



## A Characterization for Discrete Quantum Group <sup>1</sup>

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**ABSTRACT:** Based on the work of A.Van Daele, E.G.Effros and Z.J.Ruan on multiplier Hopf algebra and discrete quantum group, this paper states that discrete quantum group  $(A, \Delta)$  is exactly the set  $\{(\omega \otimes \iota)\Delta(a) | a \in A, \omega \in A^*\}$ , where  $A^*$  is the space of all reduced functionals on  $A$ . Furthermore, this paper characterizes  $(A, \Delta)$  as an algebraic quantum group with a standard  $*$ -operation and a special element  $z \in A$  such that  $(1 \otimes a)\Delta(z) = \Delta(z)(a \otimes 1)$  ( $\forall a \in A$ ).

**Key Words:** discrete quantum group, reduced functional, cointegral.

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### 1. Introduction

Let  $G$  be a discrete group. If  $G$  is finite, one can define the pointwise product  $(fg)(p) = f(p)g(p)$  and the natural  $*$ -operation  $f^*(p) = \overline{f(p)}$  on  $C(G)$ , the space of all complex functions on  $G$ , to make it into a unital  $*$ -algebra, where  $f, g \in C(G), p \in G$ . Furthermore, under the structure maps

$$\Delta(f)(p, q) = f(pq), \varepsilon(f) = f(e), S(f)(p) = f(p^{-1}),$$

$C(G)$  becomes a Hopf  $*$ -algebra. Here  $C(G) \otimes C(G)$  is identified with the algebra of complex functions on  $G \times G$  in the obvious way. If  $G$  is infinite, this is no longer possible. One then consider  $K(G)$ , the space of all complex functions with finite support on  $G$ . It is easy to check that  $K(G)$  is a  $*$ -algebra and the range of  $\Delta$  is not in  $K(G) \otimes K(G)$  any more. However for any  $f, g \in K(G)$  we have that  $\Delta(f)(1 \otimes g)$  and  $\Delta(f)(g \otimes 1)$  are both in  $K(G) \otimes K(G)$ . This leads to the concept of multiplier Hopf  $*$ -algebras [1].

Let  $A$  be an algebra with a non-degenerate product, with or without identity. A multiplier of  $A$  is a pair  $(\rho_1, \rho_2)$  of linear maps from  $A$  to itself satisfying for all  $a, b \in A$ ,

$$\rho_1(ab) = \rho_1(a)b, \quad \rho_2(ab) = a\rho_2(b), \quad \rho_2(a)b = a\rho_1(b).$$

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The set of all multipliers of  $A$ , denoted by  $M(A)$ , is made into a unital algebra in a natural way and called the multiplier algebra of  $A$ . There is a natural embedding of  $A$  into  $M(A)$ . Furthermore,  $M(A)$  can be characterized as the largest algebra with identity in which  $A$  sits as an essential two-sided ideal. It's customary to alter  $(\rho_1, \rho_2)$  by an auxiliary object  $m$  by treating  $\rho_1$  and  $\rho_2$  as left and right multiplication, i.e.,  $\rho_1(a) = ma$ ,  $\rho_2(a) = am$ . Then to show  $m \in M(A)$ , it suffices to verify that  $A$  is a two-sided ideal of  $\{m \mid a(mb) = (am)b, \forall a, b \in A\}$ .

A comultiplication on  $A$  is defined as a homomorphism  $\Delta: A \longrightarrow M(A \otimes A)$  satisfying

- i)  $\Delta(A)(1 \otimes A)$  and  $(A \otimes 1)\Delta(A)$  are subspaces of  $A \otimes A$ ;
- ii)  $\Delta$  is coassociative in the following sense:  $\forall a, b, c \in A$ ,

$$(a \otimes 1 \otimes 1)(\Delta \otimes \iota)(\Delta(b)(1 \otimes c)) = (\iota \otimes \Delta)((a \otimes 1)\Delta(b))(1 \otimes 1 \otimes c).$$

Now let  $(A, \Delta)$  be a pair of an algebra  $A$  with a non-degenerate product and a comultiplication  $\Delta$  on  $A$ . If the maps  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  defined by

$$T_1(a \otimes b) = \Delta(a)(1 \otimes b), \quad T_2(a \otimes b) = (a \otimes 1)\Delta(b) \quad (a, b \in A)$$

are bijective, we call  $(A, \Delta)$  a multiplier Hopf algebra, and call it regular if  $(A, \Delta^{\circ p})$  is also a multiplier Hopf algebra (or equivalently if the antipode  $S$  is bijective from  $A$  to  $A$ ). In fact, if  $(A, \Delta)$  is a regular multiplier Hopf algebra,  $a, b \in A$ , then

$$\Delta(a)(1 \otimes b), \quad (a \otimes 1)\Delta(b)$$

$$\Delta(a)(b \otimes 1), \quad (1 \otimes a)\Delta(b)$$

all belong to  $A \otimes A$ . When a multiplier Hopf algebra has also a standard  $*$ -operation [2], it is called a multiplier Hopf  $*$ -algebra. It is clear that  $K(G)$  described above is a multiplier Hopf  $*$ -algebra.

As we have known, a non-zero linear functional  $\varphi$  (resp.  $\psi$ ) on a regular multiplier Hopf algebra  $(A, \Delta)$  is called left (resp. right) integral if  $(\iota \otimes \varphi)\Delta(a) = \varphi(a)1$  (resp.  $(\psi \otimes \iota)\Delta(a) = \psi(a)1$ ) for all  $a \in A$ , where  $1$  denotes the identity in  $M(A)$ . In general such integrals do not always exist. Moreover, the left and right integrals need not be the same one even if they both exist. A regular multiplier Hopf algebra with a left (and hence a right) integral is called an algebraic quantum group. The paper will study a special class of algebraic quantum group (see [7]), namely, discrete quantum group, which was studied firstly as a dual of compact quantum group in [3]. A discrete quantum group is defined as a multiplier Hopf  $*$ -algebra  $(A, \Delta)$  where  $A$  is a direct sum of full matrix algebras ([4-9]). More specifically, let  $(A, \Delta)$  be an algebraic quantum group with a standard  $*$ -operation and a non-zero element  $z \in A$  such that  $\forall a \in A$ ,  $(1 \otimes a)\Delta(z) = \Delta(z)(a \otimes 1)$ , and  $A^*$  the space of all reduced functionals on  $A$  (see Definition 2.2). Then by Proposition 2.1 one can see that  $(\omega \otimes \iota)\Delta(a)$  and  $(\iota \otimes \omega)\Delta(a)$  are in  $M(A)$ , where  $a \in A, \omega \in A^*$ . Using the two types of multipliers, if  $(A, \Delta)$  is a discrete quantum group, then

$$A = \{(\omega \otimes \iota)\Delta(a) \mid a \in A, \omega \in A^*\} = \{(\iota \otimes \omega)\Delta(a) \mid a \in A, \omega \in A^*\}.$$

From this, the paper gives a characterization of a discrete quantum group, as follows a discrete quantum group coincides with an algebraic quantum group with a standard \*-operation and a non-zero element  $z \in A$  such that  $\forall a \in A$ ,

$$(1 \otimes a)\Delta(z) = \Delta(z)(a \otimes 1).$$

Throughout this paper, all algebras will be algebras over the complex field  $\mathbb{C}$  and  $\iota$  denotes the identity map. For general results on multiplier Hopf algebras theory, we refer the reader to [1, 10]. We shall use their notations, so we will use  $m, \Delta, \varepsilon, S$  for the multiplication, the comultiplication, the counit and the antipode, respectively.

## 2. Characterization for Discrete Quantum Group

Let  $(A, \Delta)$  be a regular multiplier Hopf algebra and  $A'$  the space of all linear functionals on  $A$ . Using  $\forall a \in A$  and  $\omega \in A'$ , one can construct a multiplier of  $A$ .

For any  $b \in A$ , it is clear that  $(\omega \otimes \iota)(\Delta(a)(1 \otimes b)) \in A$  and  $(\omega \otimes \iota)((1 \otimes b)\Delta(a)) \in A$ . That's to say, there exist maps  $\rho_1$  and  $\rho_2$  from  $A$  to itself defined by

$$\begin{aligned}\rho_1(b) &= (\omega \otimes \iota)(\Delta(a)(1 \otimes b)), \\ \rho_2(b) &= (\omega \otimes \iota)((1 \otimes b)\Delta(a)).\end{aligned}$$

These are well defined because both  $\Delta(a)(1 \otimes b)$  and  $(1 \otimes b)\Delta(a)$  are in  $A \otimes A$ , and one can apply  $\omega \otimes \iota$  mapping  $A \otimes A$  to  $A \otimes \mathbb{C}$ , which is naturally identified with  $A$  itself.

**Proposition 2.1** *Let  $(A, \Delta)$  be a regular multiplier Hopf algebra and  $\rho_1, \rho_2$  as defined above. Then  $(\rho_1, \rho_2) \in M(A)$ .*

**Proof** To prove that  $(\rho_1, \rho_2)$  is a multiplier of  $A$ , it suffices to prove  $\rho_2(c)b = c\rho_1(b)$ , for all  $b, c \in A$ .

$$\begin{aligned}c\rho_1(b) &= c((\omega \otimes \iota)(\Delta(a)(1 \otimes b))) \\ &= (\omega \otimes \iota)((1 \otimes c)(\Delta(a)(1 \otimes b))) \\ &= (\omega \otimes \iota)((1 \otimes c)\Delta(a))(1 \otimes b) \\ &= (\omega \otimes \iota)((1 \otimes c)\Delta(a))b \\ &= \rho_2(c)b.\end{aligned}$$

Thus  $(\rho_1, \rho_2) \in M(A)$ . ■

In the following, by  $(\omega \otimes \iota)\Delta(a)$  we denote the multiplier  $(\rho_1, \rho_2)$ . Similarly, put

$$\begin{aligned}\eta_1(b) &= (\iota \otimes \omega)(\Delta(a)(b \otimes 1)), \\ \eta_2(b) &= (\iota \otimes \omega)((b \otimes 1)\Delta(a)).\end{aligned}$$

Then  $(\eta_1, \eta_2) \in M(A)$  and can be written as  $(\iota \otimes \omega)\Delta(a)$ .

In general  $(\omega \otimes \iota)\Delta(a)$  and  $(\iota \otimes \omega)\Delta(a)$  are not in  $A$ . Indeed, consider the algebra  $A$  generated by  $\{e_p, b | p \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  subject to

$$e_p e_q = \delta(p, q) e_p, \quad b e_p = e_{p+1} b.$$

Then [8]  $A$  is a regular multiplier Hopf algebra with a comultiplication  $\Delta$  on  $A$  defined by:

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta(e_p) &= \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} e_k \otimes e_{p-k}, \\ \Delta(b) &= a \otimes b + b \otimes a^{-1}.\end{aligned}$$

Here  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$  and  $a = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \lambda^k e_k \in M(A)$ . Notice that these infinite sums are well-defined in the “strict topology” on  $M(A)$  (i.e., when one multiplies with elements of the algebra, one gets finite sums). Then for  $\omega \in A'$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}(\omega \otimes \iota)\Delta(e_p) &= \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \omega(e_k) e_{p-k} \in M(A) - A, \\ (\omega \otimes \iota)\Delta(b) &= \omega(a)b + \omega(b)a^{-1} \in M(A) - A.\end{aligned}$$

Based on the example, it is natural to ask under which condition for a multiplier Hopf algebra the elements  $(\omega \otimes \iota)\Delta(a)$  and  $(\iota \otimes \omega)\Delta(a)$  are in  $A$ . With the help of reduced functional, whose definition is given below, one can answer the question and furthermore give a characterization for a discrete quantum group.

**Definition 2.2** *Let  $(A, \Delta)$  be a multiplier Hopf algebra and  $A'$  the space of all linear functionals on  $A$ .  $\forall a \in A$  and  $f \in A'$ , one can define the left and right action of  $a$  on  $f$ , respectively:  $\forall x \in A$*

$$af(x) := f(xa); \quad fa(x) := f(ax).$$

Furthermore, for  $a, b \in A$  and  $f \in A'$ , one can define the functional  $afb$  by

$$afb(x) = f(bxa),$$

and call it a reduced functional on  $A$ .

In the following, by  $A^*$  we denote the set of all reduced functionals on  $A$  and by  $A_1, A_2$  we denote the space  $\{(\omega \otimes \iota)\Delta(a) | a \in A, \omega \in A^*\}$  and the space  $\{(\iota \otimes \omega)\Delta(a) | a \in A, \omega \in A^*\}$ , respectively. And we will denote them by  $\tilde{A}$  when  $A_1 = A_2$ . Furthermore, one can find that both  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  are subsets of  $A$ . Indeed, for all  $a, b, c \in A, f \in A'$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}(afb \otimes \iota)\Delta(c) &= (f \otimes \iota)((b \otimes 1)\Delta(c)(a \otimes 1)), \\ (\iota \otimes afb)\Delta(c) &= (\iota \otimes f)((1 \otimes b)\Delta(c)(1 \otimes a)).\end{aligned}$$

For an algebraic quantum group  $(A, \Delta)$ ,

$$\hat{A} = \{a\varphi | a \in A\} = \{\varphi a | a \in A\}$$

is defined as the dual of  $A$ , where  $\varphi$  is the left integral on  $A$ [7]. Now for  $f, g \in A'$ , notice that the functional  $f \otimes g : A \otimes A \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  can be extended uniquely to a functional  $f \otimes g : M(A \otimes A) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  ([1]), put

$$f \star g(a) := (f \otimes g)\Delta(a),$$

then  $f \star g \in A'$  is well defined.

**Lemma 2.3** *Let  $(A, \Delta)$  be an algebraic quantum group and  $\hat{A}$  as defined above. Set*

$$\hat{A}_0 = \{\omega \in A' \mid (\omega \otimes \iota)\Delta(a) \in A, (\iota \otimes \omega)\Delta(a) \in A, \forall a \in A\}.$$

Then (1)  $\hat{A} \subset \hat{A}_0$ ;

(2)  $\hat{A}_0$  is a unital associative algebra;

(3)  $M(\hat{A}) = \hat{A}_0$ .

**Proof** (1) For  $a, b \in A$ , since

$$\begin{aligned} (\iota \otimes b\varphi)\Delta(a) &= (\iota \otimes \varphi)(\Delta(a)(1 \otimes b)) \\ &= (\iota \otimes \varphi)\left(\sum_{(a)} a_{(1)} \otimes a_{(2)}b\right) \\ &= \sum_{(a)} a_{(1)}\varphi(a_{(2)}b) \in A, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\Delta(a)(1 \otimes b) = \sum_{(a)} a_{(1)} \otimes a_{(2)}b$  (this is possible for a regular multiplier Hopf algebra). Therefore  $(\iota \otimes b\varphi)\Delta(a)$ , and similarly  $(b\varphi \otimes \iota)\Delta(a) \in A$ . This means  $b\varphi \in \hat{A}_0$  and  $\hat{A} \subset \hat{A}_0$ .

(2) Now for any  $\omega_1, \omega_2 \in \hat{A}_0$ , we have

$$((\omega_1 \star \omega_2) \otimes \iota)\Delta(a) = (\omega_2 \otimes \iota)\Delta((\omega_1 \otimes \iota)\Delta(a)),$$

$$(\iota \otimes (\omega_1 \star \omega_2))\Delta(a) = (\iota \otimes \omega_1)\Delta((\iota \otimes \omega_2)\Delta(a)).$$

In fact,  $\forall a, b \in A$ ,  $(\omega_1 \otimes \iota)\Delta(a) \in A$  and  $(\omega_2 \otimes \iota)\Delta((\omega_1 \otimes \iota)\Delta(a)(b \otimes 1)) \in A$ . Furthermore  $\forall c \in A$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} c(\omega_2 \otimes \iota)\Delta((\omega_1 \otimes \iota)\Delta(a)(b \otimes 1)) &= (\omega_2 \otimes \iota)((1 \otimes c)\Delta((\omega_1 \otimes \iota)\sum_{(a)} a_{(1)}b \otimes a_{(2)})) \\ &= \sum_{(a)} \omega_1(a_{(1)}b)(\omega_2 \otimes \iota)((1 \otimes c)\Delta(a_{(2)})) \\ &= \sum_{(a)} \omega_1(a_{(1)}b)\omega_2(a_{(2)})ca_{(3)} \\ &= c \sum_{(a)} (\omega_1 \otimes \omega_2 \otimes \iota)(a_{(1)}b \otimes a_{(2)} \otimes a_{(3)}) \\ &= c \sum_{(a)} (\omega_1 \otimes \omega_2 \otimes \iota)(a_{(1)}b \otimes \Delta(a_{(2)})) \\ &= c \sum_{(a)} (\omega_1 \otimes \omega_2 \otimes \iota)(\Delta(a_{(1)}b) \otimes a_{(2)}) \\ &= c((\omega_1 \star \omega_2) \otimes \iota)\Delta(a)(b \otimes 1), \end{aligned}$$

for the last second equation we use the coassociativity of the comultiplication  $\Delta$ . For the arbitrariness of  $b$ , one can get

$$c(\omega_2 \otimes \iota)\Delta((\omega_1 \otimes \iota)\Delta(a)) = c((\omega_1 \star \omega_2) \otimes \iota)\Delta(a),$$

and thus

$$((\omega_1 \star \omega_2) \otimes \iota)\Delta(a) = (\omega_2 \otimes \iota)\Delta((\omega_1 \otimes \iota)\Delta(a)).$$

For the second formula, we have the similar discussion.

Furthermore  $\hat{A}_0$  is a unital associative algebra under the convolution operation. Indeed for  $\forall a \in A$ ,

$$(\varepsilon \otimes \iota)\Delta(a) = (\iota \otimes \varepsilon)\Delta(a) = a,$$

which implies that  $\hat{A}_0$  has a unit  $\varepsilon$ . And for all  $a \in A$ ,

$$((\omega_1 \star \omega_2) \star \omega_3 \otimes \iota)\Delta(a) = (\omega_3 \otimes \iota)\Delta((\omega_2 \otimes \iota)\Delta((\omega_1 \otimes \iota)\Delta(a))) = (\omega_1 \star (\omega_2 \star \omega_3) \otimes \iota)\Delta(a),$$

$$(\iota \otimes (\omega_1 \star \omega_2) \star \omega_3)\Delta(a) = (\iota \otimes \omega_1)\Delta((\iota \otimes \omega_2)\Delta((\iota \otimes \omega_3)\Delta(a))) = (\iota \otimes \omega_1 \star (\omega_2 \star \omega_3))\Delta(a).$$

So  $(\omega_1 \star \omega_2) \star \omega_3 = \omega_1 \star (\omega_2 \star \omega_3)$ . Henceforth,  $\hat{A}_0$  is an associative algebra with identity.

(3) As we have known,  $A'$  is also an associative algebra. Then  $\forall f \in M(A)$ ,  $\forall \omega \in \hat{A}_0$ ,  $\forall b\varphi, c\varphi \in \hat{A}$ , the associativity of the (convolution) product in  $A'$  leads to the relations

$$(b\varphi \star f) \star \omega = b\varphi \star (f \star \omega),$$

$$\omega \star (f \star c\varphi) = (\omega \star f) \star c\varphi,$$

which implies

$$(\hat{A} \star M(\hat{A})) \star \hat{A}_0 = \hat{A} \star (M(\hat{A}) \star \hat{A}_0),$$

$$\hat{A}_0 \star (M(\hat{A}) \star \hat{A}) = (\hat{A}_0 \star M(\hat{A})) \star \hat{A}.$$

Since  $M(\hat{A})$  is the multiplier algebra of  $\hat{A}$ , i.e.,  $\hat{A} = \hat{A} \star M(\hat{A}) = M(\hat{A}) \star \hat{A}$ ,

$$\hat{A} \star \hat{A}_0 = \hat{A} \star (M(\hat{A}) \star \hat{A}_0),$$

$$\hat{A}_0 \star \hat{A} = (\hat{A}_0 \star M(\hat{A})) \star \hat{A}.$$

From the non-degeneracy of the (convolution) product, one can get

$$\hat{A}_0 = M(\hat{A}) \star \hat{A}_0 = \hat{A}_0 \star M(\hat{A}),$$

which shows that  $\hat{A}_0$  is a two-sided ideal of  $M(\hat{A})$ . Again  $\hat{A}_0$  is unital, therefore  $\hat{A}_0 = M(\hat{A})$ . ■

**Remark 2.4** One can prove that  $\hat{A}$  is a two-sided ideal of  $A^*$  and  $A^*$  is a subalgebra of  $M(\hat{A})$  (see [6]). Then

$$\hat{A} \subset A^* \subset \hat{A}_0 = M(\hat{A}).$$

Corresponding to integrals, one can get the notion of cointegrals. A left cointegral in a regular multiplier Hopf algebra is a non-zero element  $h \in A$  such that  $ah = \varepsilon(a)h$  for all  $a \in A$ . Similarly, a non-zero element  $k \in A$  satisfying  $ka = \varepsilon(a)k$  is called a right cointegral. They do not always exist and need not coincide as if they exist. However, they are unique (up to a scalar) if they exist. They are faithful if

$$(\omega \otimes \iota)\Delta(h) = 0 \text{ implies } \omega = 0,$$

$$(\iota \otimes \omega)\Delta(h) = 0 \text{ implies } \omega = 0.$$

Using the cointegral, we have the following definition.

**Definition 2.5**[8] *Let  $(A, \Delta)$  be an algebraic quantum group. We call  $(A, \Delta)$  of compact type if  $A$  has an identity, i.e.,  $A$  is a Hopf algebra. We call  $(A, \Delta)$  of discrete type if  $A$  has a left (resp. right) cointegral.*

With the help of Lemma 2.3 and Remark 2.4, we have the following precise results for a special class of algebraic quantum group—discrete quantum group.

**Proposition 2.6** *Let  $(A, \Delta)$  be a discrete quantum group and  $A', A^*$  as defined above. Then  $\forall f \in A', f \in A^*$  if and only if for all  $a \in A$ ,*

$$(\iota \otimes f)\Delta(a) \in A \text{ and } (f \otimes \iota)\Delta(a) \in A.$$

**Proof** It suffices to prove the sufficiency. As  $(A, \Delta)$  is a discrete quantum group, it is natural of discrete type. By Proposition 5.3 in [7], the dual  $\hat{A}$  of  $A$  is of compact type. So  $\hat{A}$  has an identity and hence  $M(\hat{A}) = \hat{A}$ . Using Remark 2.4,  $\hat{A}_0 = A^*$  and therefore  $f \in A^*$ . ■

**Proposition 2.7** *Let  $(A, \Delta)$  be a discrete quantum group and  $\tilde{A}$  as described above. Then  $A = \tilde{A}$ .*

**Proof** Firstly, we show that  $A_1 = A_2$ . Indeed, for any  $a, b \in A$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} ((\omega \otimes \iota)\Delta(a))^* b &= (b^*(\omega \otimes \iota)\Delta(a))^* \\ &= ((\omega \otimes \iota)((1 \otimes b^*)\Delta(a)))^* \\ &= ((\omega \otimes \iota) \sum_{(a)} a_{(1)} \otimes b^* a_{(2)})^* \\ &= \sum_{(a)} \overline{\omega(a_{(1)})} a_{(2)}^* b \\ &= \sum_{(a)} \omega^*(S(a_{(1)})) a_{(2)}^* b \\ &= S^{-1}((\iota \otimes \omega^*)\Delta(S(a^*)))b. \end{aligned}$$

So

$$((\omega \otimes \iota)\Delta(a))^* = S^{-1}((\iota \otimes \omega^*)\Delta(S(a^*))),$$

and similarly

$$((\iota \otimes \omega)\Delta(a))^* = S^{-1}((\omega^* \otimes \iota)\Delta(S(a^*))),$$

which means that  $(\omega \otimes \iota)(\Delta(a))$  and  $(\iota \otimes \omega)(\Delta(a))$  can be represented each other.

Secondly, we shows that  $A \subseteq \tilde{A}$ . Using Proposition 3.1 in [4],  $A$  has a left cointegral  $h$  satisfying  $h^2 = h^* = h$ . Set

$$I = \{(\omega \otimes \iota)\Delta(h) | \omega \in A'_0\},$$

where  $A'_0$  is the set of linear functionals on  $A$  which are supported on finitely many components of  $A$ . Here  $A'_0 = A^*$ . In fact, if  $f \in A'_0$ , then for all  $x \in A$ , by Proposition 3.1 in [8] there exists an element  $e$  (call it a local unit) such that  $xe = ex$ . Hence

$$f(x) = f(xe) = f(ex) = (efe)(x),$$

which implies  $f \in A^*$ . If  $f = af'b \in A^*$ ,  $a, b \in A, f' \in A'$ . Then  $\forall x \in A$ ,  $f(x) = f'(bxa)$ . Since  $A$  is a direct sum of matrix algebra,  $bxa$  is in finitely many

simple summands of  $A$  and hence  $f'(bxa)$  is non-zero on finitely many components of  $A$ . So  $f \in A'_0$ . Moreover,  $I$  is a two-sided ideal of  $A$ . Indeed, for any  $a \in A$ ,

$$\Delta(h)(1 \otimes a) = \Delta(h^2)(1 \otimes a) = \Delta(h)\Delta(h)(1 \otimes a) \in \Delta(h)(A \otimes 1),$$

and therefore

$$((\omega \otimes \iota)\Delta(h))a = (\omega \otimes \iota)(\Delta(h)(1 \otimes a)) \in I.$$

Then  $Ia \subseteq I$ . Similarly,  $aI \subseteq I$ . Pick an element  $a \neq 0$  such that  $Ia = 0$ . Then for all  $\omega \in A^*$ ,  $(\omega \otimes \iota)(\Delta(h)(1 \otimes a)) = 0$ . So  $\Delta(h)(1 \otimes a) = 0$ , which implies  $a = 0$  and leads to a contradiction. Thus  $I = A$ . Obviously  $I \subseteq \tilde{A}$  and hence  $A \subseteq \tilde{A}$ . ■

With the help of Lemma 2.3, we propose a characterization for a discrete quantum group as follows.

**Proposition 2.8**  *$(A, \Delta)$  is a discrete quantum group if and only if  $(A, \Delta)$  is an algebraic quantum group with a standard  $*$ -operation and a non-zero element  $z \in A$  such that  $\forall a \in A$ ,*

$$(1 \otimes a)\Delta(z) = \Delta(z)(a \otimes 1).$$

**Proof** We just need to prove the sufficiency. As  $\tilde{A} \subseteq A$  holds for any algebraic quantum group  $(A, \Delta)$ , in particular we have  $(\omega \otimes \iota)\Delta(z) \in A$ . Define a map  $\Gamma : \hat{A}_0 \rightarrow A$  by  $\Gamma(\omega) = (\omega \otimes \iota)\Delta(z)$ , where  $\hat{A}_0$  is defined as in Lemma 2.3. It is obvious that  $\Gamma$  is well defined. Furthermore, one can prove that  $\Gamma$  is an injective  $A$ -module homomorphism. Indeed, if  $(\omega \otimes \iota)\Delta(z) = 0$ , then  $\forall a \in A$

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= a(\omega \otimes \iota)\Delta(z) \\ &= (\omega \otimes \iota)((1 \otimes a)\Delta(z)) \\ &= (\omega \otimes \iota)(\Delta(z)(a \otimes 1)) \\ &= \sum_{(a)} \omega(z_{(1)}a)z_{(2)}. \end{aligned}$$

Applying  $\Delta$  and  $S$  to this formula, one can get

$$\sum_{(a)} \omega(z_{(3)}a)z_{(1)} \otimes S(z_{(2)}) = 0.$$

And replacing  $a$  by  $S(z_{(2)})a$ , one can obtain

$$\sum_{(a)} \omega(z_{(3)}S(z_{(2)})a)z_{(1)} = 0$$

and hence also  $\omega(a)z = 0$  ( $\forall a \in A$ ), which implies  $\omega = 0$  considering the fact  $z \neq 0$ .

For any  $a \in A$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} a\Gamma(\omega) &= (\omega \otimes \iota)((1 \otimes a)\Delta(z)) \\ &= (\omega \otimes \iota)(\Delta(z)(a \otimes 1)) \\ &= (a\omega \otimes \iota)\Delta(z) \\ &= \Gamma(a\omega), \end{aligned}$$

which shows that  $\Gamma$  is  $A$ -module homomorphism.

Take  $h = \Gamma(\varepsilon)$ . Then  $\forall a \in A$ ,

$$ah = a\Gamma(\varepsilon) = \Gamma(a\varepsilon) = \varepsilon(a)\Gamma(\varepsilon) = \varepsilon(a)h.$$

Thus  $h$  is a left cointegral of  $(A, \Delta)$  and  $(A, \Delta)$  is of discrete type. From [5, Theorem 3.1],  $A$  has local units. Denote them by  $\{e_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$ . Then

$$A = \bigoplus_{\alpha \in I} Ae_\alpha.$$

Combining with the fact that  $(A, \Delta)$  is an algebraic quantum group with a standard  $*$ -operation,  $A$  can be written as a direct sum of full matrix algebras. Namely,  $A$  is a discrete quantum group and this completes the proof. ■

**Example 2.9** Let us look closer at  $K(G)$ , the space of all complex functions with finite support on  $G$ . Considering the fact that

$$(f\delta_e)(p) = (\delta_e f)(p) = f(p)\delta_e(p) = \varepsilon(f)\delta_e(p), \quad (\forall f \in K(G), p \in G)$$

where  $\delta_e$  is the function taking value 1 on the unit  $e$  of  $G$  and 0 elsewhere, the element  $\delta_e$ , denoted by  $h$ , is a cointegral on  $K(G)$ . Therefore  $K(G)$  is an algebraic quantum group of discrete type. Again  $(K(G), \Delta)$  has a standard  $*$ -operation,  $K(G)$  is a discrete quantum group. It is clear that  $\widetilde{K(G)} \subseteq K(G)$ . On the other hand, suppose that  $\varphi$  is the left integral on  $(K(G), \Delta)$ . Then  $\forall a \in K(G)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} a &= (\varphi \otimes \iota)(h \otimes a) \\ &= (\varphi \otimes \iota)(\Delta(a)(h \otimes 1)) \\ &= (h\varphi \otimes \iota)\Delta(a). \end{aligned}$$

Here we use the relation

$$(1 \otimes a)\Delta(h) = \Delta(h)(a \otimes 1) \quad (\forall a \in K(G)).$$

Therefore  $a = (h\varphi \otimes \iota)\Delta(a) \in \widetilde{K(G)}$  and  $K(G) = \widetilde{K(G)}$ .

Assume that  $(A, \Delta)$  is an algebraic quantum group,  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$  are the left and right Haar measures on  $(A, \Delta)$ , respectively. Then there exists an invertible multiplier  $\delta \in M(A)$  (call it a modular function) (see [7]) so that  $\forall a \in A$ ,

$$(\varphi \otimes \iota)\Delta(a) = \varphi(a)\delta, \quad (\iota \otimes \psi)\Delta(a) = \psi(a)\delta^{-1}, \quad \psi(a) = \varphi(a\delta)$$

and that

$$\Delta(\delta) = \delta \otimes \delta, \quad \varepsilon(\delta) = 1, \quad S(\delta) = \delta^{-1}.$$

In general case,  $\delta \in M(A) - A$ . In the following, we give a necessary and sufficient condition for  $\delta \in A$ .

**Proposition 2.10** *Let  $(A, \Delta)$  be an algebraic quantum group and  $\delta$  as described above. Then  $\delta \in A$  if and only if  $A$  is unital.*

**Proof**  $\Leftarrow$  If  $A$  has a unit  $e$ , then  $\varphi = e\varphi \in \hat{A} \subset \hat{A}_0$ . So  $\varphi(a)\delta = (\varphi \otimes \iota)\Delta(a) \in A$  and hence  $\delta \in A$ .

$\Rightarrow$ ) If  $\delta \in A$ , then  $(\varphi \otimes \iota)\Delta(a) = \varphi(a)\delta \in A$  (resp.  $(\iota \otimes \psi)\Delta(a) = \psi(a)\delta^{-1} \in A$ ). So  $\varphi \in \tilde{A}_0$  (resp.  $\psi \in \tilde{A}_0$ ) and thus  $(\iota \otimes \varphi)\Delta(a) \in A$  (resp.  $(\psi \otimes \iota)\Delta(a) \in A$ ). Again  $(\iota \otimes \varphi)\Delta(a) = \varphi(a)1$  (resp.  $(\psi \otimes \iota)\Delta(a) = \psi(a)1$ ),  $\forall a \in A$ . Then  $\varphi(a)1 \in A$  (resp.  $\psi(a)1 \in A$ ), i.e.,  $1 \in A$ . ■

From Proposition 2.10, one can get the following conclusion at once.

**Corollary 2.11** *Let  $(A, \Delta)$  be a discrete quantum group and  $\delta$  as described above. Then  $\delta \in A$  if and only if  $A$  is of finite dimension.*

**Remark 2.12** From Proposition 2.7 one can see that if  $A$  is a discrete quantum group, then  $A = \tilde{A}$ , where

$$\tilde{A} = \{(\omega \otimes \iota)\Delta(a) | a \in A, \omega \in A^*\},$$

and  $A^*$  is the space of all reduced functionals on  $A$ . On the other hand, if  $A$  is an algebraic quantum group with the property of  $A = \tilde{A}$ , is  $A$  a discrete quantum group? The question is under consideration now.

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