

Modules over monoid algebras and bimonoids in species

Swapneel Mahajan

<http://www.math.iitb.ac.in/~swapneel>

1 Characteristic operations

Recall that the definition of a bimonoid makes use of the Tits monoid.

On the other hand, there is a bimonoid, namely, Σ , which is itself built out of faces.

This double occurrence of faces acquires formal meaning now.

We show that elements of Σ give rise to characteristic operations on bimonoids.

1.1 Characteristic operations

Let \mathbf{h} be a bimonoid.

Given $z \in \Sigma[A]$ and $h \in \mathbf{h}[A]$, define an element $z \cdot h \in \mathbf{h}[A]$ as follows.

First, write

$$z = \sum_{F: F \geq A} a^{F/A} \mathbf{H}_{F/A}$$

for scalars $a^{F/A}$.

Then set

$$(1) \quad z \cdot h := \sum_{F: F \geq A} a^{F/A} \mu_A^F \Delta_A^F(h).$$

In particular,

$$\mathbf{H}_{F/A} \cdot h := \mu_A^F \Delta_A^F(h).$$

We refer to these as [characteristic operations](#).

Recall that for any face A , the component $\Sigma[A]$ is an algebra, which can be identified with the Tits algebra of the arrangement \mathcal{A}_A .

Lemma 1. *The following properties hold for any bimonoid h .*

- *For any $h \in h[A]$,*

$$(2) \quad H_{A/A} \cdot h = h.$$

- *If h is cocommutative, then for any $z, w \in \Sigma[A]$ and $h \in h[A]$,*

$$(3) \quad (z \cdot w) \cdot h = z \cdot (w \cdot h).$$

- *If h is commutative, then for any $z, w \in \Sigma[A]$ and $h \in h[A]$,*

$$(4) \quad (z \cdot w) \cdot h = w \cdot (z \cdot h).$$

In other words, when h is cocommutative, (1) defines a left action of the Tits algebra $\Sigma[A]$ on the space $h[A]$.

When h is commutative, there is a right action of $\Sigma[A]$ on $h[A]$ given by $h \cdot z := z \cdot h$.

Proof. Statement (2) follows from (co)unitality. The remaining statements are linear in z and w , so we assume them to be basis elements.

For (3), take $z = H_{G/A}$ and $w = H_{F/A}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned}
 z \cdot (w \cdot h) &= \mu_A^G \Delta_A^G \mu_A^F \Delta_A^F(h) \\
 &= \mu_A^G \mu_G^{GF} \beta_{GF,FG} \Delta_F^{FG} \Delta_A^F(h) \\
 &= \mu_A^{GF} \beta_{GF,FG} \Delta_A^{FG}(h) \\
 &= \mu_A^{GF} \Delta_A^{GF}(h) \\
 &= (z \cdot w) \cdot h.
 \end{aligned}$$

We used the bimonoid axiom, then (co)associativity, and finally cocommutativity.

The calculation for (4) proceeds similarly, except at the end, where β merges with μ instead of Δ . □

Example. Recall that Σ is a cocommutative bimonoid.

Thus we may take $h = \Sigma$, resulting in a left action of the Tits algebra $\Sigma[A]$ on itself.

This coincides with the usual action.

Indeed, for faces F and G greater than A ,

$$H_{F/A} \cdot H_{G/A} = \mu_A^F \Delta_A^F(H_{G/A}) = \mu_A^F(H_{FG/F}) = H_{FG/A}.$$

Now take $h := \Gamma$.

This is also a cocommutative bimonoid.

One may check that the action of $H_{F/A}$ sends $H_{C/A}$ to $H_{FC/A}$.

This is the usual left action of the Tits algebra on the module of chambers.

1.2 Review of bimonoid properties

Recall the following properties of a bimonoid h .

For any faces $A \leq F$ and $A \leq G$,

$$(5) \quad \Delta_A^F \mu_A^F = \text{id},$$

$$(6) \quad \Delta_A^F \mu_A^G \Delta_A^G \mu_A^F = \mu_F^{FG} \Delta_F^{FG},$$

and, if h is commutative, then

$$(7) \quad \mu_A^G \Delta_A^G \mu_A^F = \mu_A^{FG} \Delta_F^{FG},$$

and, if h is cocommutative, then

$$(8) \quad \Delta_A^F \mu_A^G \Delta_A^G = \mu_F^{FG} \Delta_A^{FG}.$$

If $A \leq F \leq G$, then

$$(9) \quad \Delta_A^G \mu_A^F = \Delta_F^G \quad \text{and} \quad \Delta_A^F \mu_A^G = \mu_F^G.$$

1.3 Interaction with the bimonoid structure

We use the above properties to study how characteristic operations interact with the product and coproduct of Σ and h .

More precisely, we fix a pair of faces $F \geq A$.

We take an element z in either $\Sigma[F]$ or $\Sigma[A]$, and an element h in either $h[F]$ or $h[A]$.

There are two ways in which z and h can interact.

For instance, if $z \in \Sigma[F]$ and $h \in h[A]$, then we can consider $\mu_A^F(z) \cdot h$ and $z \cdot \Delta_A^F(h)$.

The results below explain the relations between these two interactions.

Proposition 1. *Let \mathbf{h} be a bimonoid. Let $A \leq F$.*

Then:

(i) *For any $z \in \Sigma[F]$ and $h \in \mathbf{h}[A]$,*

$$(10) \quad \mu_A^F(z) \cdot h = \mu_A^F(z \cdot \Delta_A^F(h)).$$

(ii) *For any $z \in \Sigma[A]$ and $h \in \mathbf{h}[F]$,*

$$(11) \quad \Delta_A^F(z) \cdot h = \Delta_A^F(z \cdot \mu_A^F(h)),$$

and if \mathbf{h} is commutative, then

$$(12) \quad z \cdot \mu_A^F(h) = \mu_A^F(\Delta_A^F(z) \cdot h).$$

(iii) *If \mathbf{h} is cocommutative, then for any $z \in \Sigma[A]$ and $h \in \mathbf{h}[A]$,*

$$(13) \quad \Delta_A^F(z \cdot h) = \Delta_A^F(z) \cdot \Delta_A^F(h).$$

Proof. All statements are linear in z , so we may assume z is a basis element in each case.

(i) We assume $z = H_{G/F}$. We have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mu_A^F(z \cdot \Delta_A^F(h)) &= (\mu_A^F \mu_F^G \Delta_F^G \Delta_A^F)(h) \\
 &= (\mu_A^G \Delta_A^G)(h) \\
 &= H_{G/A} \cdot h \\
 &= \mu_A^F(z) \cdot h.
 \end{aligned}$$

We used (co)associativity.

(ii) We assume $z = H_{G/A}$. We have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Delta_A^F(z \cdot \mu_A^F(h)) &= (\Delta_A^F \mu_A^G \Delta_A^G \mu_A^F)(h) \\
 &= (\mu_F^{FG} \Delta_F^{FG})(h) \\
 &= H_{FG/F} \cdot h \\
 &= \Delta_A^F(z) \cdot h.
 \end{aligned}$$

We used (6). In addition, if h is commutative,

$$\begin{aligned}
\mu_A^F(\Delta_A^F(z) \cdot h) &= \mu_A^F(H_{FG/F} \cdot h) \\
&= (\mu_A^F \mu_F^{FG} \Delta_F^{FG})(h) \\
&= (\mu_A^{FG} \Delta_F^{FG})(h) \\
&= (\mu_A^G \Delta_A^G \mu_A^F)(h) \\
&= H_{G/A} \cdot \mu_A^F(h) \\
&= z \cdot \mu_A^F(h).
\end{aligned}$$

We used (7) and associativity.

(iii) We again assume $z = H_{G/A}$. We have

$$\begin{aligned}
\Delta_A^F(z \cdot h) &= (\Delta_A^F \mu_A^G \Delta_A^G)(h) \\
&= (\mu_F^{FG} \Delta_A^{FG})(h) \\
&= (\mu_F^{FG} \Delta_F^{FG} \Delta_A^F)(h) \\
&= H_{FG/F} \cdot \Delta_A^F(h) \\
&= \Delta_A^F(z) \cdot \Delta_A^F(h).
\end{aligned}$$

We used (8) and coassociativity.

□

The following properties complement (10)–(13) (and follow from the first of these).

Corollary 1. *Let \mathbf{h} be a bimonoid. Let $A \leq F$. Then:*

(i) *For any $z \in \Sigma[F]$ and $h \in \mathbf{h}[A]$,*

$$(14) \quad z \cdot \Delta_A^F(h) = \Delta_A^F(\mu_A^F(z) \cdot h).$$

(ii) *For any $z \in \Sigma[F]$ and $h \in \mathbf{h}[F]$,*

$$(15) \quad \mu_A^F(z \cdot h) = \mu_A^F(z) \cdot \mu_A^F(h).$$

Proof. Equation (14) follows by applying Δ_A^F to both sides of (10), in view of (5). Equation (15) follows by replacing h in (10) for $\mu_A^F(h)$ and employing (5). □

2 Commutative characteristic operations

Recall that bicommutative bimonoids can be formulated using the Birkhoff monoid.

On the other hand, there is a bimonoid, namely, Π , which is itself built out of flats.

Formally, elements of Π give rise to operations on bicommutative bimonoids.

This is the commutative analogue of the characteristic operations introduced in Section 1.

2.1 Commutative characteristic operations

Let h be a bicommutative bimonoid.

Given $z \in \Pi[Z]$ and $h \in h[Z]$, define an element $z \cdot h \in h[Z]$ as follows.

First, write

$$z = \sum_{X: X \geq Z} a^{X/Z} H_{X/Z}$$

for scalars $a^{X/Z}$.

Then set

$$(16) \quad z \cdot h := \sum_{X: X \geq Z} a^{X/Z} \mu_Z^X \Delta_Z^X(h).$$

In particular,

$$H_{X/Z} \cdot h := \mu_Z^X \Delta_Z^X(h).$$

We refer to these as **commutative characteristic operations**.

Recall that for any flat Z , the component $\Pi[Z]$ is an algebra, which can be identified with the Birkhoff algebra of the arrangement \mathcal{A}_Z .

Lemma 2. *For any $z, w \in \Pi[Z]$ and $h \in \mathfrak{h}[Z]$,*

$$(17) \quad (z \cdot w) \cdot h = z \cdot (w \cdot h) \quad \text{and} \quad H_{Z/Z} \cdot h = h.$$

In other words, (16) defines an action of the Birkhoff algebra $\Pi[Z]$ on the space $\mathfrak{h}[Z]$.

Since $\Pi[Z]$ is a commutative algebra, there is no distinction between left and right actions.

Proof. The second statement follows from (co)unitality. It suffices to check the first statement on basis elements. Take $z = H_{Y/Z}$ and $w = H_{X/Z}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned}
 z \cdot (w \cdot h) &= \mu_Z^Y \Delta_Z^Y \mu_Z^X \Delta_Z^X(h) \\
 &= \mu_Z^Y \mu_Y^{Y \vee X} \Delta_X^{X \vee Y} \Delta_Z^X(h) \\
 &= \mu_Z^{Y \vee X} \Delta_Z^{Y \vee X}(h) \\
 &= (z \cdot w) \cdot h.
 \end{aligned}$$

We used the bicommutative bimonoid axiom followed by (co)associativity. □

Example. Recall that Π is a bicommutative bimonoid.

Thus, we may take $h := \Pi$, resulting in an action of $\Pi[Z]$ on itself. This coincides with the usual action.

Indeed, for flats X and Y greater than Z ,

$$H_{X/Z} \cdot H_{Y/Z} = \mu_Z^X \Delta_Z^X(H_{Y/Z}) = \mu_Z^X(H_{X \vee Y/X}) = H_{X \vee Y/Z}.$$

For $h := E$, the action of any flat is by the identity map.

2.2 Interaction with the bimonoid structure

Proposition 2. *Let h be a bicommutative bimonoid. Let $Z \leq X$. Then:*

- *For any $z \in \Pi[X]$ and $h \in h[Z]$,*

$$(18) \quad \mu_Z^X(z) \cdot h = \mu_Z^X(z \cdot \Delta_Z^X(h)),$$

and

$$(19) \quad z \cdot \Delta_Z^X(h) = \Delta_Z^X(\mu_Z^X(z) \cdot h).$$

- *For any $z \in \Pi[Z]$ and $h \in h[X]$,*

$$(20) \quad \Delta_Z^X(z) \cdot h = \Delta_Z^X(z \cdot \mu_Z^X(h)),$$

and

$$(21) \quad z \cdot \mu_Z^X(h) = \mu_Z^X(\Delta_Z^X(z) \cdot h).$$

- *For any $z \in \Pi[Z]$ and $h \in h[Z]$,*

$$(22) \quad \Delta_Z^X(z \cdot h) = \Delta_Z^X(z) \cdot \Delta_Z^X(h).$$

- For any $z \in \Pi[X]$ and $h \in \mathfrak{h}[X]$,

$$(23) \quad \mu_Z^X(z \cdot h) = \mu_Z^X(z) \cdot \mu_Z^X(h).$$

Proof. We essentially repeat the arguments in Proposition 1 and Corollary 1, with faces replaced by flats. □

3 Modules over algebras and bimonoids

3.1 Idempotent operators

Recall that an idempotent operator on a vector space V is a linear map $e : V \rightarrow V$ such that $e^2 = e$. In this situation, we let $e(V)$ denote the image of e .

Lemma 3. *Let V and W be vector spaces, and $p : V \rightarrow W$ and $i : W \rightarrow V$ linear maps such that $pi = \text{id}_W$. Let $e = ip : V \rightarrow V$. Then e is idempotent and there is an isomorphism $W \cong e(V)$ for which the following diagrams commute.*

$$(24) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} & V & \\ p \swarrow & & \searrow e \\ W & \xrightarrow{\cong} & e(V) \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{ccc} & V & \\ i \nearrow & & \nwarrow \\ W & \xrightarrow{\cong} & e(V) \end{array}$$

Proof. The maps $ei : W \rightarrow e(V)$ and $p|_{e(V)} : e(V) \rightarrow W$ are inverse. □

3.2 Modules over the Tits algebra

Recall that the linearization of the Tits monoid is the Tits algebra. It is denoted by $\Sigma[\mathcal{A}]$. Note that

$$\Sigma[\mathcal{A}] = \Sigma[O], \quad \mathbf{H}_F \leftrightarrow \mathbf{H}_{F/O},$$

where the latter refers to the O -component of the bimonoid Σ .

Proposition 3. *The category of left modules over $\Sigma[\mathcal{A}]$ is equivalent to the category of cocommutative \mathcal{A} -bimonoids.*

Proof. We first construct a functor from cocommutative \mathcal{A} -bimonoids to left $\Sigma[\mathcal{A}]$ -modules.

Accordingly, suppose h is a cocommutative \mathcal{A} -bimonoid. Then $h[O]$ is a left $\Sigma[\mathcal{A}]$ -module, with the action of H_F on an element x given by

$$H_F \cdot x := \mu_O^F \Delta_O^F(x).$$

Since h is cocommutative, this defines an action as noted in (2) and (3).

Further, if h and k are cocommutative \mathcal{A} -bimonoids and $f : h \rightarrow k$ is a morphism of \mathcal{A} -bimonoids, then the component $f_O : h[O] \rightarrow k[O]$ is a map of left $\Sigma[\mathcal{A}]$ -modules as shown below.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 h[O] & \xrightarrow{\Delta_O^F} & h[F] & \xrightarrow{\mu_O^F} & h[O] \\
 f_O \downarrow & & \downarrow f_F & & \downarrow f_O \\
 k[O] & \xrightarrow{\Delta_O^F} & k[F] & \xrightarrow{\mu_O^F} & k[O]
 \end{array}$$

The squares commute since f is a morphism of comonoids and monoids.

Now we construct a functor from left $\Sigma[\mathcal{A}]$ -modules to cocommutative \mathcal{A} -bimonoids.

Accordingly, suppose M is a left $\Sigma[\mathcal{A}]$ -module. Then put

$$h[F] := H_F \cdot M.$$

This is the subspace of M onto which M projects by the action of the idempotent H_F .

Note that $h[O] = M$.

Whenever F and G have the same support, there is an isomorphism

$$\beta_{G,F} : \mathbf{h}[F] \rightarrow \mathbf{h}[G]$$

induced by the action of \mathbf{H}_G (with the inverse induced by the action of \mathbf{H}_F). These turn \mathbf{h} into an \mathcal{A} -species.

Now let $A \leq F$. Then $AF = F$ and hence

$$H_A \cdot (H_F \cdot x) = (H_A \cdot H_F) \cdot x = H_{AF} \cdot x = H_F \cdot x,$$

so $h[F]$ is a subspace of $h[A]$.

Define μ_A^F to be the inclusion map, and Δ_A^F to be the projection induced by the action of H_F . This turns h into an \mathcal{A} -monoid and an \mathcal{A} -comonoid.

The coproduct is cocommutative. The cocommutativity axiom is checked below.

$$H_G \cdot (H_F \cdot x) = (H_G \cdot H_F) \cdot x = H_{GF} \cdot x = H_G \cdot x.$$

For the bimonoid axiom, we start with the element $H_F \cdot x$, and the check reduces to

$$H_G \cdot (H_F \cdot x) = H_{GF} \cdot H_{FG} \cdot (H_F \cdot x).$$

Thus, (h, μ, Δ) is indeed an \mathcal{A} -bimonoid.

Further, if M and N are left $\Sigma[\mathcal{A}]$ -modules with h and k as the corresponding cocommutative \mathcal{A} -bimonoids, and $f : M \rightarrow N$ is a morphism of modules, then f restricts to linear maps

$$f_F : h[F] \rightarrow k[F],$$

one for each face F , and this family of maps constitutes a morphism $f : h \rightarrow k$ of \mathcal{A} -bimonoids.

Finally, we check that the functors we have constructed between modules and bimonoids define an equivalence.

If we start from a module M , construct the bimonoid h , and then the corresponding module, we return to $H_O \cdot M = M$.

In the other direction, starting from a bimonoid h going to modules and back yields the bimonoid \tilde{h} with components

$$\tilde{h}[F] = \mu_O^F \Delta_O^F(h[O]).$$

Recall that $\Delta_O^F \mu_O^F = \text{id}_{h[F]}$. Applying Lemma 3 to this splitting, we obtain a linear isomorphism

$h[F] \cong \tilde{h}[F]$, for each face F . These constitute a natural isomorphism of \mathcal{A} -bimonoids $h \cong \tilde{h}$, in view of (24). □

Proposition 4. *The category of right modules over $\Sigma[\mathcal{A}]$ is equivalent to the category of commutative \mathcal{A} -bimonoids.*

Proof. The argument is similar to the one for Proposition 3, so we only briefly indicate how the functors work.

If h is a commutative \mathcal{A} -bimonoid, then $h[O]$ is a right $\Sigma[\mathcal{A}]$ -module with action given by

$$x \cdot H_F := \mu_O^F \Delta_O^F(x).$$

Conversely, if M is a right $\Sigma[\mathcal{A}]$ -module, then we set

$$h[F] := M \cdot H_F.$$

The product and coproduct are given by inclusion and projection induced by the right action. Observe that

$M \cdot H_F$ and $M \cdot H_G$ coincide whenever $s(F) = s(G)$, and $\beta_{G,F}$ is defined to be identity. So commutativity holds. The bimonoid axiom reduces to

$$(x \cdot H_F) \cdot H_G = (x \cdot H_F) \cdot H_{FG}.$$

Note very carefully that cocommutativity requires

$x \cdot H_F = x \cdot H_G$ whenever $s(F) = s(G)$, hence it does not hold in general. □

3.3 Modules over the Birkhoff algebra

Recall that the linearization of the Birkhoff monoid is the Birkhoff algebra. It is denoted by $\Pi[\mathcal{A}]$. Since $\Pi[\mathcal{A}]$ is commutative, there is no distinction between its left and right modules.

Proposition 5. *The category of modules over $\Pi[\mathcal{A}]$ is equivalent to the category of bicommutative \mathcal{A} -bimonoids.*

Proof. The argument is similar to the one for Proposition 3, so we will be brief.

We make use of the commutative characteristic operation (16).

Suppose h is a bicommutative \mathcal{A} -bimonoid. Then $h[\perp]$ is a $\Pi[\mathcal{A}]$ -module, with the action of H_X on an element x given by

$$H_X \cdot x := \mu_{\perp}^X \Delta_{\perp}^X(x).$$

This defines an action as noted in (17).

Further, if h and k are bicommutative \mathcal{A} -bimonoids and $f : h \rightarrow k$ is a morphism of \mathcal{A} -bimonoids, then the component $f_{\perp} : h[\perp] \rightarrow k[\perp]$ is a map of $\Pi[\mathcal{A}]$ -modules as shown below.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 h[\perp] & \xrightarrow{\Delta_{\perp}^X} & h[X] & \xrightarrow{\mu_{\perp}^X} & h[\perp] \\
 f_{\perp} \downarrow & & \downarrow f_X & & \downarrow f_{\perp} \\
 k[\perp] & \xrightarrow{\Delta_{\perp}^X} & k[X] & \xrightarrow{\mu_{\perp}^X} & k[\perp]
 \end{array}$$

The squares commute since f is a morphism of comonoids and monoids.

Conversely: Suppose M is a $\Pi[\mathcal{A}]$ -module. This defines an \mathcal{A} -species h whose X -component is given by

$$h[X] := H_X \cdot M.$$

For $Z \leq X$, we note that $h[X]$ is a subspace of $h[Z]$. Define μ_Z^X to be the inclusion map, and Δ_Z^X to be the projection induced by the action of H_X . The bicommutative bimonoid axiom holds, and h is indeed a bicommutative \mathcal{A} -bimonoid.

Further, if M and N are $\Pi[\mathcal{A}]$ -modules with h and k as the corresponding bicommutative \mathcal{A} -bimonoids, and $f : M \rightarrow N$ is a morphism of modules, then f restricts to linear maps

$$f_X : h[X] \rightarrow k[X],$$

one for each flat X , and this family of maps constitutes a morphism $f : h \rightarrow k$ of \mathcal{A} -bimonoids. □

3.4 Summary

For any algebra A , let $A\text{-Mod}$ denote the category of left A -modules. The category of right A -modules is isomorphic to the category of left A^{op} -modules, where A^{op} denote the algebra opposite to A .

A summary of the categorical equivalences obtained in the preceding discussion is given in Table 1.

Table 1:

Modules over algebras		Bimonoids in species	
$\Sigma[\mathcal{A}]\text{-Mod}$	left $\Sigma[\mathcal{A}]$ -modules	${}^{\text{co}}\text{Bimon}(\mathcal{A}\text{-Sp})$	cocom. b
$\Sigma[\mathcal{A}]^{\text{op}}\text{-Mod}$	right $\Sigma[\mathcal{A}]$ -modules	$\text{Bimon}^{\text{co}}(\mathcal{A}\text{-Sp})$	com. bir
$\Pi[\mathcal{A}]\text{-Mod}$	$\Pi[\mathcal{A}]$ -modules	${}^{\text{co}}\text{Bimon}^{\text{co}}(\mathcal{A}\text{-Sp})$	bicom. bi

Illustrations of these equivalences on particular modules and bimonoids are given below.

Module	Bimonoid
trivial module over $\Pi[\mathcal{A}]$	Exponential bimonoid E
left module $\Gamma[\mathcal{A}]$ over $\Sigma[\mathcal{A}]$	Bimonoid of chambers Γ
$\Pi[\mathcal{A}]$ as a module over itself	Bimonoid of flats Π
$\Sigma[\mathcal{A}]$ as a left module over itself	Bimonoid of faces Σ

By using characteristic operations, the bimonoids listed above yield the corresponding modules listed above. These facts are contained in Examples 1.1 and 2.1.

3.5 Janus monoid

A **bi-face** is a pair (F, F') of faces such that F and F' have the same support. Let $J[\mathcal{A}]$ denote the set of bi-faces. The operation

$$(F, F')(G, G') := (FG, G'F')$$

turns $J[\mathcal{A}]$ into a monoid. The unit element is (O, O) . We call it the **Janus monoid**.

There is a commutative diagram of monoids

$$(25) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} J[\mathcal{A}] & \longrightarrow & \Sigma[\mathcal{A}]^{\text{op}} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow s \\ \Sigma[\mathcal{A}] & \xrightarrow{s} & \Pi[\mathcal{A}] \end{array}$$

with s being the support map, and the maps from J being the projections on the two coordinates, respectively.

3.6 Janus algebra

The linearization of the Janus monoid yields an algebra. We call this the **Janus algebra**, and denote it by $J[\mathcal{A}]$. Using H for the canonical basis, we write

$$(26) \quad H_{(F,F')} \cdot H_{(G,G')} = H_{(FG,G'F')}.$$

Linearizing diagram (25) yields the following commutative diagram of algebras.

$$(27) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} J[\mathcal{A}] & \longrightarrow & \Sigma[\mathcal{A}]^{\text{op}} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow s \\ \Sigma[\mathcal{A}] & \xrightarrow{s} & \Pi[\mathcal{A}]. \end{array}$$

For any face A , let $J^o[A]$ denote the vector space linearly spanned by bi-faces (F, G) such that both F and G are greater than A .

It is an algebra with product given by

(28)

$$H_{(F/A, F'/A)} \cdot H_{(G/A, G'/A)} := H_{(FG/A, G'F'/A)}.$$

The unit element is $H_{(A/A, A/A)}$.

This can be identified with the Janus algebra of the arrangement \mathcal{A}_A .

3.7 Two-sided characteristic operations

Let \mathbf{h} be a bimonoid.

Given $z \in J^o[A]$ and $h \in \mathbf{h}[A]$, define an element $z \cdot h \in \mathbf{h}[A]$ as follows.

First, write

$$z = \sum_{\substack{(F,F'): F, F' \geq A \\ s(F)=s(F')}} a^{F/A, F'/A} H_{(F/A, F'/A)}$$

for scalars $a^{F/A, F'/A}$.

Then set

$$(29) \quad z \cdot h := \sum_{\substack{(F,F'): F, F' \geq A \\ s(F)=s(F')}} a^{F/A, F'/A} \mu_A^F \beta_{F, F'} \Delta_A^{F'}(h).$$

In particular,

$$H_{(F/A, F'/A)} \cdot h := \mu_A^F \beta_{F, F'} \Delta_A^{F'}(h).$$

We refer to these as **two-sided characteristic operations**.

Lemma 4. *The following holds for any bimonoid h . For any $z, w \in J^o[A]$ and $h \in h[A]$,*

(30)

$$(z \cdot w) \cdot h = z \cdot (w \cdot h) \quad \text{and} \quad H_{(A/A, A/A)} \cdot h = h.$$

In other words, (29) defines a left action of the Janus algebra $J^o[A]$ on the space $h[A]$.

Proof. The second statement follows from (co)unitality.

It suffices to check the first statement on basis

elements. Take $z = H_{(G/A, G'/A)}$ and

$w = H_{(F/A, F'/A)}$. We calculate:

$$\begin{aligned}
 z \cdot (w \cdot h) &= \mu_A^G \beta_{G, G'} \Delta_A^{G'} \mu_A^F \beta_{F, F'} \Delta_A^{F'} (h) \\
 &= \mu_A^G \beta_{G, G'} \mu_{G'}^{G'F} \beta_{G'F, FG'} \Delta_F^{FG'} \beta_{F, F'} \Delta_A^{F'} (h) \\
 &= \mu_A^G \mu_G^{GF} \beta_{GF, G'F} \beta_{G'F, FG'} \beta_{FG', F'G'} \Delta_{F'}^{F'G'} \Delta_A^{F'} (h) \\
 &= \mu_A^{GF} \beta_{GF, F'G'} \Delta_A^{F'G'} (h) \\
 &= (z \cdot w) \cdot h.
 \end{aligned}$$

We used the bimonoid axiom and then naturality and (co)associativity.

□

3.8 Modules over the Janus algebra

Proposition 6. *The category of (left) modules over $J[\mathcal{A}]$ is equivalent to the category of \mathcal{A} -bimonoids.*