Some Properties and Examples of Triangular Pointed Hopf Algebras

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1 Introduction

A fundamental problem in the theory of Hopf algebras is the classification and construction of finite-dimensional (minimal) triangular Hopf algebras \((A, R)\) introduced by Drinfeld [D]. Only recently this problem was completely solved for semisimple \(A\) over algebraically closed fields of characteristics 0 and \(p >> \text{dim}(A)\) (any \(p\) if one assumes that \(A\) is also cosemisimple) [EG2,EG3].

In this paper we take the first step towards solving this problem for finite-dimensional pointed Hopf algebras over an algebraically closed field \(k\) of characteristic 0.

We first prove that the fourth power of the antipode of any triangular pointed Hopf algebra \(A\) is the identity. We do that by focusing on minimal triangular pointed Hopf algebras \((A, R)\) (every triangular Hopf algebra contains a minimal triangular sub Hopf algebra) and proving that the group algebra of the group of grouplike elements of \(A\) (which must be abelian) admits a minimal triangular structure and consequently that \(A\) has the structure of a biproduct [R1]. We also generalize our result on the order of the antipode to any finite-dimensional quasitriangular Hopf algebra \(A\) whose Drinfeld element \(u\) acts as a scalar in any irreducible representation of \(A\) (e.g. when \(A^*\) is pointed).

Second, we describe a method of construction of finite-dimensional pointed Hopf algebras which admit a minimal triangular structure, and classify all their minimal triangular structures.

We conclude the paper by proving that any minimal triangular Hopf algebra which is generated as an algebra by grouplike elements and skew primitive elements is isomorphic to a minimal triangular pointed Hopf algebra constructed using our method.
Throughout the paper, unless otherwise specified, the ground field $k$ will be assumed to be algebraically closed with characteristic 0.

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2 Pointed Hopf Algebras

The Hopf algebras which are studied in this paper are pointed. Recall that a Hopf algebra $A$ is pointed if its simple subcoalgebras are all 1-dimensional or equivalently (when $A$ is finite-dimensional) if the irreducible representations of $A^*$ are all 1-dimensional. Let $G(A)$ denote the group of grouplike elements of $A$. For any $g, h \in G(A)$, we denote the vector space of $g$: $h$ skew primitives of $A$ by $P_{g,h}(A) := \{ x \in A | \Delta(x) = x \otimes g + h \otimes x \}$. Thus the classical primitive elements of $A$ are $P(A) := P_{1,1}(A)$. The element $g - h$ is always $g$: $h$ skew primitive. Let $P'_{g,h}(A)$ denote a complement of $sp_k\{g - h\}$ in $P_{g,h}(A)$. Taft-Wilson theorem [TW] states that the first term $A_1$ of the coradical filtration of $A$ is given by:

$$A_1 = kG(A) \bigoplus ( \bigoplus_{g,h \in G(A)} P'_{g,h}(A)).$$

(1)

In particular, if $A$ is not cosemisimple then there exists $g \in G(A)$ such that $P'_{1,g}(A) \neq 0$.

If $A$ is a Hopf algebra over the field $k$, which is generated as an algebra by a subset $S$ of $G(A)$ and by $g: g'$ skew primitive elements, where $g, g'$ run over $S$, then $A$ is pointed and $G(A)$ is generated as a group by $S$ (see e.g. [R4, Lemma 1]).

3 The Antipode of Triangular Pointed Hopf Algebras

In this section we recall some of the properties of finite-dimensional triangular Hopf algebras, and prove some new general results about finite-dimensional triangular pointed Hopf algebras.

Let $(A, R)$ be a finite-dimensional triangular Hopf algebra over a field $k$ of characteristic 0. Recall that the $R$-matrix $R$ satisfies the relation $R^{-1} = R_{21}$ or equivalently, the Drinfeld element $u$ of $A$ is a grouplike element [D]. If $A$ is semisimple then $u^2 = 1$ (see e.g. [EG1]). The associated map $f_R : A^{*cop} \to A$ defined by $f_R(p) = (p \otimes I)(R)$ is a Hopf algebra homomorphism which satisfies

$$\sum < p_{(1)}, a_{(2)} > a_{(1)} f_R(p_{(2)}) = \sum < p_{(2)}, a_{(1)} > f_R(p_{(1)})a_{(2)}, p \in A^*, a \in A$$

(2)

and

$$\sum f_R(p_{(1)}) f_{R_{21}}(p_{(2)}) = < p, 1 > 1, p \in A^*.$$ (3)

Observe that (3) is equivalent to the condition $\Delta^{cop}(a)R = R\Delta(a)$ for all $a \in A$, and (3) is equivalent to the condition $RR_{21} = 1 \otimes 1$. 

2
Let $A_R \subseteq A$ be the minimal sub Hopf algebra of $A$ corresponding to $R$ [R2]. It is straightforward to verify that the corresponding map $f_R : A_R^{\text{cop}} \to A_R$ defined by $f_R(p) = (p \otimes 1)(R)$ is a Hopf algebra isomorphism. This property of minimal triangular Hopf algebras will play a central role in this paper. It implies in particular that $G(A_R) \cong G(A_R^*)$, and hence that the group $G(A_R)$ is abelian (see e.g. [G2]). Thus, $G(A_R) \cong G(A_R)^*$ (where $G(A_R)^*$ denotes the character group of $G(A_R)$), and we can identify the Hopf algebras $k[G(A_R)^*]$ and $k[G(A_R)]^*$. Also, if $(A, R)$ is minimal triangular and pointed then $f_R$ being an isomorphism implies that $A^*$ is pointed as well.

Note that if $(A, R)$ is (quasi)triangular and $\pi : A \to A'$ is an onto morphism of Hopf algebras, then $(A', R')$ is (quasi)triangular as well, where $R' = (\pi \otimes \pi)(R)$.

We are ready now to prove our first results.

**Theorem 3.1** Let $(A, R)$ be a minimal triangular pointed Hopf algebra with Drinfeld element $u$ over an algebraically closed field $k$ of characteristic 0, and set $K := k[G(A)]$. Then there exists a projection of Hopf algebras $\pi : A \to K$, and consequently $A = B \times K$ is a biproduct where $B = \{x \in A | (I \otimes \pi)\Delta(x) = x \otimes 1\} \subseteq A$. Moreover, $K$ admits a minimal triangular structure with Drinfeld element $u_K = u$.

**Proof:** We know that $k[G(A)]^* \cong k[G(A)]$ and $k[G(A)] \cong k[G(A^{\text{cop}})]$ as Hopf algebras, and hence that $\text{dim}(k[G(A)]^*) = \text{dim}(k[G(A^{\text{cop}})])$. Consider the series of Hopf algebra homomorphisms $k[G(A)] \xrightarrow{i} A^{\text{cop}} \xrightarrow{f_R^{-1}} A^* \xrightarrow{i^*} k[G(A)]^*$, where $i$ is the inclusion map. Since $A^*$ is pointed it follows from [M, 5.3.5] and the above remarks that $i^*_k[k[G(A^*)]] : k[G(A^*)] \to k[G(A)]^*$ is an isomorphism of Hopf algebras, and hence that $i^* \circ f_R^{-1} \circ i$ determines a minimal quasi-triangular structure on $k[G(A)]^*$. This structure is in fact triangular since $f_R^{-1}$ determines a triangular structure on $A^*$. Clearly, $(i^* \circ f_R^{-1} \circ i)(u) = u_{K^*} = u_K$ is the Drinfeld element of $K^*$. Since $k[G(A)]$ and $k[G(A)]^*$ are isomorphic as Hopf algebras we conclude that $K$ admits a minimal triangular structure with Drinfeld element $u_K = u$.

Finally, set $\varphi := i^* \circ f_R^{-1} \circ i$ and $\pi := \varphi^{-1} \circ i^* \circ f_R^{-1}$. Then $\pi : A \to k[G(A)]$ is onto, and moreover $\pi \circ i = \varphi^{-1} \circ i^* \circ f_R^{-1} \circ i = \varphi^{-1} \circ \varphi = id_{k[G(A)]}$. Hence $\pi$ is a projection of Hopf algebras and by [R1], $A = B \times K$ is a biproduct where $B = \{x \in A | (I \otimes \pi)\Delta(x) = x \otimes 1\}$ as desired. This conclude the proof of the theorem.

**Theorem 3.2** Let $(A, R)$ be any triangular pointed Hopf algebra with antipode $S$ and Drinfeld element $u$ over a field $k$ of characteristic 0. Then $S^4 = I$ is the identity map of $A$. If in addition $A_R$ is not semisimple and $A$ is finite-dimensional then $\text{dim}(A)$ is divisible by 4.

**Proof:** We may assume that $k$ is algebraically closed. By [D], $S^2(x) = uxu^{-1}$ for all $x \in A$. Let $K := k[G(A_R)]$. Since $u \in A_R$, and by Theorem 3.1, $u = u_K$ and $u_K^2 = 1$, we have that $S^4 = I$.

In order to prove the second claim, we may assume that $(A, R)$ is minimal (since by [NZ], $\text{dim}(A_R)$ divides $\text{dim}(A)$). Since $A$ is not semisimple it follows from [LR] that $S^2 \neq I$.
hence that \( u \neq 1 \). In particular, \( |G(A)| \) is even. Now, let \( B \) be as in Theorem 3.1. Since \( S^2(B) = B \), \( B \) has a basis \( \{a_i, b_j|S^2(a_i) = a_i, S^2(b_j) = -b_j, 1 \leq i \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq m\} \). Hence by Theorem 3.1,
\[
\{a_i, b_j|g \in G(A), 1 \leq i \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq m\}
\]
is a basis of \( A \). Since by \([R3]\), \( tr(S^2) = 0 \), we have that
\[
0 = tr(S^2) = |G(A)|(n - m),
\]
which implies that \( n = m \), and hence that \( dim(B) \) is even as well. \( \blacksquare \)

In fact, the first part of Theorem 3.2 can be generalized.

**Theorem 3.3** Let \((A, R)\) be a finite-dimensional quasitriangular Hopf algebra with antipode \( S \) over a field \( k \) of characteristic 0, and suppose that the Drinfeld element \( u \) of \( A \) acts as a scalar in any irreducible representation of \( A \) (e.g. when \( A^* \) is pointed). Then \( u = S(u) \) and in particular \( S^4 = I \).

**Proof:** We may assume that \( k \) is algebraically closed. In any irreducible representation \( V \) of \( A \), \( tr_V(u) = tr_V(S(u)) \) (see [EG1]). Since \( S(u) \) also acts as a scalar in \( V \) (the dual of \( S(u)_V \) equals \( u_{V^*} \)) it follows that \( u = S(u) \) in any irreducible representation of \( A \). Therefore, there exists a basis of \( A \) in which the operators of left multiplication by \( u \) and \( S(u) \) are represented by upper triangular matrices with the same main diagonal. Hence the special grouplike element \( uS(u)^{-1} \) is unipotent. Since it has a finite order we conclude that \( uS(u)^{-1} = 1 \), and hence that \( S^4 = I \). \( \blacksquare \)

**Remark 3.4** If \((A, R)\) is a minimal triangular pointed Hopf algebra then all its irreducible representations are 1–dimensional. Hence Theorem 3.3 is applicable, and the first part of Theorem 3.2 follows.

**Example 3.5** Let \( A \) be Sweedler’s 4–dimensional Hopf algebra. It is generated as an algebra by a grouplike element \( g \) and a 1 : \( g \) skew primitive element \( x \) satisfying the relations \( g^2 = 1, x^2 = 0 \) and \( gx = -xg \). It is known [R2] that \( A \) admits minimal triangular structures all of which with \( g \) as the Drinfeld element. In this example, \( K = k[< g >] \) and \( B = sp\{1, x\} \). Note that \( g \) is central in \( K \) but is not central in \( A \), so \( (S|_K)^2 = I_K \) but \( S^2 \neq I \) in \( A \). However, \( S^4 = I \).

Theorem 3.2 motivates the following two questions.

**Question 3.6** 1) Is the fourth power of the antipode of any finite-dimensional triangular Hopf algebra equal to the identity? 2) Does the Drinfeld element \( u \) of any finite-dimensional triangular Hopf algebra satisfy \( u^2 = 1 \)?

Note that a positive answer to Question 3.6 2) will imply that an odd-dimensional triangular Hopf algebra must be semisimple.
4 Construction of Minimal Triangular Pointed Hopf Algebras

In this section we give a method for the construction of minimal triangular pointed Hopf algebras which are not necessarily semisimple.

Let $G$ be a finite abelian group, and $F : G \times G \to k^*$ be a non-degenerate skew symmetric bilinear form on $G$. That is, $F(xy, z) = F(x, z)F(y, z)$, $F(x, yz) = F(x, y)F(x, z)$, $F(1, x) = F(x, 1) = 1$, $F(x, y) = F(y, x)^{-1}$ for all $x, y, z \in G$, and the map $f : G \to G^*$ defined by $< f(x), y > = F(x, y)$ for all $x, y \in G$ is an isomorphism. Let $U_F : G \to \{-1, 1\}$ be defined by $U_F(x) = F(x, x)$. Then $U_F$ is a homomorphism of groups. Denote $U_F^{-1}(-1)$ by $I_F$.

Definition 4.1 Let $k$ be an algebraically closed field of characteristic zero. A datum $D = (G, F, n)$ is a triple where $G$ is a finite abelian group, $F : G \times G \to k^*$ is a non-degenerate skew symmetric bilinear form on $G$, and $n$ is a non-negative integer function $I_F \to \mathbb{Z}^+$, $g \mapsto n_g$.

Remark 4.2 1) The map $f : k[G] \to k[G^*]$ determined by $< f(g), h > = F(g, h)$ for all $g, h \in G$ determines a minimal triangular structure on $k[G^*]$.

2) If $I_F$ is not empty then $G$ has an even order.

To each datum $D$ we associate a Hopf algebra $H(D)$ in the following way. For each $g \in I_F$, let $V_g$ be a vector space of dimension $n_g$, and let $B = \bigoplus_{g \in I_F} V_g$. Then $H(D)$ is generated as an algebra by $G \cup B$ with the following additional relations (to those of the group $G$ and the vector spaces $V_g$'s):

$$xy = F(h, g)yx \quad \text{and} \quad xa = F(a, g)ax \quad (4)$$

for all $g, h \in I_F$, $x \in V_g$, $y \in V_h$, and $a \in G$.

The coalgebra structure of $H(D)$ is determined by letting $a \in G$ be a grouplike element and $x \in V_g$ be a $1 : g$ skew primitive element for all $g \in I_F$. In particular, $\varepsilon(a) = 1$ and $\varepsilon(x) = 0 = 0$ for all $a \in G$ and $x \in V_g$.

In the special case where $G = \mathbb{Z}_2 = \{1, g\}$, $F(g, g) = -1$ and $n := n_g$, the associated Hopf algebra will be denoted by $H(n)$. Clearly, $H(0) = k\mathbb{Z}_2$, $H(1)$ is Sweedler’s 4-dimensional Hopf algebra, and $H(2)$ is the 8-dimensional Hopf algebra studied in [G1, Section 2.2] in connection with KRH invariants of knots and 3-manifolds. We remark that the Hopf algebras $H(n)$ are studied in [PO1,PO2] where they are denoted by $E(n)$.

For a finite-dimensional vector space $V$ we let $\wedge V$ denote the exterior algebra of $V$. Set $B := \bigotimes_{g \in I_F} \wedge V_g$. 
Proposition 4.3 1) The Hopf algebra $H(D)$ is pointed and $G(H(D)) = G$.

2) $H(D) = B \times k[G]$ is a biproduct.

3) $H(D)_1 = k[G] \bigoplus (k[G]B)$, and $P_{a,b}(H(D)) = sp\{a - b\} \bigoplus aV_{a-b}$ for all $a, b \in G$ (here we agree that $V_{a-b} = 0$ if $a^{-1}b \notin I_F$).

Proof: Part 1) follows since (by definition) $H(D)$ is generated as an algebra by grouplike elements and skew primitive elements. Now, it is straightforward to verify that the map $\pi : H(D) \rightarrow k[G]$ determined by $\pi(a) = a$ and $\pi(x) = 0$ for all $a \in G$ and $x \in B$, is a projection of Hopf algebras. Since $B = \{x \in H(D)|(I \otimes \pi)\Delta(x) = x \otimes 1\}$, Part 2) follows from [R1]. Finally, by Part 2), $B$ is a braided graded Hopf algebra in the Yetter-Drinfeld category $k[G]D$ (see e.g. [AS]) with respect to the grading where the elements of $B$ are homogeneous of degree $n$. Write $B = \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} B(n)$, where $B(n)$ denotes the homogeneous component of degree $n$. Then, $B(0) = k1 = B_1$ (since $B \cong H(D)/H(D)k[G]^+$ as coalgebras, it is connected). Furthermore, by similar arguments used in the proof of [AS, Lemma 3.4], $P(B) = B(1) = B$. But then by [AS, Lemma 2.5], $H(D)$ is coradically graded (where the $n$th component $H(D)(n)$ is just $B(n) \times k[G]$) which means by definition that $H(D)_1 = H(D)(0) \bigoplus H(D)(1) = k[G] \bigoplus (k[G]B)$ as desired. The second statement of Part 3) follows now, using (1), by counting dimensions.

In the following we determine all the minimal triangular structures on $H(D)$. Let $f : k[G] \rightarrow k[G^*]$ be the isomorphism from Remark 12, and set $I_F := \{g \in I_F | n_g \neq 0\}$. Let $\Phi$ be the set of all isomorphisms $\varphi : G^* \rightarrow G$ satisfying $\varphi^*(\alpha) = \varphi(\alpha^{-1})$ for all $\alpha \in G^*$, and $(\varphi \circ f)(g) = g$ for all $g \in I_F$.

Extend any $\alpha \in G^*$ to an algebra homomorphism $H(D) \rightarrow k$ by setting $\alpha(z) = 0$ for all $z \in B$. Extend any $x \in V_g^*$ to $P_x \in H(D)^*$ by setting $<P_x, ay> = 0$ for all $a \in G$ and $y \in \bigoplus_{g \in I_F} V_g$ of degree different from 1, and $<P_x, ay> = \delta_{g,h} <x, y>$ for all $a \in G$ and $y \in V_h$. We shall identify the vector spaces $V_g^*$ and $\{P_x | x \in V_g^*\}$ via the map $x \mapsto P_x$.

For $g \in I_F$, let $S_g(k)$ be the set of all isomorphisms $M_g : V_g^* \rightarrow V_{g^{-1}}$. Let $S(k) \subseteq \times_{g \in I_F} S_g(k)$ be the set of all tuples $(M_g)$ satisfying $M_g^* = M_{g^{-1}}$ for all $g \in I_F$.

Theorem 4.4 1) For each $T := (\varphi, (M_g)) \in \Phi \times S(k)$, there exists a unique Hopf algebra isomorphism $f_T : H(D)^{\text{cop}} \rightarrow H(D)$ determined by $\alpha \mapsto \varphi(\alpha)$ and $P_x \mapsto M_g(x)$ for $\alpha \in G^*$ and $x \in V_g^*$.

2) There is a one to one correspondence between $\Phi \times S(k)$ and the set of minimal triangular structures on $H(D)$ given by $T \leftrightarrow f_T$.

Proof: We first show that $f_T$ is a well defined isomorphism of Hopf algebras. Using Proposition 13, we show that it is straightforward to verify that $\Delta(P_x) = \varepsilon \otimes P_x + P_x \otimes f(g^{-1})$, $P_x \alpha = \langle \alpha, g \rangle P_x$, and $P_xP_y = f(h, g)P_yP_x$ for all $\alpha \in G^*$, $g, h \in I_F$, $x \in V_g^*$ and $y \in V_h^*$. Let $B^* := \{P_x | x \in V_g^*, g \in I_F\}$, and $H$ be the sub Hopf algebra of $H(D)^{\text{cop}}$ generated as an algebra by $G^* \cup B^*$. Then, using (4) and our assumptions on $T$, it is straightforward to verify that the map $f_T^{-1} : H(D) \rightarrow H$ determined by $a \mapsto \varphi^{-1}(a)$ and $z \mapsto M_{g^{-1}}(z)$ for $a \in G$.
and \( z \in V_{g^{-1}} \), is a surjective homomorphism of Hopf algebras. Let us verify for instance that \( f_T^{-1}(za) = F(a,g) f_T^{-1}(az) \). Indeed, this is equivalent to \( < \varphi^{-1}(a), g >= < f(a), g > \) which in turn holds by our assumptions on \( \varphi \). Now, using Proposition 4.3 3), it is straightforward to verify that \( f_T^{-1} \) is injective on \( P_{ab}(H(D)) \) for all \( a, b \in G \). Since \( H(D) \) is pointed, \( f_T^{-1} \) is also injective (see e.g. [M, Corollary 5.4.7]). This implies that \( H = H(D)^{\text{cop}} \), and that \( f_T : H(D)^{\text{cop}} \to H(D) \) is an isomorphism of Hopf algebras as desired. Note that in particular, \( G^* = G(H(D)^*) \).

The fact that \( f_T \) satisfies (2) follows from a straightforward computation (using (4)) since it is enough to verify it for algebra generators \( p \in G^* \cup B^* \) of \( H(D)^{\text{cop}} \), and \( a \in G \cup B \) of \( H(D) \).

We have to show that \( f_T \) satisfies (3). Indeed, it is straightforward to verify that \( f_T^* : H(D)^{\text{cop}} \to H(D) \) is determined by \( \alpha \mapsto \varphi(\alpha^{-1}) \) and \( P_x \mapsto g M_g(x) \) for \( \alpha \in G^* \) and \( x \in V_g^* \). Hence, \( f_T^* = f_T \circ S \), where \( S \) is the antipode of \( H(D)^* \), as desired.

We now have to show that any minimal triangular structure on \( H(D) \) comes from \( f_T \) for some \( T \). Indeed, let \( f : H(D)^{\text{cop}} \to H(D) \) be any Hopf isomorphism. Then \( f \) must map \( G^* \) onto \( G \), \( \{ f(g^{-1}) | g \in I_F \} \) onto \( I_F^* \), and \( P_{f(g^{-1})} : (H(D)^{\text{cop}}) \) bijectively onto \( P_{f(g^{-1})} : (H(D)^{\text{cop}}) \). Therefore there exists an invertible operator \( M_g : V_g^* \to V_{\varphi(f(g^{-1}))} \) such that \( f \) is determined by \( \alpha \mapsto \varphi(\alpha) \) and \( P_x \mapsto M_g(x) \). Suppose \( f \) satisfies (2). Then letting \( p = P_x \) and \( a \in G \) in (2) yields that \( af(P_x) = F(a,g)f(P_x)a \) for all \( a \in G \). But by (4), this is equivalent to \( (\varphi \circ f)(g) = g \) for all \( g \in I_F^* \). Since by Theorem 3.2, \( \varphi : k[G^*] \to k[G] \) determines a minimal triangular structure on \( k[G] \) it follows that \( \varphi \in \Phi \). Since \( f : H(D)^{\text{cop}} \to H(D) \) satisfies (3), \( (M_g) \in S(k) \), and hence \( f \) is of the form \( f_T \) for some \( T \) as desired.

For a triangular structure on \( H(D) \) corresponding to the map \( f_T \), we let \( R_T \) denote the corresponding \( R- \)matrix.

Remark 4.5 Note that if \( n_{g^{-1}} \neq n_g \) for some \( g \in I_F \), then \( S(k) \) is empty and \( H(D) \) does not have a minimal triangular structure.

5 Classification of Minimal Triangular Hopf Algebras Generated as Algebras by Grouplike and Skew Primitive Elements

In this section we use Theorems 3.1 and 3.2 to classify minimal triangular Hopf algebras which are generated as algebras by grouplike elements and skew primitive elements. Namely, we prove:

Theorem 5.1 Let \( (A, R) \) be a minimal triangular Hopf algebra over an algebraically closed field \( k \) of characteristic 0. If \( A \) is generated as an algebra by grouplike elements and skew primitive elements, then there exist a datum \( D \) and \( T \in \Phi \times S(k) \) such that \( (A, R) \cong (H(D), R_T) \) as triangular Hopf algebras.
Before we prove Theorem 5.1 we need to fix some notation and prove a few lemmas.

In what follows, \((A, R)\) will always be a minimal triangular pointed Hopf algebra over \(k\), \(G := G(A)\) and \(K := k[G(A)]\). For any \(g \in G\), \(P_{1,g}(A)\) is a \(<g>\) -module under conjugation, and \(sp\{1 - g\}\) is a submodule of \(P_{1,g}(A)\). Let \(V_g \subset P_{1,g}(A)\) be its complement, and set \(n_g := \text{dim}(V_g)\).

By Theorem 3.1, \(A = B \times K\) where \(B = \{x \in A | (I \otimes \pi)\Delta(x) = x \otimes 1\} \subseteq A\) is a left coideal subalgebra of \(A\) (equivalently, \(B\) is an object in the Yetter-Drinfeld category \(_{k[G]}^k\mathcal{YD}\)). Note that \(B \cap K = k1\). Let \(\rho : B \rightarrow K \otimes B\) be the associated comodule structure and write \(\rho(x) = \sum x_1 \otimes x_2, x \in B\). By [R1], \(B \cong A/\text{AK}^+\) as coalgebras, hence \(B\) is a connected pointed coalgebra. Let \(P(B) := \{x \in B | \Delta_B(x) = x \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes x\}\) be the space of primitive elements of \(B\).

**Lemma 5.2** For any \(g \in G\), \(V_g = \{x \in P(B) | \rho(x) = g \otimes x\}\).

**Proof:** Let \(x \in V_g\). Since \(g\) acts on \(V_g\) by conjugation we may assume by [G1, Lemma 0.2], that \(gx = \omega xg\) for some \(1 \neq \omega \in k\). Since \(\pi(x)\) and \(\pi(g) = g\) commute we must have that \(\pi(x) = 0\). But then \((I \otimes \pi)\Delta(x) = x \otimes 1\) and hence \(x \in B\). Since \(\Delta(x) = \sum x_1 \otimes x_2 \otimes x_3 \otimes 1\), applying the maps \(\varepsilon \otimes I \otimes I \otimes \varepsilon\) and \(I \otimes \varepsilon \otimes I \otimes \varepsilon\) to both sides of the equation \(\sum x_1 x_2 x_3 = x \times 1 \otimes 1 \times 1 + 1 \otimes g \otimes x \times 1\), yields that \(x \in P(B)\) and \(\rho(x) = g \otimes x\) as desired.

Suppose that \(x \in P(B)\) satisfies \(\rho(x) = g \otimes x\). Since \(\Delta(x) = x \otimes 1 + \rho(x)\), it follows that \(x \in V_g\) as desired. \[\square\]

**Lemma 5.3** For all \(x \in V_g\), \(x^2 = 0\) and \(gx = -xg\).

**Proof:** Suppose \(V_g \neq 0\) and let \(0 \neq x \in V_g\). Then \(S^2(x) = g^{-1}xg, g^{-1}xg \neq x\) by [G1, Lemma 0.2], and \(g^{-1}xg \in V_g\). Since by Theorem 3.2, \(S^4 = 1\) it follows that \(g^2\) and \(x\) commute, and hence that \(gx = -xg\) for all \(x \in V_g\).

Second we wish to show that \(x^2 = 0\). By Lemma 5.2, \(x \in B\) and hence \(x^2 \in B\) \((B\) is a subalgebra of \(A)\). Since \(\Delta(x^2) = x^2 \otimes 1 + g^2 \otimes x^2\), and \(x^2\) and \(g^2\) commute, it follows from [G1, Lemma 0.2] that \(x^2 = \alpha(1 - g^2) \in K\) for some \(\alpha \in k\). We thus conclude that \(x^2 = 0\), as desired. \[\square\]

Recall that the map \(f_R : A^{\text{cop}} \rightarrow A\) is an isomorphism of Hopf algebras, and let \(F : G \times G \rightarrow k^*\) be the associated non-degenerate skew symmetric bilinear form on \(G\) defined by \(F(g, h) := <f_R^{-1}(g), h\>\) for all \(g, h \in G\).

**Lemma 5.4** For any \(x \in V_g\) and \(y \in V_h\), \(xy = F(h, g)yx\).

**Proof:** If either \(V_g = 0\) or \(V_h = 0\), there is nothing to prove. Suppose \(V_g, V_h \neq 0\), and let \(0 \neq x \in V_g\) and \(0 \neq y \in V_h\). Set \(P := f_R^{-1}(x)\). Then \(P \in P_{f_R^{-1}(g)}(A^{\text{cop}})\). Substituting \(p := P\) and \(a := y\) in equation (2) yields that \(yx - F(g, h)xy = <P, y > (1 - gh)\). Since \(<P, y > (1 - gh) \in B \cap K\), it is equal to 0, and hence \(yx = F(g, h)yx\). \[\square\]
Lemma 5.5 For any $a \in G$ and $x \in V_g$, $xa = F(a, g)ax$.

Proof: Set $P := f_R^{-1}(x)$. Then the result follows by letting $p := P$ and $a \in G$ in (2), and noting that $P \in P_{f_R^{-1}(g), \varepsilon}(A^{\text{cop}})$. □

We can now prove Theorem 5.1.

Proof of Theorem 5.1: Let $n : I_F \to \mathbb{Z}^+$ be the non-negative integer function defined by $n(g) = n_g$, and let $D := (G, F, n)$. Since by assumption, $A$ is generated as an algebra by $G \cup \left( \bigoplus_{g \in I_F} V_g \right)$ it is pointed. By Lemmas 5.3-5.5, relations (4) are satisfied. Therefore there exists a surjection of Hopf algebras $\varphi : H(D) \to A$. Using Proposition 4.3.3, it is straightforward to verify that $\varphi$ is injective on $P_{a,b}(H(D))$ for all $a, b \in G$. Since $H(D)$ is pointed, $\varphi$ is also injective (see e.g. [M, Corollary 5.4.7]). Hence $\varphi$ is an isomorphism of Hopf algebras. The rest of the theorem follows now from Theorem 4.4. □

Theorem 5.1 raises the natural question whether any minimal triangular pointed Hopf algebra in characteristic 0 is generated as an algebra by grouplike elements and skew primitive elements. Recently, it was shown that the answer to this question is positive [AEG]. Hence, Theorem 5.1 gives an explicit classification of minimal triangular Hopf algebras.

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