

# Duals of Ann-categories

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## Abstract

Dual monoidal category  $\mathcal{C}^*$  of a monoidal functor  $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{V}$  has been constructed by S. Majid. In this paper, we extend the construction of dual structures for an Ann-functor  $F : \mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ . In particular, when  $F = id_{\mathcal{A}}$ , then the dual category  $\mathcal{A}^*$  is indeed the center of  $\mathcal{A}$  and this is a braided Ann-category.

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## 1 Introduction

Categories with quasi-symmetry appeared under the heading “braided monoidal categories” in a connection with low dimensional topology [5], as well as in the context of quantum groups [6].

The concept “*dual of monoidal category*” appeared in [9] in the following case. The Hopf algebra can be built via a monoidal category  $\mathcal{C}$  and a functor  $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathbf{Vec}$ . This event can be generalized as  $\mathbf{Vec}$  is replaced by a monoidal category  $\mathcal{V}$ . Now, if  $F$  is a monoidal functor, then  $\mathcal{C}$  is called *functored* on  $\mathcal{V}$ , or  $(\mathcal{C}, F)$  is called a  $\mathcal{V}$ -category in A. Grothendieck’s terminology [4]. In this situation, S. Majid built the monoidal category  $(\mathcal{C}, F)^* = (\mathcal{C}^*, F^*)$ , named “*full dual category*” of  $(\mathcal{C}, F)$ . The objects of  $(\mathcal{C}, F)^*$  are pairs  $(V, u_V)$ , consisting of  $V \in \mathcal{C}$  and a natural transformation  $u_V = (u_{V,X} : V \otimes FX \rightarrow FX \otimes V)$  satisfying the compatition with the monoidal functor  $(F, \tilde{F})$ . The full subcategory  $(\mathcal{C}, F)^\circ$  consists of objects  $(V, u_V)$  where  $u_{V,X}$  are isomorphisms. It is interesting when  $\mathcal{V} = \mathcal{C}$  and  $F = id$ , then  $(\mathcal{C}, F)^\circ$  is a braided monoidal category, called the *center*  $Z(\mathcal{C})$  of the monoidal category  $\mathcal{C}$ .

The notion of the center of a monoidal category appeared first in [5], [9]. It was a construction of a braided tensor category from an arbitrary tensor

category. Then, the center of a category appears as a tool to study categorical groups [1] and graded categorical groups [3].

The detail proofs of the construction of  $(\mathcal{C}, F)^*$  have showed in [10]. Concurrently, in [10], S. Majid enriched the results of the dual categories and established links between dual categories and braided groups.

Monoidal categories were considered in a more general situation due to M. Laplaza with the name *distributivity category* [7]. After, A. Fröhlich and C. T. C. Wall [2] presented the concept of *ring-like category*. These two concepts are categorifications of the concept of commutative rings, as well as a generalization of the category of modules over a commutative ring  $R$ . The overlap of these two concepts has been proved in [14].

In order to have descriptions of structures, and a cohomological classification, N. T. Quang [11] has introduced the concept of *Ann-categories*, as a categorification of the concept of rings, with requirements of invertibility of objects and morphisms of the under-lying category, similar to those of categorical groups (see [1], [3]). In [13], N. T. Quang proved that each congruence class of an Ann-category  $\mathcal{A}$  is completely defined by three invariants: the ring  $\Pi_0(\mathcal{A})$  of congruence classes of objects of  $\mathcal{A}$ , the  $\Pi_0(\mathcal{A})$ -bimodule  $\Pi_1(\mathcal{A})$  of automorphisms of *zero* object, and an element in the cohomology group  $H_{MacL}^3(R, M)$  due to Mac Lane [8]. The concept of *braided Ann-categories* is considered in [14], in which authors built the *center* of an Ann-category, an extension of the center construction of a monoidal category presented by A. Joyal and R. Street [5]. This motivation leads to the purpose of this paper is to construct a dual Ann-category of an arbitrary Ann-category (in Section 3). This gives us a new framework of the concept of Ann-categories, which is very close to the ring extension problem. We also note that the center of an Ann-category is a dual over  $\mathcal{A}$ . Thus, in the duals over  $\mathcal{A}$  there always exist braided Ann-categories.

In this paper, we sometimes denote by  $XY$  the tensor product of two objects  $X, Y$  instead of  $X \otimes Y$ .

## 2 Some basic definitions

**Definition 2.1** ([11]). *An Ann-category consists of:*

- (i) *Category  $\mathcal{A}$  together with two bifunctors  $\oplus, \otimes : \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ .*
- (ii) *A fixed object  $O \in \mathcal{A}$  together with naturality constraints  $a^+, c^+, g, d$  such that  $(\mathcal{A}, \oplus, a^+, c^+, (O, g, d))$  is a symmetric categorical group.*
- (iii) *A fixed object  $I \in \mathcal{A}$  together with naturality constraints  $a, l, r$  such that  $(\mathcal{A}, \otimes, a, (I, l, r))$  is a monoidal  $A$ -category.*
- (iv) *Natural isomorphisms  $\mathfrak{L}, \mathfrak{R}$*

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{L}_{A, X, Y} &: A \otimes (X \oplus Y) \rightarrow (A \otimes X) \oplus (A \otimes Y), \\ \mathfrak{R}_{X, Y, A} &: (X \oplus Y) \otimes A \rightarrow (X \otimes A) \oplus (Y \otimes A), \end{aligned}$$

such that the following conditions are satisfied:

(Ann-1) For each  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ , the pairs  $(L^A, \check{L}^A), (R^A, \check{R}^A)$  defined by relations:

$$\begin{aligned} L^A &= A \otimes -, & R^A &= - \otimes A, \\ \check{L}_{X,Y}^A &= \mathfrak{L}_{A,X,Y}, & \check{R}_{X,Y}^A &= \mathfrak{R}_{X,Y,A} \end{aligned}$$

are  $\oplus$ -functors which are compatible with  $a^+$  and  $c^+$ .

(Ann-2) The following diagrams commute for all objects  $A, B, X, Y \in \mathcal{A}$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (AB)(X \oplus Y) & \xleftarrow{a_{A,B,X \oplus Y}} A(B(X \oplus Y)) & \xrightarrow{id_A \otimes \check{L}^B} A(BX \oplus BY) \\ \check{L}^{AB} \downarrow & & \downarrow \check{L}^A \\ (AB)X \oplus (AB)Y & \xleftarrow{a_{A,B,X} \oplus a_{A,B,Y}} & A(BX) \oplus A(BY) \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (X \oplus Y)(BA) & \xrightarrow{a_{X \oplus Y, B, A}} ((X \oplus Y)B)A & \xrightarrow{\check{R}^B \otimes id_A} (XB \oplus YB)A \\ \check{R}^{BA} \downarrow & & \downarrow \check{R}^A \\ X(BA) \oplus Y(BA) & \xrightarrow{a_{X,B,A} \oplus a_{Y,B,A}} & (XB)A \oplus (YB)A \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (A(X \oplus Y))B & \xleftarrow{a_{A,X \oplus Y, B}} A((X \oplus Y)B) & \xrightarrow{id_A \otimes \check{R}^B} A(XB \oplus YB) \\ \check{L}^A \otimes id_B \downarrow & & \downarrow \check{L}^A \\ (AX \oplus AY)B & \xrightarrow{\check{R}^B} (AX)B \oplus (AY)B & \xleftarrow{a \oplus a} A(XB) \oplus A(YB) \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (A \oplus B)X \oplus (A \oplus B)Y & \xleftarrow{\check{L}} (A \oplus B)(X \oplus Y) & \xrightarrow{\check{R}} A(X \oplus Y) \oplus B(X \oplus Y) \\ \check{R}^X \oplus \check{R}^Y \downarrow & & \downarrow \check{L}^A \oplus \check{L}^B \\ (AX \oplus BX) \oplus (AY \oplus BY) & \xrightarrow{v} & (AX \oplus AY) \oplus (BX \oplus BY) \end{array}$$

where  $v = v_{U,V,Z,T} : (U \oplus V) \oplus (Z \oplus T) \rightarrow (U \oplus Z) \oplus (V \oplus T)$  is the unique morphism built from  $a^+, c^+, id$  in the symmetric monoidal category  $(\mathcal{A}, \oplus)$ .

(Ann-3) For the unit object  $I \in \mathcal{A}$  of the operation  $\otimes$ , we have the following relations for all objects  $X, Y \in \mathcal{A}$ :

$$l_{X \oplus Y} = (l_X \oplus l_Y) \circ \check{L}_{X,Y}^I, \quad r_{X \oplus Y} = (r_X \oplus r_Y) \circ \check{R}_{X,Y}^I.$$

**Definition 2.2.** Let  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{A}'$  be Ann-categories. An Ann-functor from  $\mathcal{A}$  to  $\mathcal{A}'$  is a triple  $(F, \check{F}, \tilde{F})$ , where  $(F, \check{F})$  is a symmetric monoidal functor respect to the operation  $\oplus$ ,  $(F, \tilde{F})$  is an  $A$ -functor (i.e. an associativity functor)

respect to the operation  $\otimes$ , satisfying the two following commutative diagrams for all  $X, Y, Z \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{A})$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
F(X(Y \oplus Z)) & \xleftarrow{\tilde{F}} & FX.F(Y \oplus Z) & \xleftarrow{id \otimes \check{F}} & FX(FY \oplus FZ) \\
\downarrow F(\mathfrak{Q}) & & & & \downarrow \mathfrak{Q}' \\
F(XY \oplus XZ) & \xleftarrow{\check{F}} & F(XY) \oplus F(XZ) & \xleftarrow{\tilde{F} \oplus \tilde{F}} & FX.FY \oplus FX.FZ \\
F((X \oplus Y)Z) & \xleftarrow{\tilde{F}} & F(X \oplus Y).FZ & \xleftarrow{\check{F} \otimes id} & (FX \oplus FY).FZ \\
\downarrow F(\mathfrak{R}) & & & & \downarrow \mathfrak{R}' \\
F(XZ \oplus YZ) & \xleftarrow{\check{F}} & F(XZ) \oplus F(YZ) & \xleftarrow{\tilde{F} \oplus \tilde{F}} & FX.FZ \oplus FY.FZ
\end{array}$$

**Definition 2.3.** A braided Ann-category  $\mathcal{A}$  is an Ann-category  $\mathcal{A}$  together with a braid  $c$  such that  $(\mathcal{A}, \otimes, a, c, (I, l, r))$  is a braided tensor category, concurrently  $c$  satisfies the following relation:

$$(c_{A,X} \oplus c_{A,Y}) \circ \check{L}_{X,Y}^A = \check{R}_{X,Y}^A \circ c_{A,X \oplus Y},$$

and the condition  $c_{O,O} = id$ .

Let us recall a result which has been known of an Ann-category.

**Proposition 2.4** ([11, Proposition 3.1]). *In the Ann-category  $\mathcal{A}$ , there exist uniquely the isomorphisms:*

$$\hat{L}^A : A \otimes O \rightarrow A, \quad \hat{R}^A : O \otimes A \rightarrow A$$

such that  $(L^A, \check{L}^A, \hat{L}^A), (R^A, \check{R}^A, \hat{R}^A)$  are the functors which are compatible with the unit constraints of the operator  $\oplus$  (also called  $U$ -functors).

### 3 Duals of Ann-categories

In this section, we shall build *duals of Ann-categories* based on the construction of duals of monoidal categories by S. Majid [9].

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an Ann-category. An Ann-category  $\mathcal{B}$  is *functored* over  $\mathcal{A}$  if there is an Ann-functor  $F : \mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ .

First, let us recall that an Ann-category is called *almost strict* if all its natural constraints, except for the commutativity constraint and the left distributivity constraint, are identities. Each Ann-category is Ann-equivalent to an almost strict Ann-category of the type  $(R, M)$  (see [12]). In this category, for each  $A \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{A})$ , there exists an object  $A' \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{A})$  such that

$$A \oplus A' = O. \tag{1}$$

So, hereafter, we always assume that  $\mathcal{A}$  is an almost strict Ann-category and satisfies the condition (1) and the Ann-functor  $F : \mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  satisfies the conditions  $F(O) = O, F(I) = I$ .

**Definition 3.1.** Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an Ann-category. Let  $(\mathcal{B}, F)$  be a functored Ann-category over  $\mathcal{A}$ . A right  $(\mathcal{B}, F)$ -module is a pair  $(A, u_A)$  consisting of an object  $A$  in  $\mathcal{A}$  and a natural transformation  $u_{A,X} : A \otimes F(X) \rightarrow F(X) \otimes A$  such that  $u_{A,I} = id$  and the following diagrams commute:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 A \otimes (FX \oplus FY) & \xrightarrow{\check{L}_{FX,FY}^A} & (A \otimes FX) \oplus (A \otimes FY) \xrightarrow{u_{A,X} \oplus u_{A,Y}} (FX \otimes A) \oplus (FY \otimes A) \\
 \downarrow id \otimes \check{F} & & \downarrow id \\
 A \otimes F(X \oplus Y) & \xrightarrow{u_{A,X \oplus Y}} & F(X \oplus Y) \otimes A \xleftarrow{\check{F} \otimes id} (FX \oplus FY) \otimes A
 \end{array} \quad (2)$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 A \otimes (FX \otimes FY) & \xrightarrow{u_{A,X} \otimes id} & FX \otimes A \otimes FY \xrightarrow{id \otimes u_{A,Y}} FX \otimes FY \otimes A \\
 \downarrow id \otimes \check{F} & & \downarrow \check{F} \otimes id \\
 A \otimes F(X \otimes Y) & \xrightarrow{u_{A,X \otimes Y}} & F(X \otimes Y) \otimes A
 \end{array} \quad (3)$$

A morphism  $f : (A, u_A) \rightarrow (B, u_B)$  between right  $(\mathcal{B}, F)$ -modules is a morphism  $f : A \rightarrow B$  in  $\mathcal{A}$  such that the following diagram commutes for all  $X \in \mathcal{B}$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 A \otimes FX & \xrightarrow{u_{A,X}} & FX \otimes A \\
 \downarrow f \otimes id & & \downarrow id \otimes f \\
 B \otimes FX & \xrightarrow{u_{B,X}} & FX \otimes B
 \end{array} \quad (4)$$

Let  $(\mathcal{B}, F)$  be a functored Ann-category over  $\mathcal{A}$ . We consider the category  $\mathcal{B}^* = (\mathcal{B}, F)^*$  defined as follows. The objects of  $\mathcal{B}^*$  are right  $(\mathcal{B}, F)$ -modules. The morphisms of  $\mathcal{B}^*$  are morphisms between right  $(\mathcal{B}, F)$ -modules.

Now, we shall equip the operators and the structures for  $\mathcal{B}^*$  so that  $\mathcal{B}^*$  becomes an Ann-category.

**Lemma 3.2.** For any two objects  $(A, u_A), (B, u_B)$  in  $\mathcal{B}^*$ ,  $(A \oplus B, u_{A \oplus B})$  is an object of  $\mathcal{B}^*$ , where  $u_{A \oplus B}$  is defined by:

$$u_{A \oplus B, X} = \mathfrak{L}_{FX, A, B}^{-1} \circ (u_{A, X} \oplus u_{B, X}), \text{ for all } X \in \mathcal{A}.$$

*Proof.* Since  $u_{A, I} = id, u_{B, I} = id, \mathfrak{L}_{FI, A, B} = \mathfrak{L}_{I, A, B} = id$ , we have  $u_{A \oplus B, I} = id$ .

To prove that  $u_{A \oplus B}$  satisfies the diagram (2), we consider the diagram (5) (see page 12). In the diagram (5), the regions (I), (VII) commute thanks to the

determination of  $u_{A \oplus B}$ , the region (II) commutes thanks to the naturality of  $\mathfrak{R} = id$ , the regions (III), (VI) commute since  $\mathcal{A}$  is an Ann-category, the region (V) commutes thanks to the naturality of  $\mathfrak{L}$ , the region (VIII) commutes thanks to the naturality of  $v$ , the perimeter commutes since  $(A, u_A), (B, u_B)$  satisfy the diagram (2). Therefore, the region (IV) commutes, i.e.,  $(A \oplus B, u_{A \oplus B})$  satisfies the diagram (2).

To prove that  $u_{A \oplus B}$  satisfies the diagram (3), we consider the diagram (6) (see page 13). In the diagram (6), the regions (I), (II) commute thanks to the naturality of  $\mathfrak{R} = id$ , the regions (III), (VI), (VIII) commute thanks to the determination of  $u_{A \oplus B}$ , the regions (IV), (X) commute since  $\mathcal{A}$  is an Ann-category, the regions (VII), (IX) commute thanks to the naturality of  $\mathfrak{L}$ , the perimeter commutes thanks to  $u_A, u_B$  satisfy the diagram (3). Therefore, the region (V) commutes, i.e.,  $u_{A \oplus B}$  satisfies the diagram (3). So,  $(A \oplus B, u_{A \oplus B})$  is an object of  $\mathcal{B}^*$ .  $\square$

By Lemma 3.2, we can determine the operator “+” of  $\mathcal{B}^*$  where the sum of two objects is defined by

$$(A, u_A) + (B, u_B) = (A \oplus B, u_{A \oplus B}),$$

and the sum of two morphisms is the sum of morphisms in  $\mathcal{A}$ .

**Proposition 3.3.**  *$\mathcal{B}^*$  is a symmetric categorical group where the associativity constraint is strict, the unit constraint is  $((O, u_{O,X} = \hat{L}_{FX}^{-1}), id, id)$ , and the commutativity constraint is  $c_{(A,u_A),(B,u_B)}^+ = c_{A,B}^+$ .*

*Proof.* Assume that  $f : (A, u_A) \rightarrow (B, u_B)$  and  $g : (C, u_C) \rightarrow (D, u_D)$  are two morphisms in the category  $\mathcal{B}^*$ . We shall prove that

$$f + g = f \oplus g$$

satisfies the diagram (4), so it is a morphism of  $\mathcal{B}^*$ . We consider the diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 & & AFX \oplus CFX & \xrightarrow{u_{A,X} \oplus u_{C,X}} & (FX)A \oplus (FX)C & & \\
 & & \parallel & & \uparrow \check{L} & & \\
 \text{(I)} & & (A \oplus C)FX & \xrightarrow{u_{A \oplus C, X}} & (FX)(A \oplus C) & \text{(V)} & \\
 (f \otimes id) \oplus (g \otimes id) & & \downarrow (f \oplus g) \otimes id & & \downarrow id \otimes (f \oplus g) & & (id \otimes f) \oplus (id \otimes g) \\
 & & (B \oplus D)FX & \xrightarrow{u_{B \oplus D, X}} & (FX)(B \oplus D) & & \\
 & & \parallel & & \downarrow \check{L} & & \\
 & & BFX \oplus DFX & \xrightarrow{u_{B,X} \oplus u_{D,X}} & (FX)B \oplus (FX)D & & 
 \end{array}$$

In this diagram, the region (I) commutes thanks to the naturality of  $\mathfrak{R} = id$ , the region (II) commutes thanks to the determination of  $u_{A \oplus C}$ , the region (IV) commutes thanks to the determination of  $u_{B \oplus D}$ , the region (V) commutes thanks to the naturality of  $\mathfrak{L}$ ; each component of the perimeter commutes since  $f$  and  $g$  are morphisms of  $\mathcal{B}^*$ . So, the perimeter commutes. Therefore, the region (III) commutes, i.e.,  $f + g = f \oplus g$  is a morphism of  $\mathcal{B}^*$ .

Next, we prove that  $a^+ = id$  is a morphism

$$((A, u_A) + (B, u_B)) + (C, u_C) \rightarrow (A, u_A) + ((B, u_B) + (C, u_C))$$

in  $\mathcal{B}^*$ . We consider the following diagram:

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 (AFX \oplus BFX) \oplus CFX & \xlongequal{\quad} & AFX \oplus (BFX \oplus CFX) \\
 \text{(I)} \quad \downarrow & & \downarrow \quad \text{(II)} \\
 (A \oplus B)FX \oplus CFX & & AFX \oplus (B \oplus C)FX \\
 \text{(III)} \quad \downarrow & & \downarrow \quad \text{(IV)} \\
 ((A \oplus B) \oplus C)FX & \xlongequal{\quad} & (A \oplus (B \oplus C))FX \\
 \downarrow u_{(A \oplus B) \oplus C, X} \quad \text{(V)} \quad \downarrow u_{A \oplus (B \oplus C), X} & & \\
 (FX)((A \oplus B) \oplus C) & \xlongequal{\quad} & (FX)(A \oplus (B \oplus C)) \\
 \downarrow \check{L} & & \downarrow \check{L} \\
 (FX)(A \oplus B) \oplus (FX)C & \text{(VI)} & (FX)A \oplus (FX)(B \oplus C) \\
 \downarrow \check{L} \otimes id & & \downarrow id \otimes \check{L} \\
 ((FX)A \oplus (FX)B) \oplus (FX)C & \xlongequal{\quad} & (FX)A \oplus ((FX)B \oplus (FX)C)
 \end{array} \\
 \alpha_1 \quad \alpha_2 \quad \alpha_3 \quad \alpha_4
 \end{array}$$

$$\text{where } \alpha_1 = (u_{A, X} \oplus u_{B, X}) \oplus u_{C, X}$$

$$\alpha_2 = u_{A \oplus B, X} \oplus u_{C, X}$$

$$\alpha_3 = u_{A, X} \oplus u_{B \oplus C, X}$$

$$\alpha_4 = u_{A, X} \oplus (u_{B, X} \oplus u_{C, X})$$

In the above diagram, the region (I) commutes thanks to the determination of  $u_{A \oplus B}$ , the region (II) commutes thanks to the determination of  $u_{B \oplus C}$ , the region (III) commutes thanks to the determination of  $u_{(A \oplus B) \oplus C}$ , the region (IV) commutes thanks to the determination of  $u_{A \oplus (B \oplus C)}$ , the region (VI) commutes since  $\mathcal{A}$  is an Ann-category, the perimeter commutes thanks to the naturality of  $a^+ = id$ . Therefore, the region (V) commutes, i.e.,  $a^+ = id$  is a morphism of  $\mathcal{B}^*$ .

To prove that  $c^+$  is the morphism

$$(A, u_A) + (B, u_B) \rightarrow (B, u_B) + (A, u_A)$$

in  $\mathcal{B}^*$ , we consider the following diagram. In this diagram, the region (I) commutes thanks to the determination of  $u_{A \oplus B}$ , the regions (II), (IV) commute

since  $\mathcal{A}$  is an Ann-category, the region (V) commutes thanks to the determination of  $u_{B \oplus A}$ , the perimeter commutes thanks to the naturality of  $c^+$ . Therefore, the region (III) commutes, i.e.,  $c^+$  is a morphism in  $\mathcal{B}^*$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & AFX \oplus BFX & \xrightarrow{c^+} & BFX \oplus AFX & \\
 \text{(I)} & \parallel & & \parallel & \\
 & (A \oplus B)FX & \xrightarrow{c^+ \otimes id} & (B \oplus A)FX & \\
 u_{A,X} \oplus u_{B,X} & \downarrow u_{A \oplus B, X} & \text{(III)} & \downarrow u_{B \oplus A, X} & \text{(V)} \\
 & (FX)(A \oplus B) & \xrightarrow{id \otimes c^+} & (FX)(B \oplus A) & \\
 & \downarrow \check{L} & \text{(IV)} & \downarrow \check{L} & \\
 & (FX)A \oplus (FX)B & \xrightarrow{c^+} & (FX)B \oplus (FX)A & 
 \end{array}$$

One can verify that  $((O, u_{O,X} = \hat{L}_{FX}^{-1}), id, id)$  is the unit constraint of  $\mathcal{B}^*$ . Finally, we shall prove that each object of  $\mathcal{B}^*$  is invertible.

Let  $(A, u_A)$  be an object of  $\mathcal{B}^*$ . By the condition (1), there exists an object  $A' \in Ob(\mathcal{A})$  such that

$$A \oplus A' = O.$$

The family of natural transformations  $u_{A',X} : A' \otimes FX \rightarrow FX \otimes A'$  is defined by:

$$u_{A,X} \oplus u_{A',X} = \mathfrak{L}_{FX,A,A'} \circ u_{O,X}.$$

One can prove that  $(A', u_{A'})$  is the invertible object of the object  $(A, u_A)$  in the category  $\mathcal{B}^*$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 3.4.** *For any two objects  $(A, u_A), (B, u_B)$  of  $\mathcal{B}^*$ ,  $(A \otimes B, u_{A \otimes B})$  is an object of  $\mathcal{B}^*$ , where  $u_{A \otimes B}$  is defined by:*

$$u_{A \otimes B, X} = (u_{A,X} \otimes id_B) \circ (id_A \otimes u_{B,X}), \text{ for all } X \in \mathcal{A}.$$

*Proof.* Let  $(A, u_A), (B, u_B)$  be two objects of  $\mathcal{B}^*$ . Since  $u_{A,I} = id$  and  $u_{B,I} = id$ , we have  $u_{A \otimes B, I} = id$ . Moreover, by Theorem 3.3 [9],  $u_{A \otimes B}$  satisfies the diagram (3).

Finally, to prove that  $u_{A \otimes B}$  satisfies the diagram (2), we consider the diagram (7) (see page 14). In the diagram (7), the region (I) commutes since  $(B, u_B)$  satisfies the diagram (2), the regions (II), (VII) and (IX) commute thanks to the naturality of  $a^+ = id$ , the region (III) commutes thanks to the naturality of  $\mathfrak{L}$ , the regions (IV), (XI) and the perimeter commutes since  $\mathcal{A}$  is an Ann-category, the regions (VI), (VIII) commute thanks to the determination of  $u_{AB}$ , the region (X) commutes since  $(A, u_A)$  satisfies the diagram



(2), the region (XII) commutes thanks to the naturality of  $\mathfrak{R} = id$ . Therefore, the region (V) commutes, i.e.,  $(AB, u_{AB})$  satisfies the diagram (2). So  $(A \otimes B, u_{A \otimes B})$  is an object of  $\mathcal{B}^*$ .  $\square$

By Lemma 3.4, we can determine the operator “ $\times$ ” of  $\mathcal{B}^*$  where the product of two objects is defined by

$$(A, u_A) \times (B, u_B) = (A \otimes B, u_{A \otimes B}),$$

and the tensor product of two morphisms is the tensor product of two morphisms in  $\mathcal{A}$ .

**Proposition 3.5.**  *$\mathcal{B}^*$  is a strict monoidal category.*

*Proof.* Assume that  $f : (A, u_A) \rightarrow (B, u_B)$  and  $g : (C, u_C) \rightarrow (D, u_D)$  are two morphisms in the category  $\mathcal{B}^*$ . By Theorem 3.3 [9], the morphism

$$f \times g = f \otimes g : (A, u_A) \times (C, u_C) \rightarrow (B, u_B) \times (D, u_D)$$

satisfies the diagram (4), i.e.,  $f \times g$  is a morphism in  $\mathcal{B}^*$ .

The composition of two morphisms in  $\mathcal{B}^*$  is the normal composition. By Theorem 3.3 [9],  $\mathcal{B}^*$  has the associativity constraint be strict. One can easily prove that  $(I, id)$  is an object in  $\mathcal{B}^*$  and it together with the strict constraints  $l = id, r = id$  is the unit constraint of the operator  $\times$  in  $\mathcal{B}^*$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3.6.**  *$\mathcal{B}^*$  is an Ann-category with the distributivity constraints are given by*

$$\mathfrak{L}_{(A, u_A), (B, u_B), (C, u_C)} = \mathfrak{L}_{A, B, C}, \quad \mathfrak{R}_{(A, u_A), (B, u_B), (C, u_C)} = id.$$

*Proof.* By Proposition 3.3,  $(\mathcal{B}^*, +)$  is a symmetric categorical group. By Proposition 3.5,  $(\mathcal{B}^*, \times)$  is a monoidal category. One can prove that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{L} &: (A, u_A) \times ((B, u_B) + (C, u_C)) \rightarrow (A, u_A) \times (B, u_B) + (A, u_A) \times (C, u_C), \\ \mathfrak{R} = id &: ((A, u_A) + (B, u_B)) \times (C, u_C) \rightarrow (A, u_A) \times (C, u_C) + (B, u_B) \times (C, u_C) \end{aligned}$$

are morphisms in  $\mathcal{B}^*$ .

Moreover, the constraints  $a^+ = id, c^+, a = id, \mathfrak{L}, \mathfrak{R} = id$  of the Ann-category  $\mathcal{A}$  satisfy the conditions (Ann-1), (Ann-2), (Ann-3), so, in the category  $\mathcal{B}^*$ , they also satisfy these conditions. Thus  $\mathcal{B}^*$  is an Ann-category.  $\square$

The following proposition is obvious.

**Proposition 3.7.**  $\mathcal{B}^*$  is functored over  $\mathcal{A}$  with the forgetful Ann-functor

$$F^* : \mathcal{B}^* \rightarrow \mathcal{A}.$$

**Example 1. The center of an Ann-category  $\mathcal{A}$**

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an Ann-category. Let  $\mathcal{B} = \mathcal{A}$  and  $F = id$ . Then  $\mathcal{B}^* = \mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{A}}$ , where  $\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{A}}$  is the center of the Ann-category  $\mathcal{A}$  which is built in [14]. This is a braided Ann-category with the quasi-symmetric

$$c_{(A,u_A),(B,u_B)} = u_{A,B} : A \otimes B \rightarrow B \otimes A.$$

Next, we shall apply above results to build the dual Ann-category of the pair  $(\mathcal{B}, F)$ , where  $\mathcal{B} = (R', M', f')$ ,  $\mathcal{A} = (R, M, f)$  are Ann-categories.

**Example 2. Duals of an Ann-category of the type  $(R, M)$**

Let  $R$  be a ring and  $M$  be a  $R$ -bimodule. An Ann-category of the type  $(R, M)$  is a category  $\mathcal{I}$  whose objects are elements of  $R$ , and whose morphisms are automorphisms,  $(x, a) : x \rightarrow x$ ,  $\forall a \in M$ . The composition of morphisms is the addition in  $M$ . The two operators  $\oplus$  and  $\otimes$  of  $\mathcal{I}$  are given by

$$\begin{aligned} x \oplus y &= x + y, & (x, a) \oplus (y, b) &= (x + y, a + b), \\ x \otimes y &= x.y, & (x, a) \otimes (y, b) &= (xy, xb + ay). \end{aligned}$$

All constraints of  $\mathcal{I}$  are strict, except for the left distributivity constraint and the commutativity constraint given by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{L}_{x,y,z} &= (\bullet, \lambda(x, y, z)) : x(y + z) \rightarrow xy + xz, \\ c_{x,y}^+ &= (\bullet, \eta(x, y)) : x + y \rightarrow y + x, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\lambda : R^3 \rightarrow M, \eta : R^2 \rightarrow M$  are functions satisfying the some certain coherence conditions (for detail, see [12], [13]).

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an almost strict Ann-category of the type  $(R, M)$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  be an almost strict Ann-category of the type  $(R', M')$ . Let  $(F, \check{F}, \tilde{F}) : \mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  be an Ann-functor. Then, by Theorem 4.3 [15],  $F$  is a functor of the type  $(p, q)$ , i.e.,

$$F(x) = p(x), F(x, a) = (p(x), q(a)),$$

where  $p : R' \rightarrow R$  is a ring homomorphism and  $q : M' \rightarrow M$  is a group homomorphism and

$$q(xa) = p(x)q(a), \quad q(ax) = q(a)p(x), \quad \text{for all } x \in R, a \in M.$$

Moreover,  $\check{F}, \tilde{F}$  are associated, respectively, to  $\mu, \nu$  which satisfy some certain coherence conditions (for detail, see Theorem 4.4 [15]).

According to the above steps, each object of  $\mathcal{B}^*$  is a pair  $(r, u_r)$ , where  $r$  is in the centerization of  $Imp = p(R')$  in the ring  $R$ , (i.e.,  $rp(x) = p(x)r \forall x \in R'$ ) and  $u_r : R' \rightarrow M$  is a function satisfying the condition  $u_{r,1} = 0$  and the two following conditions for all  $x, y \in R'$ :

$$\begin{aligned} u(r, x) - u(r, x + y) + u(r, y) &= \mu(x, y)r + r\mu(x, y) - \lambda(r, px, py), \\ xu(r, y) - u(r, xy) + u(r, x)y &= r\nu(x, y) - \nu(x, y)r. \end{aligned}$$

We now describe a morphism  $f : (r, u_r) \rightarrow (s, u_s)$  of  $\mathcal{B}^*$ . Since  $f : r \rightarrow s$  is a morphism in the Ann-category  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $s = r$ , and  $f = (r, a)$  with  $a \in M$ .

From the commutation of the diagram (4), we have

$$p(x)a = ap(x), \text{ for all } x \in R'.$$

Now,  $\mathcal{B}^*$  is an Ann-category with the two operators given by

$$\begin{aligned} (r, u_r) + (s, u_s) &= (r + s, u_{r+s}), \\ (r, u_r) \times (s, u_s) &= (rs, u_{rs}), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} u_{r+s,x} &= u_{r,x} + u_{s,x} - \lambda(px, r, s), \\ u_{rs,x} &= u_{r,x}s + r.u_{s,x}, \end{aligned}$$

and  $f + g = f \oplus g$ ,  $f \times g = f \otimes g$  where  $f : (r, u_r) \rightarrow (r, u_r)$ ,  $g : (s, u_s) \rightarrow (s, u_s)$ .

All constraints of  $\mathcal{B}^*$  are strict, except for the commutativity constraint and the left distributivity constraint given by

$$\begin{aligned} c_{(r,u_r),(s,u_s)}^+ &= c_{r,s}^+ = (\bullet, \eta(r, s)), \\ \mathfrak{L}_{(r,u_r),(s,u_s),(t,u_t)} &= \mathfrak{L}_{r,s,t} = (\bullet, \lambda(r, s, t)). \end{aligned}$$

The invertible object of the object  $(r, u_r)$  respect to the operator  $+$  is  $(-r, u_{-r})$ , where  $-r$  is the opposite element of  $r$  in the group  $(R, +)$  and  $u_{-r} : R' \rightarrow M$  is given by:

$$u_{-r,x} = \lambda(px, r, -r) - u_{r,x}.$$

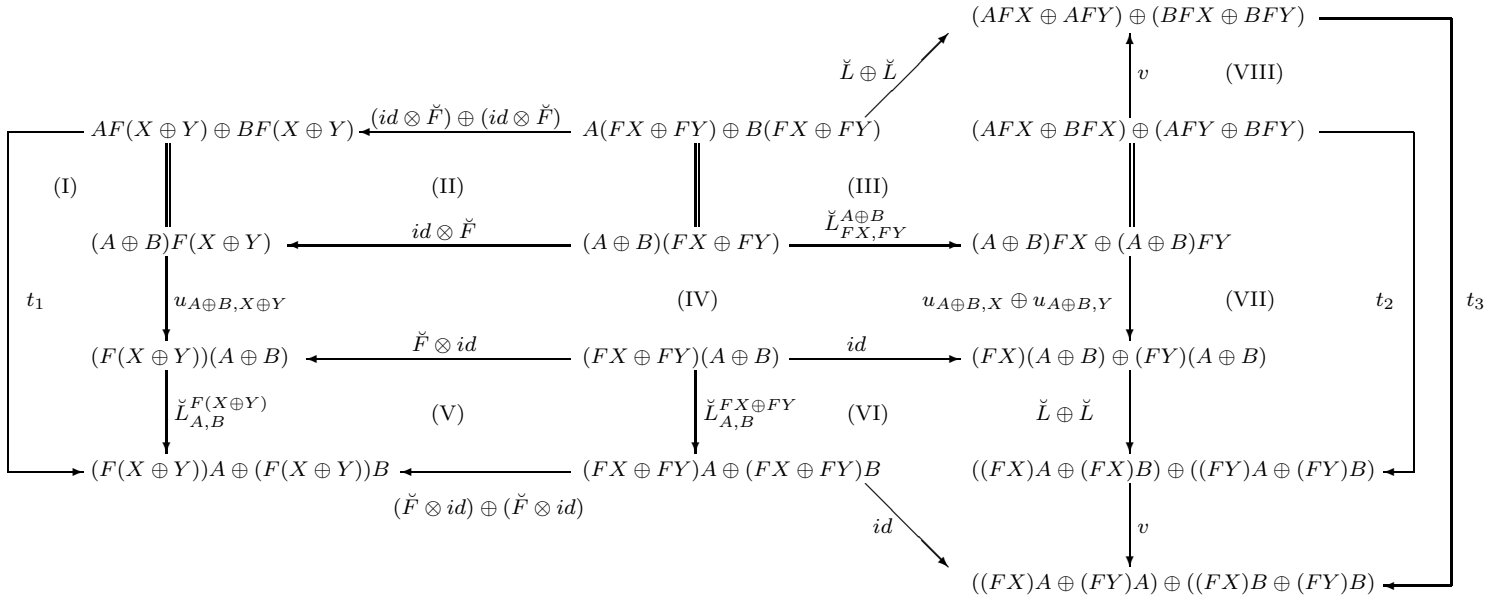


Diagram (5)

where  $t_1 = u_{A, X \oplus Y} \oplus u_{B, X \oplus Y}$

$t_2 = (u_{A, X} \oplus u_{B, X}) \oplus (u_{A, Y} \oplus u_{B, Y})$

$t_3 = (u_{A, X} \oplus u_{A, Y}) \oplus (u_{B, X} \oplus u_{B, Y})$





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