

A Short Note on the Conjugation in the Leibniz-Hopf Algebra

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Abstract: The Leibniz-Hopf algebra is the free associative Z – algebra with one generator in each positive degree and coproduct is given by the Cartan formula. It has been also known as the ‘ring of noncommutative symmetric functions’ [1], and to be isomorphic to the Solomon Descent algebra [12]. This Hopf algebra has links with algebra, topology and combinatorics. In this article we consider another approach of proof for the antipode formula in the Leibniz-Hopf algebra by using some properties of words in [2].

Key words: Hopf algebra, Leibniz-Hopf algebra, antipode, Steenrod algebra.

1. Introduction

The Leibniz-Hopf algebra, F , is the free associative Z – algebra on one generator, S^n , $n > 0$ in each degree with the graded Hopf algebra structure determined by $\Delta(S^n) = \sum_{i+j=n} S^i \otimes S^j$, $S^0 = 1$.

As F is a graded and connected algebra, we have: $F = \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} F_n$. Topologists know this algebra as the homology of the loop space of the suspension of the infinite complex projective space, $H_*(\Omega\Sigma CP^\infty)$. On the other hand, the antipode in $H_*(\Omega\Sigma CP^\infty)$ arises from the time-inversion of loops. Hence it leads to a geometric point of view for the antipode or conjugation, χ , on the Leibniz-Hopf algebra (see Section 1 of [3] for more details). The mod p reductions $F \otimes Z/p$ are also important in algebraic topology, since the mod p Steenrod algebra is naturally defined as a quotient of $F \otimes Z/p$ by the Adem Relations [4]. (to be precise, for odd primes, this is the sub algebra of the mod p Steenrod algebra generated by Steenrod powers.)

The conjugation on F and its dual has been studied in [5-7] connection with the Steenrod algebra and

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commutativity in ring spectra [8, 9]. A formula for the antipode on F was given in [10-12].

In this paper we give a proof for this conjugation formula in the language of words in [2]. This paper is produced from [13].

2. Results

Proposition 2.1 Let R be the set of all words of degree n , where $n \geq 1$. Then

$$R = A_1 \coprod A_2 \coprod \dots \coprod A_n,$$

where $A_i = \left\{ \begin{matrix} i, l_1, \dots, l_s : l_1, \dots, l_s \text{ is a word of} \\ \text{degree } n - i \end{matrix} \right\}$ for $i = 1, \dots, n$.

Proof: See Proof of Proposition 2.3 of [2].

Lemma 2.2 The antipode for F may be defined by recursively $\chi(S^0) = S^0$, and for any $x \in F_n$, $n \geq 1$,

$$\chi(x) = -\sum_{i=1}^m y_i \chi(z_i),$$

where

$$\Delta(x) = S^0 \otimes x + \sum_{i=1}^m y_i \otimes z_i$$

and degree of $z_i < n$.

Proof: See Proof of Lemma 2.4.12 of [13].

Proposition 2.3 For a given generator $x = S^n$, the antipode is given by

$$\chi(S^n) = \sum (-1)^k S^{i_1, \dots, i_k},$$

where the summation is over all refinements [2] S^{i_1, \dots, i_k} of S^n .

Proof: The proof will proceed by induction on the degree n . Conjugation preserves the identity element so we have: $\chi(S^0) = S^0$ [14].

On the other hand, by coproduct formula of F , Lemma 2.2 shows that we have a recursive formula for the antipode which is given by

$$\chi(S^n) = -\sum_{i=1}^n S^i \otimes \chi(S^{n-i}). \quad (1)$$

Eq. (1) expands in the following:

$$\chi(S^n) = -\left(S^1 \chi(S^{n-1}) + \dots + S^n \chi(S^{n-n}) \right). \quad (2)$$

As $\chi(S^{n-n}) = S^0$, Eq. (2) turns into:

$$\chi(S^n) = -\left(S^1 \sum (-1)^{k_1} S^{r_{11}, r_{12}, \dots, r_{1k_1}} + \dots + S^n \sum (-1)^{k_n} S^{r_{n1}, r_{n2}, \dots, r_{nk_n}} \right), \quad (3)$$

where the summation is over all refinements $r_{11}, r_{12}, \dots, r_{1k_1}$ of $n-1, \dots$, and the last one is over all refinements $r_{n1}, r_{n2}, \dots, r_{nk_n}$ of $n-n=0$, i.e., ‘empty’

word. Hence, the length of $r_{n1}, r_{n2}, \dots, r_{nk_n}$, namely k_n

is zero. In particular, by distributive property of the product on F Eq. (3) turns into:

$$\chi(S^n) = \sum (-1)^{k_i+1} S^{1, r_{11}, r_{12}, \dots, r_{1k_1}} + (-1)^{k_2+1} S^{1, r_{21}, r_{22}, \dots, r_{2k_2}} \dots + (-1)^{k_n+1} S^n. \quad (4)$$

In the language of Proposition 2.1, we observe that each summation on the right-hand side of Eq. (4) is over A_i , where $i=1, \dots, n$ and each summand in the summation appears with coefficients $(-1)^{k_i+1}$, where k_i+1 is the length of summand. I.e., the summation $\sum (-1)^{k_i+1} S^{1, r_{11}, r_{12}, \dots, r_{1k_1}}$ is over A_1 , and each summand $S^{1, r_{11}, r_{12}, \dots, r_{1k_1}}$ has coefficient $(-1)^{k_i+1}$, and so on. Note that when $i=n$ the summation has only one summand which is S^n with coefficient $(-1)^{k_n+1} = (-1)^1$, since $k_n=0$.

Moreover, the set of all refinements of the word n corresponds to R which is the finite union of these A_i . Thus, by Proposition 2.1 the right hand-side of Eq. (4)

is the sum of all refinements of S^n .

Theorem 2.4 Let $S^{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_p} \in F$, then the antipode is given by

$$\chi(S^{b_1, \dots, b_p}) = \sum (-1)^n S^{t_1, \dots, t_n},$$

where the summation is over all refinements S^{t_1, \dots, t_n} of S^{b_p, \dots, b_1} .

Proof: As χ is also an anti-automorphism, we arrive at

$$\chi(S^{b_1, \dots, b_p}) = \chi(S^{b_p}) \chi(S^{b_{p-1}}) \dots \chi(S^{b_2}) \chi(S^{b_1}).$$

More precisely, by Proposition 2.3 we have:

$$\chi(S^{b_1, \dots, b_p}) = \sum (-1)^{k_1} S^{i_1, \dots, i_{k_1}} \sum (-1)^{(k_2-k_1)} S^{i_{k_1+1}, \dots, i_{k_2}} \dots \sum (-1)^{(k_p-k_{p-1})} S^{i_{k_{p-1}+1}, \dots, i_{k_p}}, \quad (5)$$

where $S^{i_1, \dots, i_{k_1}}$ is a refinement of S^{b_p} , similarly, $S^{i_{k_1+1}, \dots, i_{k_2}}$ is a refinement of $S^{b_{p-1}}$, ..., $S^{i_{k_{p-1}+1}, \dots, i_{k_p}}$ is a refinement of S^{b_1} . Multiplication of F is concatenation, so Eq. (5) turns into:

$$\chi(S^{b_1, \dots, b_p}) = \sum (-1)^{k_p} S^{i_1, \dots, i_{k_1}, i_{k_1+1}, \dots, i_{k_2}, i_{k_2+1}, \dots, i_{k_{p-1}}, i_{k_{p-1}+1}, \dots, i_{k_p}},$$

where $S^{i_1, \dots, i_{k_1}, i_{k_1+1}, \dots, i_{k_2}, i_{k_2+1}, \dots, i_{k_{p-1}}, i_{k_{p-1}+1}, \dots, i_{k_p}}$ is a refinement of S^{b_p, \dots, b_1} . This completes the proof.

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