodes of H and K are epimorphisms. A similar argument shows the same if the antipode of A is a monomorphism.

We now turn to the second claim. We have



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In other words,



does not depend on the choice of $X \in \{ \succ, \succ \}$. But since $f \circ S$ and $g \circ S$ are convolution inverses to f and g, respectively, we have



That the latter expression does not depend on the choice of X is the claim. \Box

As special cases one recovers two known facts that show how badly usual Hopf algebra constructions behave in a "truly braided" tensor category: a Hopf algebra cannot be commutative (or cocommutative) as a (co)algebra in \mathcal{B} unless the braiding on the Hopf algebra is an involution [Schauenburg 1998], and the tensor product of two Hopf algebras cannot be a Hopf algebra unless the two factors are unbraided.

3. Normal endomorphisms

Recall that the left adjoint action and the left coadjoint coaction of a Hopf algebra H on itself are



We note that the adjoint action is characterized by a twisted commutativity condition:

Definition 3.1. Let $f : H \to H$ be a morphism in \mathcal{B} , with H a Hopf algebra.

- (i) f is normal if it is left H-linear with respect to the adjoint action.
- (ii) f is conormal if it is left H-colinear with respect to the coadjoint coaction.
- (iii) f is binormal if it is both normal and conormal.

For group algebras considered in the category of \mathbb{C} -vector spaces, the definition of a normal morphism agrees with the one used in group theory [Rotman 1995]. Since group algebras are cocommutative, every group endomorphism is trivially conormal. We will be primarily concerned with normal, conormal, and binormal endomorphisms of Hopf algebras.

Lemma 3.2. Let $f : H \to H$ be an endomorphism of the Hopf algebra H.

- (i) The following are equivalent:
 - (a) f is normal.
 - (b) $f \Upsilon ((fS) * id_H)$.
 - (c) $(fS) * id_H$ is an algebra morphism.
- (ii) The following are equivalent:
 - (a) f is binormal.
 - (b) $f \downarrow ((fS) * id_H)$ and $f \curlyvee ((fS) * id_H)$.
 - (c) $(fS) * id_H$ is a bialgebra morphism

Proof. We only show part (i). For the equivalence of (b) and (c) we apply the bijection

$$\mathcal{B}(H \otimes H, H) \ni T \mapsto \underbrace{T}_{H} \bigoplus \mathcal{B}(H \otimes H, H)$$

to the two sides of the equation expressing multiplicativity of g := f S * id. We get



and



which are the two sides of (b), up to composition with the isomorphism $H \otimes S$. For the equivalence of (a) and (b), we apply the bijection



to the two sides of (a) and once again get two sides of (b):



and



4. Epic or monic endomorphisms

We recall Radford's theorem [1985] on Hopf algebras with a projection, which was generalized to a categorical setting even more general than the one in the present paper by Bespalov and Drabant [1998]:

Theorem 4.1. Let H be a Hopf algebra, and π an idempotent Hopf algebra endomorphism of H. Then $H \cong \text{Im}(\pi) \otimes \text{Im}(p)$, where $p = (\pi \circ S) * \text{id}_H$ is an idempotent endomorphism of the object H in \mathcal{B} (but not necessarily a Hopf endomorphism). B := Im(p) is a subalgebra and a quotient coalgebra of H. The algebra structure of $\text{Im}(\pi) \otimes B$ is a semidirect product with respect to a certain action of $K = \text{Im}(\pi)$ on B, and the coalgebra structure is the cosemidirect product with respect to a certain coaction.

Moreover $\operatorname{Im}(p) \cong {}^{\operatorname{co}\pi}H \cong \pi \setminus H$.

Proof. Only the last statement is not in [Bespalov and Drabant 1998], who avoid using coinvariant subobjects altogether to generalize [Radford 1985] to categories that might not have equalizers. We check the first isomorphism. We find



and if some morphism $t: T \to H$ satisfies $(\pi \otimes id_H)\Delta t = \eta \otimes t$, then

$$pt = \prod_{\substack{H \\ \oplus \\ H}}^{I} = \underbrace{\bullet}_{H}^{T} = t.$$

Proposition 4.2. Let *H* be a Hopf algebra, and *f* a Hopf algebra endomorphism of *H*. Assume that *H* satisfies both chain conditions. Then there is $n \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $H \cong \text{Im}(f^n) \otimes {}^{\text{co} f^n}H$ is a Radford biproduct.

Proof. Consider the epi-mono factorization $f = (H \xrightarrow{e} B \xrightarrow{m} H)$, where we identify B = Im(f) = Coim(f). Then the endomorphism t = em of B satisfies mt = fm and te = ef. The chain conditions on H imply that the ascending chain of the

kernels of f^n and the descending chain of the images, hence the ordered chain of quotient objects formed by the cokernels of f^n stabilize. Then, replacing f by a suitable power f^n , we can assume that t is an isomorphism. Then $\pi = mt^{-1}e$ is an idempotent endomorphism of H, since $\pi^2 = mt^{-1}emt^{-1}e = mt^{-1}tt^{-1}e = mt^{-1}e = \pi$.

Thus $H \cong \text{Im}(\pi) \otimes {}^{\text{co}\pi}H$ is a Radford biproduct. Moreover, $\text{Im}(\pi) = \text{Im}(f)$, and ${}^{\text{co}\pi}H = {}^{\text{co}f}H$.

Proposition 4.3. Let H be a Hopf algebra in \mathcal{B} that satisfies both chain conditions, and f a Hopf algebra endomorphism of H.

- (i) If the left or right f-coinvariants of H are trivial, then f is a monomorphism in B.
- (ii) If the left or right f-invariant quotient of H is trivial, then f is an epimorphism in \mathcal{B} .

Proof. We prove the first part. By Proposition 4.2, $H \cong \text{Im}(f^n) \otimes {}^{\text{co}f^n}H$ is a Radford biproduct for some *n*. If ${}^{\text{co}f^n}H$ were trivial without f^n being monic, it would follow that *H* is isomorphic to a proper quotient of itself, contradicting the chain conditions. Now assume for some m > 1 that ${}^{\text{co}f^m}H$ is nontrivial. Let $j : {}^{\text{co}f^m}H \to H$ be the inclusion. By exactness of tensor products in \mathcal{B} , we have an equalizer

$$0 \longrightarrow {}^{\operatorname{co} f} H \otimes H \longrightarrow H \xrightarrow{(f \otimes H) \Delta \otimes H} H \otimes H \otimes H$$

and by the calculation

$$((f^{m-1} \otimes H)\Delta \otimes H)(f \otimes H)\Delta j = (f^m \otimes f \otimes H)(\Delta \otimes H)\Delta j$$
$$= (f^m \otimes (f \otimes H)\Delta)\Delta j = \eta \otimes (f \otimes H)\Delta j$$

we see that $(f \otimes H) \Delta j$ factors through this equalizer. We conclude that if $(f \otimes H) \Delta j$ were not trivial, then it would follow that ${}^{\operatorname{co} f^{m-1}}H \otimes H$ is not $I \otimes H$, which implies that ${}^{\operatorname{co} f^{m-1}}H$ is nontrivial. We can conclude by induction that ${}^{\operatorname{co} f}H$ is nontrivial after all.

Remarks 4.4. Let $f: H \to G$ be a Hopf algebra homomorphism in \mathcal{B} .

- (i) Clearly, if f is a monomorphism in \mathcal{B} , then it is a monomorphism in HopfAlg(\mathcal{B}).
- (ii) If f has trivial left or right coinvariants, then f is a monomorphism in $Coalg(\mathcal{B})$.
- (iii) If f is normal, and a monomorphism in $\underline{\text{HopfAlg}}(\mathcal{B})$, then f has trivial left and right coinvariants.

Thus the preceding result shows that normal endomorphisms of a Hopf algebra in \mathcal{B} satisfying both chain conditions are monic (epic) if and only if they are so considered as morphisms in \mathcal{B} .

Proof. If *C* is a coalgebra and $g, h : C \to H$ are coalgebra morphisms with fg = fh, then



and thus, if $H^{\text{co} f}$ is trivial, $g * Sh = \eta \varepsilon$, whence g = h. If f is normal, then the coinvariants are a Hopf subalgebra.

Remark 4.5. In general it is false that monic is equivalent to trivial coinvariants, or that epic is equivalent to trivial invariants. In finite dimensions these concepts agree by the Nichols–Zoeller theorem [1989]; see also [Scharfschwerdt 2001]. In infinite dimensions, however, counterexamples are known [Chirvăsitu 2010].

Lemma 4.6. Let *H* be a Hopf algebra in \mathcal{B} that satisfies both chain conditions. Assume further that the braiding τ_{HH} has finite order. Then the antipode of *H* is an automorphism in \mathcal{B} .

Proof. Depict the iterates of the antipode by

$$S^m = (m)$$
.

One has

Using this, we can show inductively that the coinvariants of H under an iterate of the antipode are trivial as follows. Let $t : T \to H$ be a morphism factoring through $\cos^{2n}H$, i.e., $(S^{2n} \otimes H)\Delta t = \eta \otimes t$. We will show that $(S^m \otimes H)\Delta t = \eta \otimes t$ for any m, whence (taking m = 0) $t = \eta \varepsilon t$.

Assume $(S^{m+1} \otimes H) \Delta t = \eta \otimes t$, or pictorially

Then



Since the braiding on H has finite order by assumption, some even power of the antipode is a Hopf algebra endomorphism of H. Therefore that even power of the antipode is a monomorphism in \mathcal{B} . By the dual reasoning it is also an epimorphism, and therefore S itself is an automorphism in \mathcal{B} .

5. Fitting's lemma

Proposition 5.1 (Fitting's lemma). Let H be a Hopf algebra, and f a Hopf algebra endomorphism of H. Assume that H satisfies both chain conditions, so that there is an $n \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $H \cong \operatorname{Im}(f^n) \otimes {}^{\operatorname{co} f^n}H$ is a Radford biproduct.

If f is normal, the action of $\text{Im}(f^n)$ on $cof^n H$ is trivial, so that, as an algebra, *H* is the tensor product of $\text{Im}(f^n)$ and $\cos^{f^n}H$ in *B*. Similarly if *f* is conormal, then the coalgebra H is a tensor product of coalgebras in \mathcal{B} . In particular, if f is binormal then $\text{Im}(f^n)$ and $\cos^{f^n}H$ are unbraided Hopf algebras in \mathcal{B} , and H is isomorphic to their tensor product.

Proof. We continue the proof of Proposition 4.2, assuming that $\text{Ker}(f^2) = \text{Ker}(f)$ and $\operatorname{Coker}(f^2) = \operatorname{Coker}(f)$ after replacing f by a power of f. We now add the observation that normality of f implies that $p = (f * (Sf * id_H))p = (Sf * id_H)p$. Therefore f
ightarrow p, and dually f
ightarrow p if f is conormal. This in turn implies that the Radford biproduct is just an ordinary tensor product algebra or tensor product coalgebra, as appropriate. \square

Definition 5.2. Let *H* be a Hopf algebra. If $H \cong A \otimes B$ for two Hopf algebras *A* and B, we say that A is a tensor factor of H. (This implies that A and B are unbraided.) We say that H is tensor indecomposable if it does not have a nontrivial tensor factor. An endomorphism f of H is nilpotent if there is an $n \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $f^n = \eta \varepsilon$.

Corollary 5.3. If H is a tensor indecomposable Hopf algebra satisfying both chain conditions, then every binormal endomorphism of H is nilpotent or an automorphism.

6. Krull-Remak-Schmidt

Of course, a Hopf algebra satisfying both chain conditions can be (inductively) decomposed as a tensor product of indecomposable Hopf subalgebras. We shall now show that the Hopf algebraic analog of the Krull–Remak–Schmidt theorem asserting the uniqueness of such a decomposition also holds. A version of this for completely reducible semisimple Hopf algebras was established in [Burciu 2011]. In general, it cannot be hoped that this result has a categorical version. In [Müger 2003] it was shown that a nondegenerate fusion category factorizes into a product of prime ones, but that this was generally not unique. Therefore, such decompositions are rather specific to Hopf algebras.

Lemma 6.1. Let f, g be bicommuting, binormal endomorphisms of a tensor indecomposable Hopf algebra H.

If f and g are nilpotent, then so is f * g.

Proof. Otherwise f * g is a normal automorphism, and after composing f and g with its inverse, we can assume that $f * g = id_H$. In particular f composition commutes with g. Then one can show by induction that $id_H = (f * g)^n$ is a convolution product of terms of the form $f^k g^{n-k}$ for $0 \le k \le n$ (in fact this is a binomial formula with binomial coefficients, but writing it is cumbersome because addition is replaced with convolution products). If $f^m = \eta \varepsilon = g^m$, this implies $(f * g)^{2m} = \eta \varepsilon$, since each term contains an *m*-th power of either f or g.

Remark 6.2. Let *H* and H_1, \ldots, H_k be Hopf algebras in \mathcal{B} . Decomposing *H* as a tensor product Hopf algebra

$$H\cong H_1\otimes H_2\otimes\cdots\otimes H_k$$

amounts to specifying a system of injections $\iota_i : H_i \to H$ and projections $\pi_i : H \to H_i$, all of them Hopf algebra morphisms, which commute and cocommute pairwise and satisfy $\pi_i \iota_i = id_{H_i}, \pi_i \iota_j = \eta \varepsilon$ if $i \neq j$, and $\iota_1 \pi_1 * \iota_2 \pi_2 * \cdots * \iota_k \pi_k = id_H$. The isomorphisms between H and the tensor product are then given by

$$H \xrightarrow{\Delta^{(k-1)}} H^{\otimes k} \xrightarrow{\pi_1 \otimes \cdots \pi_k} H_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes H_k$$

and

$$H_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes H_k \xrightarrow{\iota_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes \iota_k} H^{\otimes k} \xrightarrow{\nabla^{(k-1)}} H_k$$

Note that the H_i need to be pairwise unbraided for the tensor product Hopf algebra to make sense.

Theorem 6.3. Let H be a Hopf algebra in \mathcal{B} , and let

$$H = H_1 \otimes H_2 \otimes \cdots \otimes H_k$$
$$= G_1 \otimes G_2 \otimes \cdots \otimes G_\ell$$

be two tensor decompositions of H in tensor indecomposable factors. Then $k = \ell$, and $H_i \cong G_i$ after a suitable permutation of the indices.

Moreover, letting

$$H_i \xleftarrow{\iota_i}{\prod_{i} H} H \xleftarrow{p_j}{\prod_{i} q_j} G_j$$

denote the systems of injections and projections associated to the decompositions into tensor factors, then the factors can be so numbered that for any $1 \le m \le k$

$$H \xrightarrow{\Delta^{(k-1)}} H^{\otimes k} \xrightarrow{\pi_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes \pi_m \otimes p_{m+1} \otimes \cdots \otimes p_k} H_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes H_m \otimes G_{m+1} \otimes \cdots \otimes G_k \quad (6-1)$$

and

$$H_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes H_m \otimes G_{m+1} \otimes \cdots \otimes G_k \xrightarrow{\iota_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes \iota_m \otimes q_{m+1} \otimes \cdots \otimes q_k} H^{\otimes k} \xrightarrow{\nabla^{(k-1)}} H$$
(6-2)

are isomorphisms.

Proof. There is nothing to show if one of the decompositions consists of only one factor. Otherwise we consider

$$\operatorname{id}_{H_1} = \pi_1 \iota_1 = \pi_1 (q_1 p_1 * \cdots * q_\ell p_\ell) \iota_1 = \pi_1 q_1 p_1 \iota_1 * \cdots * \pi_1 q_\ell p_\ell \iota_1$$

Since H_1 is indecomposable, and the terms in the last convolution product are bicommuting binormal endomorphisms, we know that one of $\pi_1 q_j p_j \iota_1$ is an isomorphism. Without loss of generality we assume this happens for j = 1, and that $\pi_1 q_1 p_1 \iota_1 = id_{H_1}$. It follows that $\pi_1 q_1$ and $p_1 \iota_1$ are mutually inverse isomorphisms between H_1 and G_1 . Now put $f = q_2 p_2 * \cdots * q_\ell p_\ell$ and $t = \iota_1 \pi_1 q_1 p_1 * f$. Since $p_1 t = p_1 \iota_1 \pi_1 q_1 p_1 = p_1$, we have $H^{cot} \subset H^{co p_1 t} = H^{co p_1}$. Thus, for $j : H^{cot} \to H$ the inclusion, we find

$$\Delta j = (H \otimes q_1 p_1 * \dots * q_\ell p_\ell) \Delta j = (H \otimes f) \Delta j = (H \otimes t) \Delta j = (H \otimes \eta) j,$$

and therefore $H^{\cot t}$ is trivial. We conclude that t is an automorphism of H.

Write $\tilde{\pi} : H \to H_2 \otimes \cdots \otimes H_k =: \tilde{H}$ and $\tilde{\iota} : \tilde{H} \to H$ for the natural projection and injection morphisms, and similarly for $\tilde{p} : H \to \tilde{G}$, $\tilde{q} : \tilde{G} \to H$. Since $tq_1 = \iota_1 \pi_1 q_1$, we have $\tilde{\pi} tq_1 = \eta \varepsilon$, and thus $\tilde{\pi} t = \tilde{\pi} t\tilde{q}\tilde{p}$ and $\tilde{\pi} t\tilde{q}\tilde{p}t^{-1}\tilde{\iota} = \tilde{\pi}\tilde{\iota} = \mathrm{id}_{\tilde{H}}$. It follows that $\tilde{\pi} t\tilde{q}$ and $\tilde{p}t^{-1}\tilde{\iota}$ are mutually inverse isomorphism between \tilde{G} and \tilde{H} .

Thus, by an inductive argument we have $k = \ell$, and we can rearrange the indices to get $H_i \cong G_i$ for all *i*.

Note further that the automorphism t above is the composition of the isomorphism

$$H \xrightarrow{\Delta^{(k-1)}} H^{\otimes k} \xrightarrow{p_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes p_k} G_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes G_k \xrightarrow{\pi_1 q_1 \otimes G_2 \otimes \cdots \otimes G_k} H_1 \otimes G_2 \otimes \cdots \otimes G_k$$

with the morphism

$$H_1 \otimes G_2 \otimes \cdots \otimes G_k \xrightarrow{\iota_1 \otimes q_2 \otimes \cdots \otimes q_k} H^{\otimes k} \xrightarrow{\nabla^{(k-1)}} H,$$

whence the latter is an isomorphism. Again by an inductive argument, we get that (6-2) is an isomorphism; the reasoning for (6-1) is similar.

7. Endomorphisms of tensor products

Let *H* and *K* be two Hopf algebras in \mathcal{B} , unbraided so that one can form the tensor product bialgebra $H \otimes K$. Let *A* be an algebra in \mathcal{B} . It is well known that there is a bijection

$$\operatorname{Alg}(H \otimes K, A) \cong \{(a, b) \in \operatorname{Alg}(H, A) \times \operatorname{Alg}(K, A) | a \lor b\}.$$

In fact, a pair (a, b) of multiplication commuting algebra morphisms induces $f = \nabla_A (a \otimes b)$, and



shows that *f* is multiplicative. Conversely, given $f : H \otimes K \to A$, define $a = f(H \otimes \eta)$ and $b = f(\eta \otimes K)$. Then, with $T := H \otimes K$:



and



Assume that A is a bialgebra in \mathcal{B} , and a, b, f are as above. Then f is a bialgebra homomorphism if and only if a and b are.

Dually, for a coalgebra C in \mathcal{B} , a bijection

$$\{(a, b) \in \underline{\operatorname{Coalg}}(C, H) \times \underline{\operatorname{Coalg}}(C, H) \mid a \land b\} \longrightarrow \underline{\operatorname{Coalg}}(C, H \otimes K)$$

is given by $(a, b) \mapsto (a \otimes b) \Delta$, and it induces bijections on the subsets containing (pairs of) bialgebra maps.

Putting the above together, one obtains a bijection between $End(H \otimes K)$ and

$$\left\{ (a, b, c, d) \middle| \begin{array}{l} a \in \operatorname{End}(H), \ b \in \operatorname{Hom}(K, H), \\ c \in \operatorname{Hom}(H, K), \ d \in \operatorname{End}(K), \\ a \lor b, c \lor d, a \land c, b \land d \end{array} \right\}$$

with the endomorphism of $H \otimes K$ corresponding to a quadruple of Hopf algebra map "components" given by

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} := \bigcup_{\substack{a \mid b \mid c \mid d \\ H \quad K}}^{H \quad K}$$

Consider a second endomorphism g of $H \otimes K$ dissected analogously into a matrix $\begin{pmatrix} a' & b' \\ c' & d' \end{pmatrix}$ of Hopf algebra endomorphisms. Then it is straightforward to check that gf corresponds to $\begin{pmatrix} a'a*b'c & a'b*b'd \\ c'a*d'c & c'b*d'd \end{pmatrix}$.

Proposition 7.1. Let H and K be as above, and $f \in \text{End}(H \otimes K)$ described by a matrix $\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$. Assume that the antipodes of H and K are automorphisms in \mathcal{B} .

Then f is normal if and only if a and c are normal, $b \uparrow id_H$, and $d \uparrow id_K$; a similar characterization holds for conormal endomorphisms.

Proof. We fix projections and injections for the tensor product $P := H \otimes K$:

$$H \xrightarrow{\iota_H} P \xrightarrow{\pi_K} K$$

First assume that *f* is normal. Since $f
ightarrow (fS * id_P)$, $a = \pi_H f \iota_H$ commutes with $\pi_H (fS * id_P) \iota_H = aS * id_H$. Similarly *c* is normal. Using (3-1) we have



so that $b \uparrow \operatorname{id}_H$. Similarly $d \uparrow \operatorname{id}_K$.

Now suppose that the stated normality and commutation conditions on a, b, c, dhold. Writing $\hat{a} = \iota_H a \pi_H$, $\hat{b} = \iota_H b \pi_K$ etc. we can write $f = \hat{a} * \hat{b} * \hat{c} * \hat{d}$ as a convolution product of four commuting and cocommuting endomorphisms of P. We are claiming that this product commutes with

$$fS * \mathrm{id}_P = \hat{a}S * \hat{b}S * \hat{c}S * \hat{d}S * \iota_K \pi_K * \iota_H \pi_H = \hat{b}S * \hat{c}S * \hat{d}S * \iota_K \pi_K * \hat{a}S * \iota_H \pi_H$$

(the last equality using that \hat{a} bicommutes with \hat{b} , \hat{c} , \hat{d} , and ι_K .) Now \hat{a} commutes with $\hat{a}S * \iota_H \pi_H$ since a is normal, with $\hat{b}S$ since $a \lor b$, and with $\iota_K \pi_K$ and $\hat{c}S$ since $\iota_H \lor \iota_K$. The next factor \hat{b} commutes with $\hat{a}S$, $\hat{b}S$, and $\iota_H \pi_H$ since $b \lor id_H$, and it commutes with $\hat{c}S$, $\hat{d}S$, and $\iota_K \pi_K$, since $\iota_K \lor \iota_H$. Similar arguments deal with the convolution factors \hat{c} and \hat{d} .

Remark 7.2. Similarly, an endomorphism f of a tensor product of several pairwise unbraided Hopf algebras H_1, \ldots, H_k can be described by a matrix (v_{ij}) of Hopf algebra homomorphisms between the factors. By inductive arguments one can show that f is normal if and only if all the diagonal terms are normal, and the off-diagonal terms commute with the identities on their targets.

An interesting case arises when there are no nontrivial homomorphisms $H_i \rightarrow H_j$ commuting with id_{H_j} . In this case any normal endomorphism preserves the decomposition into tensor factors. One can deduce from this that the Krull–Remak– Schmidt decomposition is unique in a stronger sense than up to permutation and isomorphism; in the original case of decompositions of groups the uniqueness of the subgroups in a direct decomposition into directly indecomposable factors follows as stated in Remak's thesis [1911].

8. Automorphisms of tensor products

We consider now the automorphisms of tensor products of Hopf algebras. These are the natural extensions of the corresponding results in group theory [Bidwell et al. 2006; Bidwell 2008].

Throughout this section we let *H* and *K* be unbraided Hopf algebras, so that we can form the tensor product $H \otimes K$, and we assume that the antipodes of *H* and *K* are automorphisms in \mathcal{B} .

Identify endomorphisms of $H \otimes K$ with matrices of Hopf algebra homomorphisms as in Section 7. Let $\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in \text{End}(H \otimes K)$. If *a* is an automorphism, then by (c) of Lemma 2.1 the condition $a \uparrow b$ implies $\text{id}_H \uparrow b$ (and $x \uparrow b$ for any $x : X \to H$). Similarly $\text{id}_K \land c$, and, if *d* is also an automorphism, then $b \land \text{id}_H$ and $c \uparrow \text{id}_K$.

Define

$$\mathcal{A} = \begin{pmatrix} \operatorname{Aut}(H) & \operatorname{Hom}^{c}(K, H) \\ \operatorname{Hom}^{c}(H, K) & \operatorname{Aut}(K) \end{pmatrix},$$

where Hom^{*c*}(*K*, *H*) := { $b \in \text{Hom}(K, H) | b \lor \text{id}_H$ and $b \land \text{id}_H$ }. This is easily seen to be an abelian group under convolution product. Indeed, the image of any such morphism determines an abelian Hopf subalgebra of *H*. Note that $b \lor \text{id}_H$ $\iff b \lor \alpha$ for some/all $\alpha \in \text{Aut}(H)$, and similarly $b \land \text{id} \iff b \land \alpha$ for some/all $\alpha \in \text{Aut}(H)$.

Consider an automorphism f of $H \otimes K$, and its decomposition as a matrix $\binom{a \ b}{c \ d}$ of Hopf algebra homomorphisms as in Section 7. Let f^{-1} correspond in the same way to a matrix $\binom{a' \ b'}{c' \ d'}$. Then we have $\mathrm{id}_K = (\varepsilon \otimes K) f^{-1} f(\eta \otimes K) = c'b * d'd$. Since $c' \vee d'$ and $b \land d$, we have that $c'b \vee d'd = (c'bS) * \mathrm{id}_K$ and $c'b \land (c'bS) * \mathrm{id}_K$. In other words, c'b is a binormal endomorphism of K. In the same way bc' is a binormal endomorphism of K.

This gives part of the following result.

Theorem 8.1. Suppose that H and K satisfy both chain conditions. Then $A \subseteq$ Aut $(H \otimes K)$ if and only if H and K have no nontrivial common abelian direct tensor factors. On the other hand, Aut $(H \otimes K) = A$ if and only if H and K have no nontrivial common direct tensor factors.

Proof. If *H* and *K* have a common nontrivial direct tensor factor, then permutations of this factor in $H \otimes K$ are automorphisms of $H \otimes K$ not contained in A.

By the preceding remarks, to show $\operatorname{Aut}(H \otimes K) \subseteq A$ it remains to prove that the common tensor factor in $H \otimes K$ that we found is necessarily nontrivial if *d* is not an automorphism. A similar argument will apply to show that *a* is an automorphism, and the commutation and cocommutation conditions for the components of an endomorphism will be equivalent to the off-diagonal terms (co)commuting with the identity instead of the automorphisms on the diagonal.

Thus suppose that *d* is not an automorphism. Then we can assume without loss of generality that the right *d*-coinvariant subobject *D* of *H* is nontrivial. If $\iota : D \to H$ is the inclusion, then $c'b\iota = \nabla(c'b \otimes \eta)\iota = \nabla(c'b \otimes d'd)\Delta\iota = (c'b*d'd)\iota = \iota$, hence $(c'b)^n\iota = \iota$ for all *n*, and the image of $(c'b)^n$ is nontrivial as desired.

The desired equality in the second part will then hold once we have proven the first equivalence.

To this end we first consider the forward direction by contrapositive. Suppose that *H* and *K* have a common abelian direct tensor factor *L*, and write $H = H' \otimes L$ and $K = K' \otimes L$. Since *L* is abelian, its antipode S_L is a Hopf endomorphism of *L*. Taking $a = id_H$, $d = id_K$, $b = \eta_{K'} \varepsilon_{K'} \otimes S_L$ and $c = \eta_{H'} \varepsilon_{H'} \otimes S_L$ we find that $\psi = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in A$. However, *L* is a subobject of the right ψ -coinvariant subobject, whence $\psi \notin \operatorname{Aut}(H \otimes K)$. For the remaining direction, assume that $f = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$ belongs to A; in particular f is a Hopf algebra endomorphism of $H \otimes K$. After multiplying with the obvious automorphism of $H \otimes K$, namely $\begin{pmatrix} a^{-1} & \eta \varepsilon \\ \eta \varepsilon & d^{-1} \end{pmatrix}$, we may assume that $a = \operatorname{id}_H$ and $d = \operatorname{id}_K$. Now consider $g = \begin{pmatrix} \operatorname{id}_H & bS \\ cS & \operatorname{id}_K \end{pmatrix}$, another Hopf endomorphism of $H \otimes K$. One computes $gf = \begin{pmatrix} \operatorname{id} * bcS \\ cS * \operatorname{id} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \operatorname{id} * bcS \\ \eta \varepsilon & cbS * \operatorname{id} \end{pmatrix}$. By the chain conditions on H and K, for n sufficiently large b and c induce mutually inverse isomorphisms between the images of $(bc)^n$ and $(cb)^n$. Fitting's lemma implies that these isomorphic images are an abelian common tensor factor of H and K. It can only be trivial if bc and cb are nilpotent, in which case id *bcS and cbS * id are automorphisms. In the latter case, f was an automorphism.

These results have obvious extensions to more than two factors by induction, which we leave to the reader. The results, however, do not cover the case of a repeated tensor factor. For a given Hopf algebra H in \mathcal{B} we can form the unbraided iterated tensor product $H^{\otimes n} = H \otimes \cdots \otimes H$ for $n \in \mathbb{N}$ precisely when H is in a (sub)category where the braiding is a symmetry.

Theorem 8.2. Let H be a tensor indecomposable nonabelian Hopf algebra satisfying both chain conditions in \mathcal{B} , and suppose the braiding of \mathcal{B} is a symmetry. Fix $n \in \mathbb{N}$, and let \mathcal{A}_n denote those $(\alpha_{ij}) \in \text{End}(H^{\otimes n})$ such that $\alpha_{ii} \in \text{Aut}(H)$ and $\alpha_{ij} \in \text{End}^c(H)$ for all i and $j \neq i$. Then

$$\operatorname{Aut}(H^{\otimes n}) \cong \mathcal{A}_n \rtimes S_n.$$

Proof. By assumptions on H, $A_n \subseteq \operatorname{Aut}(H^{\otimes n})$. The group S_n acts on $H^{\otimes n}$ by permuting factors, and so acts on $\operatorname{Aut}(H^{\otimes n})$ by permuting columns. Conjugating by this action sends A_n to itself. We need only show that every automorphism is a column permutation of an element of A_n .

So let $(\alpha_{ij}) \in \operatorname{Aut}(H^{\otimes n})$, with inverse (α'_{ij}) . Then $\alpha_{i1}\alpha'_{1i} * \cdots * \alpha_{in}\alpha'_{ni} = \operatorname{id}$ holds for all *i*. Since the $\alpha_{ik}\alpha'_{ki}$ are all binormal endomorphisms the notation is unambiguous, and the terms of the convolution product can be arbitrarily reordered. Moreover, since *H* is indecomposable we may conclude that one of the $\alpha_{ik}\alpha'_{ki}$ is an automorphism. In particular for all *i* there is a *k* such that α_{ik} is an epimorphism and α'_{ki} is a monomorphism. By the chain conditions it follows that α_{ik} and α'_{ki} are both automorphisms. Since *H* is nonabelian there is at most one such *k* for any given *i*. This completes the proof.

9. Application to doubles of groups

For this section we work in the category of vector spaces over a field k. Throughout this section G, H, K, C will all be finite groups. For any group G let \widehat{G} be the group of group-like elements of \Bbbk^G , the dual of the group algebra $\Bbbk G$. Note that \widehat{G} is precisely the k-linear characters of G. We also define $\Gamma_G = \widehat{G} \times G$. We denote

the conjugation action of G on \Bbbk^G and $\Bbbk G$ both by \rightharpoonup ; for instance: $g \rightharpoonup x = gxg^{-1}$ for all $g, x \in G$. We will be concerned with $\mathcal{D}(G)$, the Drinfeld double of a finite group G. As a coalgebra $\mathcal{D}(G) = \Bbbk^{G \operatorname{co}} \otimes \Bbbk G$, and the algebra structure is given by having G act on $\Bbbk^{G \operatorname{co}}$ by the conjugation action. We note that Γ_G is the group of group-like elements of $\mathcal{D}(G)$. See [Dijkgraaf et al. 1991; Montgomery 1993] for further details on the construction and properties of this Hopf algebra.

In [Keilberg 2015] the first author gave a complete description of Aut($\mathcal{D}(G)$) whenever *G* has no nontrivial abelian direct factors. Such a group is said to be purely nonabelian. When *G* is abelian we have $\mathcal{D}(G) = \mathbb{k}^G \otimes \mathbb{k}G$, an abelian Hopf algebra, and the determination of Aut($\mathcal{D}(G)$) is then straightforward. Indeed, under mild assumptions on \mathbb{k} we have $\mathcal{D}(G) \cong \mathbb{k}(G \times G)$. Subsequently in this case Aut($\mathcal{D}(G)$) can be computed by classical methods in group theory [Shoda 1928]. We note that the structure of such an automorphism group has been of more recent interest [Bidwell and Curran 2010; Hillar and Rhea 2007]. It is the goal of this section to complete the description of Aut($\mathcal{D}(G)$) when *G* has an abelian direct factor.

So suppose that $G = C \times H$ with *C* abelian. Then $\mathcal{D}(G) \cong \mathcal{D}(C) \otimes \mathcal{D}(H)$. Since $\mathcal{D}(C)$ is an abelian Hopf algebra the results of the previous section can be applied whenever $\mathcal{D}(H)$ has no abelian direct tensor factors. We will proceed to show this happens precisely when *H* is purely nonabelian.

We have the following description of $Hom(\mathcal{D}(G), \mathcal{D}(K))$.

Theorem 9.1 [Keilberg 2015; Agore et al. 2014]. The elements of the set $\operatorname{Hom}(\mathcal{D}(G), \mathcal{D}(K))$ are in bijective correspondence with matrices $\binom{u \ r}{p \ v}$ where $u : \mathbb{k}^G \to \mathbb{k}^K$ is a morphism of unitary coalgebras, $p : \mathbb{k}^G \to \mathbb{k}K$ is a morphism of Hopf algebras, and $r : G \to \widehat{K}$ and $v : G \to K$ are group homomorphisms. These are all subject to the following compatibility relations, for all $a, b \in \mathbb{k}^G$ and $g \in G$:

- (i) $u(g \rightarrow a) = v(g) \rightarrow u(a)$, from which it follows that u^*v is normal;
- (ii) $u \downarrow p$;
- (iii) $u(ab) = u(a_{(1)})(p(a_{(2)}) \rightarrow u(b));$

(iv)
$$p(g \rightarrow a) = v(g) \rightarrow p(a)$$
.

The morphism is defined by

$$a # g \mapsto u(a_{(1)})r(g) # p(a_{(2)})v(g).$$

Composition of such morphisms is given by matrix multiplication, as in Section 7.

The morphism p is uniquely determined by an isomorphism $\mathbb{k}^A \cong \mathbb{k}B$, where A is an abelian normal subgroup of G and B is an abelian subgroup of K. In particular we must have $\mathbb{k}^A \cong \mathbb{k}\widehat{A}$. For the remainder of this section any use of A, B refers to these subgroups. We note that the last relation says $p \uparrow v$ if and only if $A \leq Z(G)$, or equivalently p is cocentral: $p \downarrow id$.

By convention we implicitly identify any element of Hom($\mathcal{D}(G)$, $\mathcal{D}(K)$) or Hom($\mathbb{k}^G \otimes \mathbb{k}G$, $\mathbb{k}^K \otimes \mathbb{k}K$) with its quadruple of components (u, r, p, v), or equivalently as a matrix $\begin{pmatrix} u & r \\ p & v \end{pmatrix}$.

The following is then immediate.

Lemma 9.2. A morphism $\psi \in \text{Hom}(\mathcal{D}(G), \mathcal{D}(K))$ is canonically an element of $\text{Hom}(\mathbb{k}^G \otimes \mathbb{k}G, \mathbb{k}^K \otimes \mathbb{k}K)$ precisely when $p \lor v$ and u is a morphism of Hopf algebras. On the other hand, $\phi \in \text{Hom}(\mathbb{k}^G \otimes \mathbb{k}G, \mathbb{k}^K \otimes \mathbb{k}K)$ is canonically an element of $\text{Hom}(\mathcal{D}(G), \mathcal{D}(K))$ precisely when u^*v is normal and $A \leq Z(G)$.

In the first case we call such a morphism untwistable, and in the second we call it twistable. Clearly any untwistable morphism is also twistable, and vice versa. The distinction is simply in the algebra structures we start with.

Now since $\Bbbk^G \otimes \Bbbk G$ and $\Bbbk^K \otimes \Bbbk K$ are canonically self-dual, any morphism $\psi \in$ Hom($\Bbbk^G \otimes \Bbbk G$, $\Bbbk^K \otimes \Bbbk K$) yields a dual morphism $\psi^* \in$ Hom($\Bbbk^K \otimes \Bbbk K$, $\Bbbk^G \otimes \Bbbk G$) with components (v^* , r^* , p^* , u^*). The following is then clear.

Corollary 9.3. Both $\psi \in \text{Hom}(\mathbb{k}^G \otimes \mathbb{k}G, \mathbb{k}^K \otimes \mathbb{k}K)$ and ψ^* are twistable if and only if the following all hold:

- (i) u^*v is normal;
- (ii) vu* is normal;
- (iii) $A \leq Z(G)$;

(iv)
$$B \leq Z(K)$$
.

In this case we may canonically view ψ as an element of Hom($\mathcal{D}(G)$, $\mathcal{D}(K)$) and ψ^* as an element of Hom($\mathcal{D}(K)$, $\mathcal{D}(G)$).

In [Keilberg 2015] a morphism $\psi = (u, r, p, v) \in \text{Hom}(\mathcal{D}(G), \mathcal{D}(K))$ was said to be flippable if also $(v^*, r^*, p^*, u^*) \in \text{Hom}(\mathcal{D}(K), \mathcal{D}(G))$. This is equivalent to saying that ψ is untwistable and the corresponding dual ψ^* is twistable. In particular the corollary gives a complete description of the flippable elements of $\text{Hom}(\mathcal{D}(G), \mathcal{D}(K))$, and shows that "flipping" an element of $\text{Hom}(\mathcal{D}(G), \mathcal{D}(K))$ can naturally be described as dualizing the morphism.

Corollary 9.4. For any group G, the group $Aut(\mathcal{D}(G))$ is canonically a subgroup of $Aut(\Bbbk^G \otimes \Bbbk G)$ which is closed under dualization.

Proof. Follows from the preceding corollary, Section 8, and the properties of $Aut(\mathcal{D}(G))$ established in [Keilberg 2015].

We now show that the act of untwisting a morphism is fairly well behaved whenever the image is commutative.

Proposition 9.5. Let $\psi \in \text{Hom}(\mathcal{D}(G), \mathcal{D}(K))$ be untwistable. For convenience, let $\psi' = \psi \in \text{Hom}(\mathbb{k}^G \otimes \mathbb{k}G, \mathbb{k}^H \otimes \mathbb{k}H)$. Then the following all hold.

- (i) If G = H, then ψ is conormal if and only if ψ' is conormal.
- (ii) If ψ has a commutative image then ψ' has commutative image.
- (iii) If ψ has commutative image and G = H, then ψ' is normal if and only if v is normal and $B \leq Z(G)$.
- (iv) If ψ has commutative image and G = H, then ψ is normal if and only if ψ' is normal and G acts trivially on Img(u).
- (v) If ψ has commutative image and G = H, then ψ is conormal.

Proof. We first prove (i), as it is the only one that does not suppose that ψ has commutative image. To this end we compute

$$a_{(3)} \# g \cdot S(a_{(1)} \# g) \otimes a_{(2)} \# g = a_{(3)} \# g \cdot (g^{-1} \rightharpoonup S(a_{(1)}) \# g^{-1}) \otimes a_{(2)} \# g$$

= $a_{(3)}S(a_{(1)}) \# 1 \otimes a_{(2)} \# g;$ (9-1)

$$a_{(3)} \otimes g \cdot S(a_{(1)} \otimes g) \otimes a_{(2)} \otimes g = a_{(3)}S(a_{(1)}) \otimes 1 \otimes a_{(2)} \otimes g.$$

$$(9-2)$$

The claim then follows.

For the remainder of the proof, suppose that ψ is untwistable and has commutative image. By checking the commutativity condition we can easily determine the following facts: $p \lor v$; v has abelian image, or equivalently $v \lor v$; $u(a(g \rightarrow b)) = u((h \rightarrow a)b) = u(ab)$ for all $g, h \in G$ and $a, b \in \mathbb{k}^G$, which implies $u \land id$. In particular, $u(g \rightarrow a) = u(a)$ and $p(g \rightarrow a) = p(a)$ for all such a, g.

The first part is then immediate, as we have $\psi(a \# g \cdot b \# h) = \psi'(a \otimes g \cdot b \otimes h)$. Another way of saying this is that when ψ has commutative image we may compute products in either the double or the tensor product without affecting the result. Furthermore $\psi((g \rightarrow a) \# g) = \psi(a \# g)$ for all appropriate *a*, *g*, and so

$$\psi(S(a \, \# \, g)) = \psi(g^{-1} \rightharpoonup S(a) \, \# \, g^{-1}) = \psi(S(a) \, \# \, g^{-1}) = \psi'(S(a \otimes g)).$$

Thus we may perform all computations with ψ in either $\mathcal{D}(G)$ or $\mathbb{k}^G \otimes \mathbb{k}G$ as we desire.

The last part of the result follows from Equations (9-1) and (9-2) and $u \downarrow id$. We need only prove the parts concerning normality of ψ, ψ' .

To determine when ψ' is normal, we first note that by commutativity we have

$$\psi'(a_{(2)} \otimes g \cdot b \otimes h \cdot S(a_{(1)}) \otimes g^{-1}) = a(1)\psi'(b \otimes h).$$

On the other hand,

$$a_{(2)} \otimes g \cdot \psi'(b \otimes h) \cdot S(a_{(1)}) \otimes g^{-1} = a(1)r(h)u(b_{(1)}) \otimes gp(b_{(1)})v(h)g^{-1}.$$

The map ψ' is normal precisely when these two expressions are the same, and we easily find this is equivalent to $B \leq Z(H)$ and v normal.

Finally, we determine when ψ is normal. By previous remarks, we have

$$\psi(a_{(2)} \# g \cdot b \# h \cdot S(a_{(1)} \# g)) = a(1)\psi(b \# ghg^{-1})$$

= $a(1)r(h)u(b_{(1)}) \# p(b_{(2)})v(ghg^{-1}).$ (9-3)

On the other hand, we have

$$\begin{aligned} a_{(2)} &\# g \cdot \psi(b \,\# \,h) \cdot \left(g^{-1} \rightharpoonup Sa_{(1)} \,\# \,g^{-1}\right) \\ &= r(h)a_{(2)} \left(g \rightharpoonup u(b_{(1)})\right) (gp(b_{(2)})v(h)g^{-1} \rightharpoonup S(a_{(1)})) \,\# \,gp(b_{(3)})v(h)g^{-1}. \end{aligned}$$

Applying ε # id to both expressions we get

$$a(1)p(b)v(ghg^{-1})$$

for the first and

$$a(1)gp(b)v(h)g^{-1}$$

for the second. These are equal for all a, b, g, h if and only if $B \le Z(H)$ and v is normal; equivalently, ψ' is normal. Note that if v is normal and has abelian image, then its image is in fact central. Therefore $gp(b)v(h)g^{-1} \rightarrow S(a) = S(a)$ precisely when ψ' is normal. Subsequently the previous equation simplifies to

$$a(1)r(h)(g \rightarrow u(b_{(1)})) \# p(b_{(2)})v(ghg^{-1}).$$

Comparing with (9-3) completes the proof.

Lemma 9.6. Any commutative direct tensor factor of $\mathcal{D}(G)$ is also a commutative direct tensor factor of $\mathbb{k}^G \otimes \mathbb{k}G$.

Proof. Suppose *L* is a commutative Hopf subalgebra of $\mathcal{D}(G)$ such that $\mathcal{D}(G) = M \otimes L$ for some Hopf subalgebra *M*. We then have a projection $\pi : \mathcal{D}(G) \to L$ with associated right inverse the imbedding $i : L \hookrightarrow \mathcal{D}(G)$.

The morphism $i\pi$ is an endomorphism of $\mathcal{D}(G)$. Since the image is central in $\mathcal{D}(G)$ it is easily seen to be untwistable and binormal. Therefore $i\pi$ is canonically a twistable, binormal, idempotent endomorphism of $\mathbb{k}^G \otimes \mathbb{k}G$ with image *L*. By Fitting's lemma we conclude that *L* is also a direct tensor factor of $\mathbb{k}^G \otimes \mathbb{k}G$. \Box

Remark 9.7. Since \mathbb{k}^G is commutative we see that the converse will only hold when *G* is abelian. Indeed since $\mathcal{D}(G)$ is quasitriangular any commutative direct tensor factor of $\mathcal{D}(G)$ is necessarily abelian.

The lemma gives one part of the following.

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Theorem 9.8. Let G be a finite group. Then the following are equivalent.

- (i) *G* is purely nonabelian.
- (ii) $\Bbbk G$ is purely nonabelian.
- (iii) \mathbb{k}^G is purely nonabelian.
- (iv) $\mathbb{k}^G \otimes \mathbb{k}G$ is purely nonabelian.
- (v) $\mathcal{D}(G)$ is purely nonabelian.

Indeed, $\mathbb{k}^G \otimes \mathbb{k}G$ and $\mathcal{D}(G)$ have the same abelian direct tensor factors.

Proof. Since the dual of an abelian Hopf algebra is again abelian, the equivalence of the second and third is immediate. By Krull–Remak–Schmidt, any abelian indecomposable factor of $\Bbbk^G \otimes \Bbbk G$ is isomorphic to an abelian indecomposable factor of either $\Bbbk G$ or \Bbbk^G . Thus the fourth is equivalent to the second and third. Since any Hopf subalgebra of $\Bbbk G$ is a subgroup algebra, the first and second are equivalent. By the lemma the fourth implies the fifth. To prove the fifth implies the fourth, we need only show that any abelian factor of $\Bbbk^G \otimes \Bbbk G$ yields an abelian factor of $\mathcal{D}(G)$.

So let *L* be an abelian tensor factor of $\mathbb{k}^G \otimes \mathbb{k}G$ with associated projection π and inclusion *i*. We wish to show that $i\pi$ is canonically a binormal endomorphism of $\mathcal{D}(G)$. Writing $i\pi = \binom{u \ r}{p \ v}$, the properties of $\operatorname{End}(\mathcal{D}(G))$ and commutativity of the image easily imply the following: $p \ \forall v, v \ \forall v, u \ b, p, p \ \forall id, v \ \forall id$. In particular, *v* and *p* have central image, and *v* is a (bi)normal group homomorphism. Since $(i\pi)^*$ is also an idempotent endomorphism with abelian image we similarly conclude that p^* and u^* have central image, and that u^* is a (bi)normal group homomorphism. Centrality of the image of u^* (indeed, that u^* has abelian image and is thus a class function) implies that *G* acts trivially on the image of *u*. Applying the proposition we conclude that $i\pi$ is canonically a binormal endomorphism of $\mathcal{D}(G)$ with image *L*. Fitting's lemma then implies that *L* is a direct tensor factor of $\mathcal{D}(G)$, as desired. This completes the proof.

Thus for $G = C \times H$ with *C* abelian and *H* purely nonabelian we conclude that $\mathcal{D}(C)$ and $\mathcal{D}(H)$ have no common direct tensor factors. Therefore we may apply the results of the previous section to obtain the following.

Theorem 9.9. Let $G = C \times H$, where C, H are finite groups with C abelian and H purely nonabelian. Then

$$\operatorname{Aut}(\mathcal{D}(G)) = \begin{pmatrix} \operatorname{Aut}(\mathcal{D}(C)) & \operatorname{Hom}^{c}(\mathcal{D}(H), \mathcal{D}(C)) \\ \operatorname{Hom}^{c}(\mathcal{D}(C), \mathcal{D}(H)) & \operatorname{Aut}(\mathcal{D}(H)) \end{pmatrix}$$

The determination of the Hom^c terms remains a computational problem, but all of the components of these morphisms are guaranteed to be morphisms of Hopf algebras, and so determined by group homomorphisms. We note that for Hom^{*c*}($\mathcal{D}(H)$, $\mathcal{D}(C)$) we have a commutative image, as considered in Proposition 9.5. Whenever the field is such that $\mathcal{D}(C)$ is just a group algebra then the situation is further simplified. In this case Hom^{*c*}($\mathcal{D}(C)$, $\mathcal{D}(H)$) = Hom(Γ_C , $Z(\Gamma_H)$), a group of morphisms between abelian groups. Furthermore, it is straightforward to check that $\binom{u \ r}{p \ v} \in \text{Hom}(\mathcal{D}(H), \mathcal{D}(C))$ defines an element of Hom^{*c*}($\mathcal{D}(H), \mathcal{D}(C)$) if and only if $u \downarrow$ id and $p \downarrow$ id; note that $p \downarrow$ id if and only if $A \leq Z(H)$.

Example 9.10. Consider a field k of characteristic not 2. For $n \ge 3$, let $G = D_{2n}$ be the dihedral group of order 2n, and suppose that $n \equiv 2 \mod 4$. The group *G* has an abelian direct factor precisely under this assumption on *n*, in which case $G \cong \mathbb{Z}_2 \times D_n$. So we take $C = \mathbb{Z}_2$ and $H = D_n$, and note $\Gamma_C \cong \mathbb{Z}_2^2$ and $\Gamma_H \cong \mathbb{Z}_2 \times D_n$. It is also well known that $\operatorname{Aut}(\Gamma_C) \cong S_3$. By [Keilberg 2015] we have $\operatorname{Aut}(\mathcal{D}(D_n)) \cong \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \operatorname{Aut}(D_n) \cong \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \operatorname{Hol}(\mathbb{Z}_{n/2})$. Here $\operatorname{Hol}(\mathbb{Z}_n) = \mathbb{Z}_n \rtimes \operatorname{Aut}(\mathbb{Z}_n)$ is the holomorph of \mathbb{Z}_n , a group of order $n\phi(n)$, where ϕ is the Euler totient function.

We have $Z(\Gamma_H) \cong \mathbb{Z}_2$, from which it follows that $\operatorname{Hom}(\Gamma_C, Z(\Gamma_H)) \cong \mathbb{Z}_2^2$ as groups. We claim that

$$\operatorname{Hom}^{c}(\mathcal{D}(H), \mathcal{D}(C)) \cong \mathbb{Z}_{2}^{2}$$

as well. Let $(u, r, p, v) \in \text{Hom}(\mathcal{D}(H), \mathcal{D}(C))$. The abelian normal subgroups of D_n all have odd order, so p is necessarily trivial. By normality of u^*v , we have $u^*(b^{v(x)}) = u^*(b) = u^*(b)^x$ for all $x \in D_n$ and $b \in \mathbb{Z}_2$. Since no order 2 subgroup of D_n is normal we conclude that u^* is trivial. From the preceding remarks it follows that $\text{Hom}(\mathcal{D}(H), \mathcal{D}(C)) = \text{Hom}^c(\mathcal{D}(H), \mathcal{D}(C))$. Since there are two possible homomorphisms $v : D_n \to \mathbb{Z}_2$, and two possible homomorphisms $r : D_n \to \widehat{\mathbb{Z}}_2$, all of which satisfy the necessary compatibilities, it quickly follows that $\text{Hom}^c(\mathcal{D}(H), \mathcal{D}(C)) \cong \mathbb{Z}_2^2$ as desired.

As a consequence, $|\operatorname{Aut}(\mathcal{D}(D_{2n}))| = 2^5 \cdot 3 \cdot n \cdot \phi(n/2)$ whenever $n \equiv 2 \mod 4$. For n = 6 the order is $1152 = 2^7 \cdot 3^2$. The description and order of $\operatorname{Aut}(\mathcal{D}(D_{2n}))$ for $n \neq 2 \mod 4$ is given in [Keilberg 2015].

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Communicated by Susan Montgomery Received 2014-10-22 Accepted 2015-09-09

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Algebra & Number Theory (ISSN 1944-7833 electronic, 1937-0652 printed) at Mathematical Sciences Publishers, 798 Evans Hall #3840, c/o University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720-3840 is published continuously online. Periodical rate postage paid at Berkeley, CA 94704, and additional mailing offices.

ANT peer review and production are managed by EditFLOW[®] from MSP.

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Algebra & Number Theory

Volume 10 No. 1 2016

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