

Everybody knows what a normal gabi-algebra is

Hopf Algebras and Monoidal Categories, Ferrara 2024

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– Joint with [J. Berger](#) and [J. Vercruysse](#), following a discussion with [Gabi Böhm](#) –



Monoidal categories and bialgebras

Let \mathbb{k} be a field (commutative ring), \mathfrak{M} the category of \mathbb{k} -modules.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 (A, m, u) & \longleftrightarrow & \begin{array}{c} {}_A\mathfrak{M} \\ \downarrow \omega \\ \mathfrak{M} \end{array} & A \cong \text{Nat}(\omega, \omega) \\
 \mathbb{k}\text{-algebra} & & & \\
 \\
 (A, m, u, \Delta, \varepsilon) & \longleftrightarrow & \begin{array}{c} ({}_A\mathfrak{M}, \otimes, \mathbb{k}) \\ \downarrow \omega \\ (\mathfrak{M}, \otimes, \mathbb{k}) \end{array} & \begin{array}{l} a \cdot (m \otimes n) = a_1 \cdot m \otimes a_2 \cdot n \\ a \cdot 1_{\mathbb{k}} = \varepsilon(a) \\ \Delta(a) = a \cdot (1_A \otimes 1_A) \\ \varepsilon(a) = a \cdot 1_{\mathbb{k}} \end{array} \\
 \mathbb{k}\text{-bialgebra} & & &
 \end{array}$$

There is a bijective correspondence between liftings of the **monoidal structure** along ω and **bialgebra** structures on A .

Closed monoidal categories and Hopf algebras

If A is a bialgebra, ${}_A\mathfrak{M}$ is also biclosed monoidal

$$- \otimes N \dashv [N, -] = {}_A\mathrm{Hom}(\cdot, A \otimes \cdot, N, -) \quad (\text{right closed})$$

$$(\text{left closed}) \quad M \otimes - \dashv \{M, -\} = {}_A\mathrm{Hom}(\cdot, M \otimes \cdot, A, -)$$

There is a bijective correspondence between liftings of the **right closed monoidal structure** along ω and **Hopf algebra** structures on A .

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 {}_A\mathrm{Hom}(A \otimes N, P) & \xrightarrow{\mathrm{coev}} & \mathrm{Hom}(N, {}_A\mathrm{Hom}(A \otimes N, P) \otimes N) \\
 \vdots \downarrow & & \downarrow \mathrm{Hom}(N, \mathrm{ev}) \\
 {}_A\mathrm{Hom}(A \otimes N, P) & \xleftarrow{\cong} & \mathrm{Hom}(N, P)
 \end{array}$$

is induced by

$$A \otimes N \rightarrow A \otimes N, \quad a \otimes n \mapsto a_1 \otimes a_2 \cdot n.$$

Closed monoidal categories and Hopf algebras

There is a bijective correspondence between liftings of the **biclosed monoidal structure** along ω and **Hopf algebra structures with bijective antipode** on A .

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 {}_A\mathrm{Hom}(M \otimes A, P) & \xrightarrow{\mathrm{coev}} & \mathrm{Hom}(M, {}_A\mathrm{Hom}(M \otimes A, P) \otimes M) \\
 \vdots \downarrow & & \downarrow \mathrm{Hom}(M, \mathrm{ev}) \\
 {}_A\mathrm{Hom}(A \otimes M, P) & \xleftarrow{\cong} & \mathrm{Hom}(M, P)
 \end{array}$$

is induced by

$$A \otimes M \rightarrow M \otimes A, \quad a \otimes m \mapsto a_1 \cdot m \otimes a_2.$$

What can we say about A
if we lift the closed structure alone?

Definition

A **skew-monoidal category** is a category \mathcal{C} together with

- a distinguished object $\mathbf{1}$
 - a bifunctor $\otimes: \mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$
 - a family $\rho_X: X \rightarrow X \otimes \mathbf{1}$ natural in X
 - a family $\lambda_X: \mathbf{1} \otimes X \rightarrow X$ natural in X
 - a family $\alpha_{X,Y,Z}: (X \otimes Y) \otimes Z \rightarrow X \otimes (Y \otimes Z)$ natural in X, Y, Z
- subject to the commutativity of 5 diagrams.

A skew-monoidal category is called

- **right normal** iff $\rho_X: X \rightarrow X \otimes \mathbf{1}$ is a natural isomorphism
- **left normal** iff $\lambda_X: \mathbf{1} \otimes X \rightarrow X$ is a natural isomorphism
- **associative normal** iff $\alpha_{X,Y,Z}: (X \otimes Y) \otimes Z \rightarrow X \otimes (Y \otimes Z)$ is a natural isomorphism

Definition (Street, 2013)

A **skew-closed category** is a category \mathcal{C} together with

- a distinguished object $\mathbf{1}$
 - a bifunctor $[-, -]: \mathcal{C}^{\text{op}} \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$
 - a family $i_X: [\mathbf{1}, X] \rightarrow X$ natural in X
 - a family $j_X: \mathbf{1} \rightarrow [X, X]$ dinatural in X
 - a family $\Gamma_{X,Y}^Z: [X, Y] \rightarrow [[Z, X], [Z, Y]]$ natural in X, Y and dinatural in Z
- subject to the commutativity of 5 diagrams.

Example

Take R a \mathbb{k} -algebra and $\mathcal{C} = {}_R\mathfrak{M}$ with $[U, V] = \text{Hom}(U, V)$ and $\mathbf{1} = R$.

- $i_U: \text{Hom}(R, U) \rightarrow U, \quad f \mapsto f(1_R)$
- $j_U: R \rightarrow \text{Hom}(U, U), \quad 1_R \mapsto \text{id}_U$

- Morally, one should think about $\Gamma_{Y,Z}^X : [Y, Z] \rightarrow [[X, Y], [X, Z]]$ as a “post-composition map”:

$$\Gamma_{V,W}^U : \text{Hom}(V, W) \rightarrow \text{Hom}\left(\text{Hom}(U, V), \text{Hom}(U, W)\right)$$

$$\left(V \xrightarrow{f} W \right) \mapsto \left(\left(U \xrightarrow{g} V \right) \mapsto \left(\begin{array}{ccc} U & \xrightarrow{f \circ g} & W \\ & \searrow g & \nearrow f \\ & V & \end{array} \right) \right)$$

Definition

A **(strict) closed functor** between closed categories $(\mathcal{C}, \mathbf{1}, [-, -])$ and $(\mathcal{C}', \mathbf{1}', [-, -]')$ is a functor $F: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}'$ satisfying

$$F(\mathbf{1}) = \mathbf{1}' \quad \text{and} \quad F[X, Y] = [FX, FY]$$

and all behaves well with respect to coherence transformations.

A skew-closed category is called

- **right normal** iff $i_X: [\mathbf{1}, X] \rightarrow X$ is a natural isomorphism,
- **left normal** iff

$$\mathcal{C}(X, Y) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}(\mathbf{1}, [X, Y]), \quad f \mapsto [f, Y] \circ j_Y$$

is a bijection,

- **associative normal** iff

$$\int^W \mathcal{C}(X, [W, U]) \times \mathcal{C}(Y, [Z, W]) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}(X, [Y, [Z, U]])$$
$$(f, g) \mapsto \left\{ X \xrightarrow{f} [W, U] \xrightarrow{\Gamma_{W,U}^Z} [[Z, W], [Z, U]] \xrightarrow{[g, [Z, U]]} [Y, [Z, U]] \right\}$$

is bijective.

A **closed category** is a skew-closed category satisfying all the normality conditions.

Theorem (Uustalu, Veltri, Zeilberg, 2020)

Let \mathcal{C} be a category with a distinguished object $\mathbf{1}$ and bifunctors $\otimes: \mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ and $[-, -]: \mathcal{C}^{\text{op}} \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$. Assume that there are adjunctions $- \otimes X \dashv [X, -]$, natural in X .

- Skew-monoidal structures (α, λ, ρ) on $(\mathcal{C}, \otimes, \mathbf{1})$ are in bijection with skew-closed structures (Γ, j, i) on $(\mathcal{C}, [-, -], \mathbf{1})$.
- The skew-monoidal structure is left/right/associative normal iff the skew-closed structure is left/right/associative normal.
- The skew-monoidal structure is associative normal iff

$$[X \otimes Y, Z] \xrightarrow{\Gamma_{X \otimes Y, Z}^Y} [[Y, X \otimes Y], [Y, Z]] \xrightarrow{[\text{coev}, [Y, Z]]} [X, [Y, Z]]$$

is a natural isomorphism, iff the skew-closed structure is associative normal.

Theorem

Let (T, m, u) be a monad on a skew-closed category \mathcal{C} . Then \mathcal{C}^T is skew-closed such that the forgetful functor to \mathcal{C} is strictly closed iff

- there is $\mu_1: T\mathbf{1} \rightarrow \mathbf{1}$ in \mathcal{C} such that $(\mathbf{1}, \mu_1) \in \mathcal{C}^T$ and
- there is a family $s_{X,Y}: T[TX, Y] \rightarrow [X, TY]$ natural in X, Y

which satisfy, for all X, Y in \mathcal{C} and (M, μ_M) in \mathcal{C}^T ,

$$s_{X,Y} \circ u_{[TX,Y]} = [u_X, u_Y],$$

$$s_{X,Y} \circ m_{[TX,Y]} = [X, m_Y] \circ s_{X,TY} \circ Ts_{TX,Y} \circ T^2[m_X, Y],$$

$$Ti_X = i_{TX} \circ s_{1,X} \circ T[\mu_1, X],$$

$$j_M \circ \mu_1 = [M, \mu_M \circ m_M] \circ s_{M,TM} \circ Tj_{TM},$$

$$\Gamma_{X,TY}^M \circ s_{X,Y} = [[\mu_M, X], s_{M,Y}] \circ s_{[TM,X],[TM,Y]} \circ T[s_{M,X}, [\mu_M, Y]] \circ T\Gamma_{TX,Y}^M.$$

Proposition

Let (A, m, u) be a monoid in a closed monoidal category \mathcal{C} . Then ${}_A\mathcal{C}$ is skew-closed such that the forgetful functor is strictly closed iff

- there is $\varepsilon: A \rightarrow \mathbf{1}$ in \mathcal{C} such that $(\mathbf{1}, \varepsilon \otimes \mathbf{1})$ in ${}_A\mathcal{C}$ and
- there is a family $t_{X,Y}: A \otimes X \otimes Y \rightarrow A \otimes X \otimes A \otimes Y$ natural in X, Y which satisfy, for all X, Y in \mathcal{C} and (M, μ_M) in ${}_A\mathcal{C}$

$$t_{X,Y} \circ (u \otimes X \otimes Y) = u \otimes X \otimes u \otimes Y,$$

$$t_{X,Y} \circ (m \otimes X \otimes Y) = (m \otimes X \otimes m \otimes Y) \circ (A \otimes t_{X,A \otimes Y}) \circ t_{A \otimes X, Y},$$

$$(A \otimes X \otimes \varepsilon) \circ t_{X, \mathbf{1}} = A \otimes X,$$

$$\varepsilon \otimes M = (m \otimes M) \circ t_{\mathbf{1}, M},$$

$$t_{X, Y \otimes M} = (A \otimes X \otimes A \otimes Y \otimes \mu_M^{(2)}) \circ (A \otimes X \otimes t_{Y, A \otimes M}) \circ t_{X \otimes A \otimes Y, M} \circ (t_{X, Y} \otimes M).$$

Theorem

Let A be a \mathbb{k} -algebra. Then the skew-closed structure of \mathfrak{M} lifts to a skew-closed structure on ${}_A\mathfrak{M}$ iff

- (A, ε) is an augmented \mathbb{k} -algebra and
- \exists an algebra map $\delta: A \rightarrow A \otimes A^{\text{op}}$, $\delta(a) = a_+ \otimes a_-$, such that for all $a \in A$

$$a_+ \varepsilon(a_-) = a, \quad a_+ a_- = \varepsilon(a) 1_A,$$

$$a_{++} \otimes a_{-+} \otimes a_{--} a_{+-} = a_+ \otimes a_- \otimes 1.$$

In this case, A acts on $\text{Hom}(M, N)$ as

$$(a.f)(m) = a_+ f(a_- m).$$

Definition

Such an algebra will be called a **gabi-algebra**.

Example (Hopf algebras)

Any Hopf algebra H is a gabi-algebra with $\delta(h) = h_1 \otimes S(h_2)$. The category ${}_H\mathfrak{M}$ is a closed monoidal category with closed monoidal forgetful functor.

Example (One-sided Hopf algebras – Green, Nichols, Taft, 1980)

A **right Hopf algebra** is a bialgebra B in which id_B has a right convolution inverse.

A right Hopf algebra whose right antipode is an anti-bialgebra map carries the structure of a gabi-algebra with respect to ε and $\delta(b) := b_1 \otimes S(b_2)$ for all $b \in B$.

This skew-closed structure is not left normal, since the \mathbb{k} -linear map

$$\beta: {}_\bullet B \otimes {}_\bullet B \rightarrow {}_\bullet B \otimes B, \quad a \otimes b \mapsto a_1 \otimes S(a_2)b,$$

induces an element $1_{\mathbb{k}} \mapsto \beta$ in ${}_B\text{Hom}(\mathbb{k}, \text{Hom}(B \otimes B, B \otimes B))$ which does not come from an element in ${}_B\text{Hom}(B \otimes B, B \otimes B)$.

Gabi-algebras and skew monoidal structures

Let A be a gabi-algebra and M be a left A -module. Consider the \mathbb{k} -module $A \otimes M$, which we turn into an A -bimodule via

$$a.(b \otimes m).c = abc_+ \otimes c_- m.$$

We denote this bimodule by $A \odot M$.

Proposition

For any $M \in {}_A\mathfrak{M}$, there is an adjunction

$$\begin{array}{ccc} {}_A\mathfrak{M} & \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{(A \odot M) \otimes_A -} \\ \perp \\ \xleftarrow{\text{Hom}(M, -)} \end{array} & {}_A\mathfrak{M} \end{array}$$

The unit and counit of the adjunction are

$$\begin{aligned} N &\rightarrow \text{Hom}(M, (A \odot M) \otimes_A N), & n &\mapsto \{m \mapsto (1_A \odot m) \otimes_A n\}, \\ (A \odot M) \otimes_A \text{Hom}(M, N) &\rightarrow N, & (a \odot m) \otimes_A f &\mapsto af(m). \end{aligned}$$

Gabi-algebras and skew monoidal structures

Recall that any skew-closed category in which $[-, -]$ admits a left adjoint possesses a skew-monoidal structure. Consider the bifunctor

$$\boxtimes: {}_A\mathfrak{M} \times {}_A\mathfrak{M} \rightarrow {}_A\mathfrak{M}, \quad M \boxtimes N = (A \odot N) \otimes_A M.$$

Proposition

\boxtimes defines a skew-monoidal structure on ${}_A\mathfrak{M}$, with unit \mathbb{k} , unitors

$$\lambda_N: \mathbb{k} \boxtimes N \rightarrow N, \quad (a \odot n) \otimes_A 1_{\mathbb{k}} \mapsto an,$$

$$\rho_M: M \xrightarrow{\sim} M \boxtimes \mathbb{k}, \quad m \mapsto (1_A \odot 1_{\mathbb{k}}) \otimes_A m,$$

and associator

$$\alpha_{L,M,N}: (L \boxtimes M) \boxtimes N \rightarrow L \boxtimes (M \boxtimes N),$$

$$(a \odot n) \otimes_A ((b \odot m) \otimes_A l) \mapsto (ab_+ \odot ((1_A \odot b_- n) \otimes_A m)) \otimes_A l.$$

Gabi-algebras and Hopf algebras

Given a gabi-algebra (A, δ, ε) define its **canonical morphism** to be

$$\beta: A \otimes A \rightarrow A \otimes A, \quad a \otimes b \mapsto a_+ \otimes a_- b,$$

and its **antipode** to be $\sigma(a) := \varepsilon(a_+)a_-$.

Proposition

If β is invertible and $\Delta(a) := \beta^{-1}(a \otimes 1)$ is left counital, then (A, Δ, ε) is a Hopf algebra with antipode σ .

Corollary (Commutative is Hopf)

*Any **commutative** gabi-algebra A is a Hopf algebra with comultiplication $\Delta(a) := a_+ \otimes \sigma(a_-)$ and antipode σ .*

Proposition

Let A be a finite-dimensional gabi-algebra with invertible antipode σ . Define $\Delta(a) := a_+ \otimes \sigma^{-1}(a_-)$. Then $(A, \Delta, \varepsilon, \sigma)$ is a Hopf algebra.

Proposition

Let A be a gabi-algebra over \mathbb{k} . Then the skew closed structure on ${}_A\mathfrak{M}$ is associative normal if and only if the canonical map β is invertible.

Proposition

Let A be a gabi-algebra whose β is invertible. Then the skew closed structure on ${}_A\mathfrak{M}$ is also left normal if and only if A is a Hopf algebra with comultiplication $\beta^{-1}(a \otimes 1)$, counit ε and antipode $\sigma(a) = \varepsilon(a_+)a_-$ for all $a \in A$.

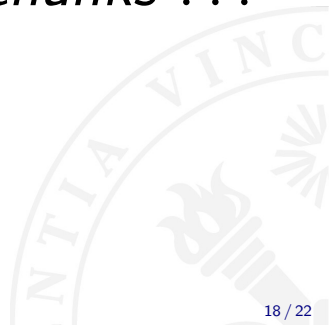
Our conclusive slogan is:

Everybody knows what a normal gabi-algebra is.

Theorem

Let A be an algebra. Then ${}_A\mathfrak{M}$ is a closed category with strictly closed forgetful functor ${}_A\mathfrak{M} \rightarrow \mathfrak{M}$ if and only if A is a Hopf algebra.

Many thanks . . .











HOPF25

22-26 April, 2025 – Brussels

Hopf algebras, quantum groups, monoidal categories and related structures

Expression of interest (and info):

hopfalg.ulb.be/Hopf2025

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Axioms of a skew-closed category

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbf{1} & \xrightarrow{j_1} & [\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}] \\ & \searrow = & \downarrow i_1 \\ & & \mathbf{1} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} [X, Y] & \xrightarrow{\Gamma_{X,Y}^X} & [[X, X], [X, Y]] \\ = \downarrow & & \downarrow [j_X, [X, Y]] \\ [X, Y] & \xleftarrow{i_{[X,Y]}} & [\mathbf{1}, [X, Y]] \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbf{1} & \xrightarrow{j_Y} & [Y, Y] \\ & \searrow j_{[X,Y]} & \downarrow \Gamma_{Y,Y}^X \\ & & [[X, Y], [X, Y]] \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} [X, Y] & \xrightarrow{\Gamma_{X,Y}^1} & [[\mathbf{1}, X], [\mathbf{1}, Y]] \\ & \searrow [i_X, Y] & \downarrow [[\mathbf{1}, X], i_Y] \\ & & [[\mathbf{1}, X], Y] \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} [W, X] & \xrightarrow{\Gamma_{W,X}^U} & [[U, W], [U, X]] \\ \downarrow \Gamma_{W,X}^V & & \downarrow \Gamma_{[U,W],[U,X]}^{[U,V]} \\ [[V, W], [V, X]] & \xrightarrow{[[V,W], \Gamma_{V,X}^U]} & [[V, W], [[U, V], [U, X]]] \\ & & \downarrow [\Gamma_{V,W}^U, [[U,V], [U,X]]] \\ & & [[U, V], [U, X]] \end{array}$$

Axioms of a skew-monoidal category

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \begin{array}{c}
 \mathbf{1} \xrightarrow{\rho_1} \mathbf{1} \otimes \mathbf{1} \\
 \searrow = \quad \downarrow \lambda_1 \\
 \mathbf{1}
 \end{array}
 &
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 X \otimes Y & \xrightarrow{\rho_{X \otimes Y}} & (X \otimes \mathbf{1}) \otimes Y \\
 \downarrow = & & \downarrow \alpha_{X, \mathbf{1}, Y} \\
 X \otimes Y & \xleftarrow{X \otimes \lambda_Y} & X \otimes (\mathbf{1} \otimes Y)
 \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 X \otimes Y & \xrightarrow{\rho_{X \otimes Y}} & (X \otimes Y) \otimes \mathbf{1} \\
 \searrow X \otimes \rho_Y & & \downarrow \alpha_{X, Y, \mathbf{1}} \\
 & & X \otimes (Y \otimes \mathbf{1})
 \end{array}
 &
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 (\mathbf{1} \otimes X) \otimes Y & \xrightarrow{\alpha_{\mathbf{1}, X, Y}} & \mathbf{1} \otimes (X \otimes Y) \\
 \downarrow \lambda_{X \otimes Y} & & \swarrow \lambda_{X \otimes Y} \\
 X \otimes Y & &
 \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 ((W \otimes X) \otimes Y) \otimes Z & \xrightarrow{\alpha_{W, X, Y \otimes Z}} & (W \otimes (X \otimes Y)) \otimes Z \\
 \downarrow \alpha_{W \otimes X, Y, Z} & & \downarrow \alpha_{W, X \otimes Y, Z} \\
 (W \otimes X) \otimes (Y \otimes Z) & \xrightarrow{\alpha_{W, X, Y \otimes Z}} & W \otimes ((X \otimes Y) \otimes Z) \\
 & & \downarrow W \otimes \alpha_{X, Y, Z} \\
 & & W \otimes (X \otimes (Y \otimes Z))
 \end{array}$$