ERRATUM TO “SUPPORT VARIETIES AND
REPRESENTATION TYPE OF SMALL QUANTUM GROUPS”

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Abstract. Some of the general results in the paper require an additional hypothesis, such as quasi-triangularity. Applications to specific types of Hopf algebras are correct, as some of these are quasi-triangular, and for those that are not, the Hochschild support variety theory may be applied instead.

Let $A$ be a finite-dimensional Hopf algebra over a field $k$. The vector space $H^v(A, k) := \text{Ext}^*_A(k, k)$ is an associative, graded commutative $k$-algebra under the cup product, or equivalently under Yoneda composition. If $M$ and $N$ are finite-dimensional left $A$-modules, then $H^v(A, k)$ acts on $\text{Ext}^*_A(M, N)$ via the cup product, or equivalently by $- \otimes N$ followed by Yoneda composition.

Let $S$ be the composition inverse of the antipode $S$. The isomorphism toward the top of p. 1350 in [3], $\text{Ext}^*_A(M, N) \cong \text{Ext}^*_A(k, M^* \otimes N)$, assumes the following left $A$-module structure on $M^* = \text{Hom}_k(M, k)$, which was not stated explicitly in the paper:

$$(a \cdot f)(m) = \sum a_2 f(S(a_1)m)$$

for all $a \in A$, $f \in M^*$, and $m \in M$.

Under some finiteness assumptions as in [3], we recall the definition of support variety: Let $M$ be a finite-dimensional left $A$-module, let $I_A(M)$ be the annihilator of the action of $H^v(A, k)$ on $\text{Ext}^*_A(M, M)$, and let $\mathcal{V}_A(M)$ denote the maximal ideal spectrum of the finitely generated commutative $k$-algebra $H^v(A, k)/I_A(M)$.

In part (5) of [3, Proposition 2.4], it is stated that

$$(*) \quad \mathcal{V}_A(M \otimes N) \subseteq \mathcal{V}_A(M) \cap \mathcal{V}_A(N).$$

Our proof of this statement requires an additional hypothesis such as quasi-triangularity of $A$, as we will explain. However, $(*)$ holds under other hypotheses, for example, whenever $\mathcal{V}_A(M) = \mathcal{V}_A(M^*)$ for all finite-dimensional left $A$-modules $M$, as follows from the fact that dualization reverses the order of tensor products. For a counterexample to the general statement $(*)$, see [1].

In the proof of $(*)$ given in [3], the action of $H^v(A, k)$ on $\text{Ext}^*_A(M \otimes N, M \otimes N)$ does indeed factor through its action on $\text{Ext}^*_A(M, M)$ as stated, since we may first apply $- \otimes M$, then $- \otimes N$, and then Yoneda composition. If $A$ is quasi-triangular,
then $M \otimes N \cong N \otimes M$, so the action factors through that on $\text{Ext}^*_{A}(N, N)$ as well, and consequently (*) holds. However, it does not necessarily factor through its action on $\text{Ext}^*_{A}(N, N)$ in general. Under the isomorphism on Ext that is used in the proof, $\text{Ext}^*_{A}(M \otimes N, M \otimes N) \cong \text{Ext}^*_{A}(N, M^* \otimes M \otimes N)$, the actions of $H^e(A, k)$ do not always coincide. The order of the tensor product affects the action. Thus, we obtain $V_{A}(M \otimes N) \subseteq V_{A}(M)$ in general, but not necessarily (*).

Theorem 2.5, Corollary 2.6, Theorem 3.1, and Corollary 3.2 of [3] require an additional hypothesis such as quasi-triangularity of $A$, since they use [3, Proposition 2.4(5)].

The proof of [3, Theorem 4.3] is incorrect, or at least incomplete; the Hopf algebras $u_q^+(\mathfrak{g})$ are not in general quasi-triangular. However, Hochschild support variety theory [2, 4] provides an alternative proof of this statement: By [4, Lemma 6.3] or [5, §2], the representation type of $u_q^+(\mathfrak{g})$ is the same as that of $u_q^{-0}(\mathfrak{g})$, and we may apply [4, Theorem 5.4] to the latter algebra. The remainder of the proofs of the statements in [3, Section 4] are correct, as the Hopf algebras $u_q(\mathfrak{g})$ are quasi-triangular.

We note that our results in [4] almost exclusively use the Hochschild support variety theory, and do not require any additional hypotheses. This theory is more general, and does not take advantage of the tensor products of modules one has at hand for a Hopf algebra. One may obtain stronger results by taking advantage of tensor products of modules, yet the constructions are necessarily one-sided in general. The one-sidedness affects results if the tensor product is not commutative up to isomorphism.

References

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