Representation of monoids in the category of monoid acts

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To Bernhard Banaschewski on his 90th Birthday

Abstract. The study of monoids in the category of monoid acts leads to the notion of power action. In this paper, for a monoid T, we investigate the relationship between the category T-Act of all T-acts and the category T-Pwr of all T-power acts. For a T-power act M on a commutative monoid T, we introduce the covariant functor M^{M^-} from T-Act to T-Pwr and show that the family of assignments $(\eta_A : A \to M^{M^A})_{A \in T$ -Act constitutes a natural transformation. Moreover, the Hom-functor $(M^-)^-$ and the tensor functor $M^{-\otimes -}$ from T-Act \times T-Act to T-Pwr are naturally equivalent.

1. Introduction and preliminaries

Representation of mathematical structures is a way for better seeing of them to study. Analyzing the internalized concepts in a topos captured the interest of some mathematicians. The general notion of a mathematical object in a topos (or a category with some properties) introduces a lot of conceptions and structures obtained from its classical versions in **Set**, the category of sets ([4]). For instance, "Algebras in a Category" are some of these structures such as groups and group actions in a topos (see [2, 8]).

For a monoid T, let T-Act denote the category of all T-acts and act homomorphisms between them. Considering the monoid T as a category T with one object, T-Act is isomorphic to the functor category \mathbf{Set}^T (or $[T,\mathbf{Set}]$ in another notation), hence it is a (presheaf) topos (see [3]). Here we study the structure of monoids in the category T-Act, so-called T-power acts, or actions over monoids in the sense of [5] which were used to construct the hypergroups. First we verify some basic properties of the power acts. In particular, the free objects in the category T-Pwr of all T-power acts are constructed. For a T-power act M and a T-act A over a commutative monoid T, it is shown that the set M^A of all T-act homomorphisms from A to M is a T-power act which gives the two functors M^- (contravariant) and M^{M^-} (covariant) from T-Act to T-Pwr. Also the family of assignments ($\eta_A : A \to M^{M^A}$)_{$A \in T$ -Act} constitutes a natural transformation from

²⁰¹⁰ Mathematics Subject Classification: 08B30, 20M30, 20M32, 20M50, 20M99

Keywords: Act over a monoid, monoid in the category of acts, power act, tensor product

the identity functor to UM^{M^-} , where U is the forgetful functor. Finally, we prove that $(M^A)^B$ and $M^{A\otimes B}$ are naturally isomorphic in T-**Pwr** for every T-acts A and B.

Now let us briefly recall some needed notions in the sequel.

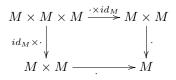
Let T be a monoid and A be a (non-empty) set. A right T-act on A is a map $A \times T \to A$, $(a,t) \rightsquigarrow at$, such that for every $a \in A$ and $t, s \in T$, (at)s = a(ts)and a1 = a. The notion of left T-act is defined similarly. Here by a T-act we mean a right T-act unless otherwise stated. An element θ in a T-act A is said to be a fixed element if $\theta t = \theta$ for each $t \in T$. Let A, B be two T-acts. A map $f: A \to B$ is called a *T*-act homomorphism or simply act homomorphism if f(at) = f(a)t, for every $a \in A$ and $t \in T$. The class of all T-acts together with the T-act homomorphisms between them forms a category which is denoted by T-Act. For a monoid M, H(M) denotes the monoid of all endomorphisms of M with the composition of mappings as its operation. To denote the image of $x \in M$ under $\sigma \in H(M)$ we will use the postfix notation. An equivalence relation θ on a T-act A is called a T-act congruence if $x \theta y$ implies that $x t \theta y t$, for every $x, y \in A$ and $t \in T$. The free T-act on a non-empty set X is the set $X \times T$ with the action (x,t)s = (x,ts), for every $x \in X$ and $t, s \in T$. Let A be a right T-act and B be a left T-act. The tensor product of A and B is the set $A \otimes B := (A \times B)/\theta$, where θ is the equivalence relation on the set $A \times B$ generated by the pairs ((at, b), (a, tb))for $a \in A, b \in B, t \in T$. We denote $(a, b)/\theta \in A \otimes B$ by $a \otimes b$. In the case that T is a commutative monoid, every T-act can be considered as a T-biact so that there is naturally a T-act structure on the tensor product $A \otimes B$ for any two T-acts A and B (see [6, Proposition II.5.12]). For more information on the theory of acts over monoids, see [6]. Also for some required categorical ingredients we refer to [7]. Throughout the paper T stands for a monoid unless otherwise stated.

2. Monoids in the category of acts: Power action

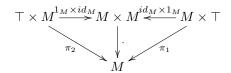
Algebra in a category is a subject for mathematicians to study algebraic structures categorically. In this theory, a base category C is replaced to the category **Set** and all algebraic operations are the morphisms of C, and homomorphisms are those morphisms in C such that preserve the operations in the sense of commutative diagrams in C. Note that equations in algebras are explained as commutative diagrams. For more information we refer to [2, 4, 8].

Here we study the notion of monoid in the base category T-Act, where T is a monoid. Let us first recall the notion of a monoid in an arbitrary category. Let \mathcal{C} be a category with finite products. A monoid $\langle M, \cdot, 1_M \rangle$ in \mathcal{C} is an object of \mathcal{C} together with two morphisms $\cdot : M \times M \to M$ called *multiplication* and $1_M : \top \to M$ called *identity*, in which \top is the terminal object of \mathcal{C} such that the following diagrams commute:

• Association law $((x \cdot y) \cdot z = x \cdot (y \cdot z))$:



• Identity law $(x \cdot 1_M = x = 1_M \cdot x)$:



Now let M, N be two monoids in a category C. A homomorphism from M to N is a morphism $f: M \to N$ in C such that the following diagrams commute:

• Preserving the multiplication:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M \times M & \xrightarrow{\cdot} & M \\ f \times f & & & & \downarrow f \\ N \times N & \xrightarrow{\cdot} & N \end{array}$$

• Preserving the identity:

All monoids in a category C with homomorphisms between them make a category denoted by Mon(C).

Here we are going to explain objects of the category $\mathbf{Mon}(T-\mathbf{Act})$ for a monoid T with identity 1. Let M be an object in this category. Then there is a T-action $M \times T \to M, (m, t) \rightsquigarrow mt$, with a T-act homomorphism $\cdot : M \times M \to M$. So for every $t, s \in T$ and $m, n \in M$ we have (mt)s = m(ts), m1 = m and $(m \cdot n)t = mt \cdot nt$. Since $1_M : \top \to M$ is a T-act homomorphism where \top is considered as the oneelement T-act, $1_M t = 1_M$. Finally, by the diagrams of associativity and identity, M is a monoid. Because of the kind of these equations, we use the notation m^t for mt and give the following definition. If no confusion arises, the identities of M and T are denoted by the same symbol 1.

Definition 1. Let T be a monoid. By a (right) T-power act, we mean a monoid M equipped with a map $M \times T \to M$, $(m, t) \rightsquigarrow m^t$, in such a way that the following conditions hold for all $t, s \in T$ and $m, n \in M$:

$$(mn)^t = m^t n^t, \quad (m^t)^s = m^{ts}, \quad m^1 = m, \quad 1^t = 1.$$

If T contains a zero, then m^0 is clearly a fixed element of M where M is considered as a T-act.

Note that the notion of power act is also appeared in [5] under the name of "action over monoids".

Now we describe the morphisms of the category $\mathbf{Mon}(T-\mathbf{Act})$. Let M and N be two objects of $\mathbf{Mon}(T-\mathbf{Act})$. It is easy to see that a map $f: M \to N$ is a morphism in $\mathbf{Mon}(T-\mathbf{Act})$, so-called a T-power act homomorphism or simply power act homomorphism if and only if f(mn) = f(m)f(n), f(1) = 1 and $f(m^t) = f(m)^t$, for all $m, n \in M$ and $t \in T$. The category of all T-power acts with T-power act homomorphisms between them is denoted by T- \mathbf{Pwr} which is isomorphic to the category $\mathbf{Mon}(T-\mathbf{Act})$.

In the following, we give some examples of power acts.

- **Example 1.** 1. Consider the monoid (\mathbb{N}, \cdot) . Then every commutative monoid M with m^k to be $mm \cdots m$, k-times, for every $m \in M$ and $k \in \mathbb{N}$, is an \mathbb{N} -power act.
 - 2. Given a monoid M, let T be a submonoid of H(M). Then we define m^{σ} to be $m\sigma$, for all $m \in M$ and $\sigma \in T$. Then M is a T-power act which is called the *natural power action*.
 - 3. Given two monoids M and T with $0 \in T$, let $\phi : T \to H(M)$ be a monoid homomorphism and $u \in M$. For every $m \in M$ and $t \neq 0$ in T, define $m^t = m\phi(t)$, and $m^0 = u$. Then M is a T-power act if and only if $u\phi(t) = u$ for all $t \in T$ and $u^2 = u$. This is called the (ϕ, u) -power action. In particular, the (id, 1)-power action is said to be an *identity power action* where id : $T \to$ H(M) is the constant homomorphism mapping every $t \in T$ to id_M .

Proposition 1. Let M and T be two monoids and $0 \in T$. Then each T-power act M is of the form (ϕ, u) -power act (in the sense of Example 1(3)) for a unique monoid homomorphism $\phi: T \to H(M)$ and some $u \in M$.

Proof. Let M be a T-power act and $t \in T$. Define $\sigma_t : M \to M$ by $m\sigma_t = m^t$ for every $m \in M$. We show that the map σ_t is a monoid homomorphism. Indeed, we have $(mn)\sigma_t = (mn)^t = m^t n^t = m\sigma_t n\sigma_t$, and $1\sigma_t = 1^t = 1$ for every $m, n \in M$. Now, define $\phi : T \to H(M)$ by $\phi(t) = \sigma_t, t \in T$. The map ϕ is a monoid homomorphism. To see this, for any $t, s \in T$ and $m \in M$, $m\sigma_{ts} = m^{ts} = (m^t)^s =$ $m\sigma_t\sigma_s$. Thus $\phi(ts) = \sigma_{ts} = \sigma_t\sigma_s = \phi(t)\phi(s)$. Also $\phi(1) = \sigma_1 = id$. Now take $u := \phi(0)$. It is clear that $u^2 = u$ and $u\phi(t) = u$ for all $t \in T$. Then M is a (ϕ, u) -power act (see Example 1(3)). For the uniqueness of ϕ , suppose that $\psi : T \to H(M)$ is a monoid homomorphism with $m^t = m\psi(t)$, for all $m \in M$ and $t \in T$. This implies that $m\psi(t) = m\phi(t)$ for all $m \in M$ and $t \in T$ which means $\psi = \phi$.

Here we define the notion of a bipower act.

Definition 2. Let T and S be monoids. By a (T, S)-bipower act M we mean a monoid M which is both (right) T and S-power acts simultaneously, in such a way that $(m^t)^s = (m^s)^t$, for every $m \in M$, $t \in T$ and $s \in S$.

Remark 1. Every (T, S)-bipower act M for two monoids T and S can be considered as a $T \times S$ -power act. To this end, we define the power action $m^{(t,s)}$ to be $(m^t)^s$ for every $m \in M, t \in T$ and $s \in S$. Then we have:

- 1. $m^{(1,1)} = (m^1)^1 = m$,
- 2. $1^{(t,s)} = (1^t)^s = 1,$
- 3. $m^{(t,s)}n^{(t,s)} = (m^t)^s (n^t)^s = (m^t n^t)^s = ((mn)^t)^s = (mn)^{(t,s)},$
- 4. $(m^{(t_1,s_1)})^{(t_2,s_2)} = (((m^{t_1})^{s_1})^{t_2})^{s_2} = (((m^{t_1})^{t_2})^{s_1})^{s_2} = (m^{t_1t_2})^{s_1s_2} = m^{(t_1,s_1)(t_2,s_2)}.$

By a *power act congruence* on a T-power act M we mean a monoid congruence as well as a T-act congruence on M.

Suppose that M is a T and S-power act for monoids T and S. We construct a quotient of M which is a (T, S)-bipower act. To do this, let θ be the power act congruence on M generated by the set $\theta = \{((m^t)^s, (m^s)^t) : m \in M, t \in T, s \in S\}$. Define $(m/\theta)(m'/\theta) = (mm')/\theta, (m/\theta)^t = m^t/\theta$ and $(m/\theta)^s = m^s/\theta$ for $m, m' \in$ $M, t \in T, s \in S$. It is easily seen that M/θ is a (T, S)-bipower act. Hence, it follows from Remark 1 that M/θ is a $T \times S$ -power act.

Lastly, we show that the power act is a universal algebraic structure and verify the existence of the free power acts. The reader is referred to [1] for some required details on universal algebra.

Let M be a T-power act. Then M can be considered as an algebra of the type $\langle \cdot, (\lambda_t)_{t \in T}, 1 \rangle$, where \cdot is the binary operation, λ_t is the unary operation given by $\lambda_t(m) = m^t$, for every $t \in T, m \in M$, and 1 is the nullary operation on M such that the following equations hold for every $t, s \in T$ and $x, y \in M$:

$$\lambda_t(x \cdot y) = \lambda_t(x) \cdot \lambda_t(y), \quad \lambda_s(\lambda_t(x)) = \lambda_{ts}(x), \quad \lambda_1(x) = x, \quad \lambda_t(1) = 1.$$

Therefore, the category T-**Pwr** is an equational class and then the free objects over T-acts exist in this category. We explain the construction of free T-power acts in the following.

Let A be a T-act. Consider the free monoid $Fm(A) = \{x_1x_2\cdots x_n : x_i \in A, n \in \mathbb{N}\} \cup \{1\}$ on the set A. Now we define a T-action on Fm(A) by $(x_1\cdots x_n)^t = x_1^t \cdots x_n^t, 1^t = 1$ for all $t \in T$ and $x_i \in A$, then one can easily see that Fm(A) is a T-power act, and the inclusion map $i : A \to Fm(A)$ is a T-act homomorphism. If M is a T-power act and $f : A \to M$ is a T-act homomorphism, we define $\overline{f} : Fm(A) \to M$ to be $\overline{f}(x_1\cdots x_n) = f(x_1)\cdots f(x_n)$. Clearly, \overline{f} is a T-power act homomorphism with gi = f, then we have $g(x_1\cdots x_n) = g(x_1)\cdots g(x_n) = f(x_1)\cdots f(x_n)$, for

every $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n \in A$, that is, \overline{f} is unique. Hence, Fm(A) is a free monoid in the category T-Act on a T-act A. Then the assignment $A \rightsquigarrow Fm(A)$ defines the free functor $\mathbf{Fm} : T$ -Act $\to T$ -Pwr. It is worth noting that the composition of \mathbf{Fm} to the free functor $\mathbf{F} : \mathbf{Set} \to T$ -Act, given by $X \rightsquigarrow X \times T$, gives the free functor $\mathbf{Fpwr} : \mathbf{Set} \to T$ -Pwr, $X \rightsquigarrow Fm(X \times T)$. Consequently, $Fm(X \times T)$ is the free T-power act on a set X.

3. Power acts over commutative monoids

This section is devoted to study T-power acts for which T is a commutative monoid. This kind of power acts displays a close relationship between Hom-functors and tensor functors.

For a *T*-power act *M* and a *T*-act *A*, let us denote $M^A := Hom_{T-Act}(A, M)$, the set of all *T*-act homomorphisms from *A* to *M* where *M* is considered as a *T*act. It is easily seen that the set M^A is a monoid under the operation $(f \cdot g)(a) :=$ f(a)g(a), for every $f, g \in M^A, a \in A$. Note that the identity element of M^A is $1: A \to M$ mapping every $a \in A$ to $1 \in M$. Now we get the following:

Lemma 1. Let M be a T-power act and A be a T-act, where T is a commutative monoid. Then the monoid M^A is a T-power act together with the action $f^t(a) := (f(a))^t$, for every $f \in M^A, t \in T, a \in A$.

Proof. Take any $f \in M^A$ and $t \in T$. First note that $f^t \in M^A$. Indeed, for every $t, s \in T, a \in A$, the commutativity of T implies that

$$f^{t}(as) = (f(as))^{t} = ((f(a))^{s})^{t} = (f(a))^{st} = (f(a))^{ts} = ((f(a))^{t})^{s} = (f^{t}(a))^{s}.$$

Moreover, for every $f, g \in M^A, t, s \in T$ and $a \in A$, we have:

1. $(f \cdot g)^t(a) = ((f \cdot g)(a))^t = (f(a)g(a))^t = (f(a))^t(g(a))^t = f^t(a)g^t(a) = (f^t \cdot g^t)(a).$

2.
$$(f^t)^s(a) = (f^t(a))^s = ((f(a))^t)^s = f(a)^{ts} = f^{ts}(a).$$

3.
$$f^1(a) = (f(a))^1 = f(a)$$
.

4.
$$1^t(a) = (1(a))^t = 1^t = 1.$$

This means that M^A is a *T*-power act.

We carry on this section with studying of the connections between the categories T-Act and T-Pwr for which T is a commutative monoid.

Proposition 2. Let M be a T-power act on a commutative monoid T. The following assertions hold:

(i) There is a contravariant Hom-functor $M^- = Hom_{T-Act}(-, M) : T-Act \rightarrow T-Pwr$ assigning each T-act A to M^A , and each T-act homomorphism $h : A \rightarrow B$

to $M^h: M^B \to M^A$ mapping each $f \in M^B$ to $f \circ h$. Moreover, this yields a covariant Hom-functor $M^{M^-} = Hom_{T-\mathbf{Pwr}}(M^-, M) : T-\mathbf{Act} \to T-\mathbf{Pwr}$ in a natural way.

(ii) The family of assignments $(\eta_A : A \to M^{M^A})_{A \in T-\mathbf{Act}}$ each of them assigning $a \mapsto \hat{a} : M^A \to M$, $\hat{a}(f) = f(a)$ for every $a \in A$, $f \in M^A$, constitutes a natural transformation from the identity functor $Id_{T-\mathbf{Act}}$ to the functor UM^{M^-} where $U : T-\mathbf{Act} \to T-\mathbf{Pwr}$ is the forgetful functor.

Proof. (i) For every T-act A, $M^A \in T$ -**Pwr** by Lemma 1. Considering a T-act homomorphism $h: A \to B$, we claim that M^h is a T-power act homomorphism. Clearly, M^h is a monoid homomorphism. Let $t \in T$ and $f \in M^B$. Then $M^h(f^t)(a) = (f^t \circ h)(a) = f^t(h(a)) = f(h(a)t) = f(h(at)) = (M^h(f))(at) = (M^h(f))^t(a)$, for every $a \in A$. So $M^h(f^t) = (M^h(f))^t$, as desired. Assume that $h: A \to B$ and $k: B \to C$ are homomorphisms in T-Act and $f \in M^C$. It follows that $M^{k \circ h}(f) = f \circ (k \circ h) = (f \circ k) \circ h = M^h(M^k(f)) = (M^h \circ M^k)(f)$. That is, $M^{k \circ h} = M^h \circ M^k$. Also clearly $M^{id_A} = id_{M^A}$. Therefore, M^- is a contravariant functor. For the second part, it suffices to note that $M^{M^-} = M^- \circ U \circ M^-$ where U: T-**Pwr** $\to T$ -Act is the forgetful functor.

(ii) First we show that the map $\hat{a}: M^A \to M$ is a morphism in T-**Pwr**, for each a in a T-act A. Let $f, g \in M^A$ and $t \in T$. Then $\hat{a}(f \cdot g) = (f \cdot g)(a) =$ $f(a)g(a) = \hat{a}(f)\hat{a}(g)$, and $\hat{a}(f^t) = f^t(a) = (f(a))^t = (\hat{a}(f))^t$. Moreover, each η_A is a morphism in T-**Act** because $\hat{a}t(f) = f(at) = f^t(a) = \hat{a}(f^t) = (\hat{a})^t(f)$ for all $a \in A, t \in T, f \in M^A$. Hence, $\eta_A(at) = (\eta_A(a))^t$. It remains to prove the commutativity of the following diagram:

$$\begin{array}{c|c} A \xrightarrow{\eta_A} & M^{M^A} \\ f & & & \downarrow \\ B \xrightarrow{\eta_B} & M^{M^B} \end{array}$$

Let $a \in A$, $\beta \in M^B$. We have $M^{M^f} \circ \eta_A(a)(\beta) = (\hat{a} \circ M^f)(\beta) = \hat{a}(\beta \circ f) = (\beta \circ f)(a) = \beta(f(a)) = \widehat{f(a)}(\beta) = \eta_B \circ f(a)(\beta)$, as required.

Remark 2. (i) Let Γ be a subclass of morphisms in *T*-Act and *M* be a *T*-power act for a commutative monoid *T*. Then one can easily check that *M* is a Γ -injective object in *T*-Act, i.e. injective with respect to all Γ -morphisms, if and only if the contravariant functor M^- maps every Γ -morphism to an onto morphism in *T*-**Pwr**.

(ii) Let \mathcal{C} be the category of all contravariant functors from T-Act to T-Pwr for a commutative monoid T, and natural transformations between them. Then the assignment $M \rightsquigarrow M^-$ gives a covariant functor T-Pwr $\rightarrow \mathcal{C}$. More explicitly, for every morphism $\alpha : M \rightarrow N$ in T-Pwr, one can define a natural transformation $\widehat{\alpha} = (\widehat{\alpha}_A)_{A \in T$ -Act} : $M^- \rightarrow N^-$ to be $\widehat{\alpha}_A(f) = \alpha \circ f$, for all $f \in M^A$. That is, for every T-act homomorphism $h : A \rightarrow B$, the following diagram commutes:

$$\begin{array}{cccc}
 & M^A & \xrightarrow{\widehat{\alpha}_A} & N^A \\
 & & & & & & \\
 & M^h & & & & & \\
 & & & & & & \\
 & M^B & \xrightarrow{&} & N^B \\
\end{array}$$

Indeed, $N^h \circ \widehat{\alpha}_B(f) = N^h(\alpha \circ f) = (\alpha \circ f) \circ h = \alpha \circ (f \circ h) = \widehat{\alpha}_A(f \circ h) = \widehat{\alpha}_A \circ M^h(f)$, for every $f \in M^B$.

At the end, we give the following theorem which shows the relationship between Hom-functors and tensor functors.

Theorem 1. For a T-power act M on a commutative monoid T, the Hom-functor $(M^-)^-: T\text{-}\mathbf{Act} \times T\text{-}\mathbf{Act} \to T\text{-}\mathbf{Pwr}$ is naturally equivalent to the tensor functor $M^{-\otimes -}: T\text{-}\mathbf{Act} \times T\text{-}\mathbf{Act} \to T\text{-}\mathbf{Pwr}$.

Proof. For every T-acts A and B, we define $\phi = \phi_{A,B} : M^{A\otimes B} \to (M^A)^B$ mapping each T-power act homomorphism $f : A \otimes B \to M$ to $\phi(f) : B \to M^A$, where $\phi(f)(b) : A \to M$, for every $b \in B$, maps every $a \in A$ to $f(a \otimes b)$. It follows from [6, Corollary II.5.20] that ϕ is a T-act isomorphism. Moreover, it is clear that ϕ is a monoid homomorphism. Hence, ϕ is an isomorphism in T-Pwr. It remains to prove the naturality of $(\phi_{A,B})_{A,B} : M^{-\otimes -} \to (M^{-})^{-}$. Consider any T-act homomorphisms $f : A \to A'$ and $g : B \to B'$. We show that the following diagram commutes:

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
 M^{A \otimes B} & \xrightarrow{\phi_{A,B}} & (M^{A})^{B} \\
 M^{f \otimes g} & & & & & & \\
 M^{A' \otimes B'} & & & & & & \\
 M^{A' \otimes B'} & \xrightarrow{\phi_{A',B'}} & (M^{A'})^{B'}
\end{array}$$

Indeed, for every $a \in A$ and $b \in B$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} ((\phi_{A,B} \circ M^{f \otimes g})(\alpha))(b)(a) &= \phi_{A,B}(M^{f \otimes g}(\alpha))(b)(a) = M^{f \otimes g}(\alpha)(a \otimes b) \\ &= (\alpha \circ (f \otimes g))(a \otimes b) \\ &= \alpha(f(a) \otimes g(b)). \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand,

$$(((M^{f})^{g} \circ \phi_{A',B'})(\alpha))(b)(a) = (M^{f})^{g}(\phi_{A',B'}(\alpha))(b)(a) = (M^{f} \circ \phi_{A',B'}(\alpha) \circ g)(b)(a) = M^{f}(\phi_{A',B'}(\alpha)(g(b)))(a) = (\phi_{A',B'}(\alpha)(g(b)) \circ f)(a) = \phi_{A',B'}(\alpha)(g(b))(f(a)) = \alpha(f(a) \otimes g(b)).$$

Hence, $\phi_{A,B} \circ M^{f \otimes g} = (M^f)^g \circ \phi_{A',B'}$.

Acknowledgment. The authors gratefully appreciate the referee's careful reading of the paper and useful comments. We also thank the kind hospitality of Hakim Sabzevari University during the several times we stayed there.

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Received November 27, 2016

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