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**On faithfulness of the lifting
for Hopf algebras and fusion categories**

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To Alexander Kirillov, Jr. on his 50th birthday with admiration

We use a version of Haboush’s theorem over complete local Noetherian rings to prove faithfulness of the lifting for semisimple cosemisimple Hopf algebras and separable (braided, symmetric) fusion categories from characteristic p to characteristic zero, showing that, moreover, any isomorphism between such structures can be reduced modulo p . This fills a gap in our earlier work. We also show that lifting of semisimple cosemisimple Hopf algebras is a fully faithful functor, and prove that lifting induces an isomorphism on Picard and Brauer–Picard groups. Finally, we show that a subcategory or quotient category of a separable multifusion category is separable (resolving an open question from our earlier work), and use this to show that certain classes of tensor functors between lifts of separable categories to characteristic zero can be reduced modulo p .

1. Introduction

Let k be an algebraically closed field of characteristic $p > 0$ and let $W(k)$ be its ring of Witt vectors, $I = (p) \subset W(k)$ the maximal ideal, K the fraction field of $W(k)$, and \bar{K} its algebraic closure. In [Etingof and Gelaki 1998] it is shown that any semisimple cosemisimple Hopf algebra over k has a unique (up to an isomorphism) lift over $W(k)$. In [Etingof et al. 2005, Section 9], this result is extended to separable (braided, symmetric) fusion categories, i.e., those of nonzero global dimension.¹

Moreover, in [Etingof et al. 2005, Section 9.3], it is claimed that lifting is faithful, i.e., if liftings of two Hopf algebras are isomorphic over \bar{K} then these Hopf algebras are isomorphic, and similarly for categories (Theorem 9.6, Corollary 9.10). This is used in a number of subsequent papers.

However, it recently came to my attention that the proofs given in that paper for those faithfulness results are incomplete. Namely, the proof of Lemma 9.7 (used in the proof of Theorem 9.6) says that by Nakayama’s lemma, it suffices to check the finiteness of a certain morphism ϕ of schemes over $W(k)$ modulo the maximal ideal I (i.e., over k). But it is, in fact, not clear how this follows from Nakayama’s lemma. Namely, finiteness over k does imply finiteness over $W(k)/I^N$ for any $N \geq 1$, but this is not

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¹In [Etingof et al. 2005], separable fusion categories are called nondegenerate. But this terminology is confusing since for braided fusion categories, this term is also used in an entirely different sense: to refer to categories with trivial Müger center. For this reason, we adopt a better term “separable” introduced in [Douglas et al. 2013].

sufficient to conclude finiteness over $W(k)$.² In fact, the reductivity of the group of twists must be used in the proof; see [Remark 2.12](#).

The main goal of this paper is therefore to provide complete proofs of the results on faithfulness of the lifting. This may be done by using results on geometric reductivity and power reductivity of reductive groups over rings; see [[Seshadri 1977](#); [Franjou and van der Kallen 2010](#)]. We also prove results on integrality of stabilizers of liftings, and show that lifting is a fully faithful functor for semisimple cosemisimple Hopf algebras, and defines an isomorphism of Brauer–Picard and Picard groups of (braided) separable fusion categories. Finally, we prove that subcategories and quotient categories of separable categories are separable (resolving a question from [[Etingof et al. 2005](#), Section 9.4]), and use this to prove that certain types of tensor functors between liftings of separable categories descend to positive characteristic.

The paper is organized as follows. In [Section 2](#) we describe algebro-geometric preliminaries, i.e., the results on geometric reductivity and power reductivity and their applications. In [Section 3](#) we apply these results to proving faithfulness of the lifting and integrality of stabilizers for semisimple cosemisimple Hopf algebras and prove that lifting of such Hopf algebras is a fully faithful functor. In [Section 4](#) we generalize the results of [Section 3](#) to tensor categories and tensor functors, thus providing complete proofs of the results of [[Etingof et al. 2005](#), Section 9.3] and [[Etingof and Gelaki 2000](#), Theorem 6.1]. Also, we apply these results to show that the Brauer–Picard and Picard groups of (braided) separable fusion categories are preserved by lifting. Finally, in [Section 5](#) we show that a subcategory and quotient category of a separable category is separable, and apply it to prove a descent result for tensor functors between liftings of separable categories.

2. Auxiliary results from algebraic geometry

In this section we collect some auxiliary results from algebraic geometry that we will use below.

2A. Power reductivity. Let k be an algebraically closed field of characteristic $p > 0$ and let $W(k)$ be its ring of Witt vectors, $I = (p) \subset W(k)$ the maximal ideal, K the fraction field of $W(k)$ and \bar{K} its algebraic closure.

If X is a scheme over a ring R and R' is a commutative R -algebra, then $X_{R'}$ will denote the base change of X from R to R' .

By a *reductive group* over a commutative ring k we will mean a smooth affine group scheme with connected fibers, as in [[SGA 3_{III} 1970](#)]. Such a group G is split when it contains a split fiberwise maximal k -torus as a closed k -subgroup. In our applications, G will always be split, and, in fact, will be a quotient of a product of general linear groups by a central torus.

We start with restating a result from [[Franjou and van der Kallen 2010](#)], which is a combination of their Proposition 6 and Theorem 12.

²E.g., K is not module-finite over $W(k)$, even though it becomes module-finite (in fact, zero) upon reduction modulo I^N , and is also finite over K .

We call a ring homomorphism $\psi : B \rightarrow C$ *power-surjective* if for any element $c \in C$, some positive integer power c^N belongs to $\text{Im } \psi$.

Proposition 2.1. *Let k be a commutative Noetherian ring and let G be a split reductive group over k . Let A be a finitely generated commutative k -algebra on which G acts rationally through algebra automorphisms. If J is a G -invariant ideal in A , then the map induced by reducing mod J : $A^G \rightarrow (A/J)^G$ is power-surjective.*

In [Franjou and van der Kallen 2010] this property of G is called *power reductivity*. It is not assumed there that k is Noetherian, but we will use Proposition 2.1 only for Noetherian (in fact, complete local) rings k .

Remark 2.2. It was explained to us by W. van der Kallen that power reductivity of G (i.e., Proposition 2.1) over complete local Noetherian rings k follows from [Thomason 1987, Theorem 3.8]. Namely, from this theorem one easily gets property (INT) of [Franjou and van der Kallen 2010] and then power reductivity. This is discussed in Section 2.4 of that paper and in Theorem 2.2 of [van der Kallen 2007]. (The latter paper assumes a base field, but this assumption is not essential.) Compare also with [Grosshans 1997, Theorem 16.9] and [Springer 1977, Lemma 2.4.7].

2B. Faithfulness of lifting for reductive group actions. We will need the following proposition, which is sufficient to justify the main results of [Etingof et al. 2005, Section 9.3].

Proposition 2.3. *Let V be a rational representation of a split reductive group G on an affine space defined over $W(k)$. Let $v_1, v_2 \in V(W(k))$. Assume that the G -orbits of the reductions $v_1^0, v_2^0 \in V(k)$ are closed and disjoint. Then v_1, v_2 are not conjugate under $G(\bar{K})$.*

Proof. This follows from [Seshadri 1977, Theorem 3, part (ii)] for $R = W(k)$, $X = V$ and $Y = V/G := \text{Spec } \mathcal{O}(V)^G$. Namely, this theorem says that v_1^0, v_2^0 are *distinct* points of $Y(k)$. This implies that there exists a G -invariant polynomial $f \in \mathcal{O}(V)$ such that $f(v_1^0) \neq f(v_2^0)$ in k . But $f(v_i^0)$ are the reductions of $f(v_i)$ mod I , so $f(v_1) \neq f(v_2)$ in $W(k)$. But then v_1, v_2 cannot be conjugate under $G(\bar{K})$.

Here is another proof, using Proposition 2.1, for $k = W(k)$, $A = \mathcal{O}(V)$ and $J = I\mathcal{O}(V)$. Proposition 2.1 says that for any $f \in \mathcal{O}(V_k)^{G(k)}$, some power f^N of f lifts to a G -invariant $h \in \mathcal{O}(V)$. Now, by Haboush’s theorem [1975], we can choose f so that $f(v_1^0) = 0$ and $f(v_2^0) = 1$. Then $h(v_1) \in I$ and $h(v_2) \in 1 + I$, hence $h(v_1) \neq h(v_2)$, and v_1, v_2 cannot be conjugate under $G(\bar{K})$. \square

Remark 2.4. The closedness assumption for G -orbits in Proposition 2.3 cannot be removed. For instance, let $G = \mathbb{G}_m$ and $V = \mathbb{A}^1$ be the tautological representation of G . Take $v_1 = p$ and $v_2 = 1$. Then $v_1^0 = 0$ and $v_2^0 = 1$, so their G -orbits are disjoint. On the other hand, v_1 and v_2 are conjugate by the element $p \in G$. Note that the orbit of v_2^0 is $\mathbb{A}^1 \setminus \{0\}$, hence not closed.

The reductivity assumption cannot be removed, either. Namely, let $G = \mathbb{G}_a$ be the group of translations $x \mapsto x + b$, and V be the 2-dimensional representation of G on linear (not necessarily homogeneous) functions of x . Let $v_1 = px$ and $v_2 = 1 + px$. Then $v_1^0 = 0$, $v_2^0 = 1$. These are G -invariant vectors, so their orbits are closed and disjoint. Still, v_1 is conjugate to v_2 by the transformation $x \mapsto x + 1/p$.

2C. Integrality of the stabilizer. Let V be a rational representation of a split reductive group G on an affine space defined over $W(k)$. Let $v \in V(W(k))$ and $v^0 \in V(k)$ be its reduction modulo p . Let $S \subset G$ be the scheme-theoretic stabilizer of v , and $S = S(\bar{K})$ be the stabilizer of v in $G(\bar{K})$. Let $S_0 = S_k \subset G_k$ be the scheme-theoretic stabilizer of v^0 , and $S_0 = S_0(k) = S(k)$ be the stabilizer of v^0 in $G(k)$.

Proposition 2.5. *Assume that*

- (i) *the G -orbit of v^0 is closed;*
- (ii) *S_0 is finite and reduced;*
- (iii) *there is a lifting map $i : S_0 \rightarrow S$ such that $i(S_0) \in G(W(k))$ and the reduction of $i(g_0)$ modulo p equals g_0 for any $g_0 \in S_0$. In other words, the reduction map $S(W(k)) \rightarrow S(k) = S_0$ is surjective.*

Then i is an isomorphism. In other words, all the natural maps in the diagram

$$S(k) \leftarrow S(W(k)) \hookrightarrow S(K) \hookrightarrow S(\bar{K})$$

are isomorphisms.

Proof. Let U be a defining representation of G , presenting it as a closed subgroup of $GL(U)$. The main part of the proof is showing that the matrix elements of any $g \in S$ in some basis of $U(W(k))$ are integral over $W(k)$. To this end, we want to construct a lot of S -invariants in $\mathcal{O}(U)$, so that $\mathcal{O}(U)$ is integral over the subalgebra generated by these invariants.

Let $X = Gv^0 \subset V_k$ be the G -orbit of v^0 over k , which is closed by (i). Since S_0 is reduced by (ii), the natural morphism $G_k/S_0 \rightarrow V_k$ given by $g \mapsto gv^0$ defines an isomorphism $G_k/S_0 \cong X$. Therefore, we have $\mathcal{O}(X \times U_k)^{G(k)} = \mathcal{O}(U_k)^{S_0}$. Thus, given a homogeneous $f \in \mathcal{O}(U_k)^{S_0}$ of some degree ℓ , we may view f as a G -invariant regular function on $X \times U_k$. By Proposition 2.1, some power f^N lifts to a G -invariant polynomial h_f on $V \times U$, homogeneous of degree $N\ell$ in the second variable (as $\mathcal{O}(X \times U_k)$ is a quotient of $\mathcal{O}(V \times U)$ by a G -invariant ideal). Then $h_f(v, \cdot)$ is a lift over $W(k)$ of $f^N(v^0, \cdot)$, which is an S -invariant element of $\mathcal{O}(U)$, homogeneous of degree $N\ell$.

Since by (ii) S_0 is finite, Noether’s theorem allows us to pick a finite collection of homogeneous generators $f_1, \dots, f_m \in \mathcal{O}(U_k)^{S_0}$, of some degrees ℓ_1, \dots, ℓ_m . Let h_{f_j} be a lift of $f_j^{N_j}$ as above, $j = 1, \dots, m$.

Lemma 2.6. *The algebra $\mathcal{O}(U)$ is module-finite over $W(k)[h_{f_1}, \dots, h_{f_m}]$.*

Proof. First, $\mathcal{O}(U_k)^{S_0} = k[f_1, \dots, f_m]$ is module-finite over $k[f_1^{N_1}, \dots, f_m^{N_m}]$. Also, by Noether’s theorem, $\mathcal{O}(U_k)$ is module-finite over $\mathcal{O}(U_k)^{S_0}$. Thus, $\mathcal{O}(U_k)$ is module-finite over $k[f_1^{N_1}, \dots, f_m^{N_m}]$.

Let w_1^0, \dots, w_r^0 be homogeneous module generators of $\mathcal{O}(U_k)$ over $k[f_1^{N_1}, \dots, f_m^{N_m}]$, of degrees p_1, \dots, p_r . Let w_j be any homogeneous lifts of w_j^0 over $W(k)$, $j = 1, \dots, r$. We claim that w_1, \dots, w_r are module generators of $\mathcal{O}(U)$ over $R := W(k)[z_1, \dots, z_m]$, where z_j acts by multiplication by h_{f_j} . Indeed, set $\deg(z_j) = N_j \ell_j$. For each degree s , we have a natural map $\psi_s : R[s - p_1] \oplus \dots \oplus R[s - p_r] \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(U)[s]$, where $[s]$ denotes the degree s part; namely, $\psi_s(b_1, \dots, b_r) = \sum_{j=1}^r b_j w_j$. The map ψ_s is a morphism of free finite-rank $W(k)$ -modules, and the reduction of $\psi_s \bmod I$ is surjective, since w_1^0, \dots, w_r^0 generate $\mathcal{O}(U_k)$ as a module over $k[f_1^{N_1}, \dots, f_m^{N_m}]$. Hence, ψ_s is surjective as well, which implies the lemma. \square

By Lemma 2.6, for any linear function $F \in U^*(W(k))$ (where U^* is the dual representation to U),

$$F^n + a_1 F^{n-1} + \dots + a_n = 0, \tag{1}$$

where $a_j \in W(k)[h_{f_1}, \dots, h_{f_m}]$.

Let $g \in S$. Acting by g on equation (1), and using that $ga_j = a_j$ (since by construction the h_{f_j} are S -invariant), we get that gF also satisfies (1). This means that if $u \in U(W(k))$, then $gF(u) \in \bar{K}$ is integral over $W(k)$ (as $a_j(u) \in W(k)$). Since the integral closure of $W(k)$ in \bar{K} is $\overline{W(k)}$, the ring of integers in \bar{K} , we get that $gF(u) \in \overline{W(k)}$, hence $gF \in U^*(\overline{W(k)})$. Thus $gF \in U^*(Q)$, where $Q \subset \overline{W(k)}$ is a finite extension of $W(k)$. So, the matrix elements of g in some free $W(k)$ -basis of U belong to Q . Thus, g is a lift of some $g_0 \in S_0$ over Q . Using (iii), consider the element $\bar{g} := gi(g_0)^{-1} \in S \cap G(Q) = S(Q)$, and let $\bar{g}_N \in S(Q/(p^N))$ be the reduction of \bar{g} modulo p^N . By construction, the image of \bar{g} in $G(k)$ is 1. Since S_0 is finite and reduced by (ii), this implies that $\bar{g}_N = 1$ for all N . Thus, $\bar{g} = 1$ and $g = i(g_0)$, as desired. \square

Remark 2.7. Condition (i) in Proposition 2.5 is essential. Indeed, take $G = GL(2)$ acting on $V = V_2 \oplus V_1$, where V_m is the natural representation of G on homogeneous polynomials of two variables x, y of degree m . Take $v = x_1(y_1 - px_1) + y_2 \in V(W(k))$. Then $v^0 = x_1y_1 + y_2$. If $gv^0 = v^0$ then g preserves y_2 , hence y_1 , so it preserves x_1 . Thus $g = 1$, hence $S_0 = 1$. On the other hand, $S = \{1, s\}$, where $s(y) = y$, $s(x) = (1/p)y - x$.

The reductivity of G is essential as well. To see this, take $G = \text{Aff}(1)$, the group of affine linear transformations (a, b) given by $x \mapsto ax + b$, $a \neq 0$, and take $V = Q \oplus U$, where Q is the space of quadratic (not necessarily homogeneous) functions of x , and U is the 1-dimensional representation with basis vector z defined by $(a, b)(z) = a^2z$. We can then take $v = x(1 - px) + z$, so that $v^0 = x + z$. Then, as before, $S_0 = 1$, but $S = \{1, s\}$, where $s(x) = -x + 1/p$. Note that the G -orbit of v^0 is closed in this case.

2D. Finiteness of the orbit map. The results of this subsection are not needed for the proof of the main results. They are only used in the proofs of Theorems 3.5 and 4.8 and are included mainly to justify Lemma 9.7 of [Etingof et al. 2005], whose original proof is incomplete.

We keep the setting of Proposition 2.5.

Lemma 2.8. (i) For all $r \geq 1$, $\mathcal{O}(S)/(p^r)$ is a free $W(k)/(p^r)$ -module of rank $|S_0|$.

(ii) S is the lift of S_0 to $W(k)$, i.e., $\mathcal{O}(S)$ is a free $W(k)$ -module of rank $|S_0|$. Thus, the tautological morphism $\pi : G \rightarrow G/S$ is finite étale.³

Proof. (i) Let $\text{Fun}(X, R)$ stand for the set of functions from X to R . We have a natural homomorphism $\tau : \mathcal{O}(S) \rightarrow \text{Fun}(S_0, W(k))$, given by $\tau(f)(g_0) = f(i(g_0))$. Let $\tau_r : \mathcal{O}(S)/(p^r) \rightarrow \text{Fun}(S_0, W(k)/(p^r))$ be the reduction of τ modulo p^r . Then τ_r is a homomorphism between finite $W(k)/(p^r)$ -modules (since S_0 is finite), and it is an isomorphism modulo p . Hence τ_r is surjective. Also, the length of $\mathcal{O}(S)/(p^r)$ is at most $r|S_0|$ (as it has $|S_0|$ generators), while the length of $\text{Fun}(S_0, W(k)/(p^r))$ equals $r|S_0|$ since it is a free $W(k)/(p^r)$ -module of rank $|S_0|$. This implies that τ_r is an isomorphism, giving (i).

³Note that the quotient G/S makes sense as a scheme of finite type over $W(k)$.

To prove (ii), note that τ is surjective, as it is surjective modulo p . Let $J := \text{Ker } \tau$. Tensoring with K , we get a short exact sequence of K -vector spaces

$$0 \rightarrow K \otimes_{W(k)} J \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(S_K) \rightarrow \text{Fun}(S_0, K) \rightarrow 0.$$

Since S_K is automatically reduced, and $S(K) = S$ is isomorphic to S_0 by Proposition 2.5, we obtain by counting dimensions that $K \otimes_{W(k)} J = 0$, i.e., J is the torsion ideal in $\mathcal{O}(S)$. Since S is of finite type, J is finitely generated, hence killed by p^N for some $N \geq 1$. Hence, if $J \neq 0$, then there exists $f \in J$ such that $f \notin p\mathcal{O}(S)$. Since $p^N f = 0$, this contradicts (i) for $r > N$, yielding the first statement of (ii). The second statement (the étaleness of π) follows since S_0 is reduced. \square

Consider the morphism $\phi : G \rightarrow V$ given by $\phi(g) = gv$, which we call *the orbit map*. It induces a natural morphism $\nu : G/S \rightarrow V$ such that $\phi = \nu \circ \pi$. It is easy to see that every scheme-theoretic fiber of ν is either a point or empty. Hence, by [EGA IV₄ 1967, Proposition 17.2.6], ν is a monomorphism.

For a $W(k)$ -scheme X and a closed point $x \in X$ over k or \bar{K} , denote by \widehat{X}_x the formal neighborhood of X . Namely, if R is a local Artinian $W(k)$ -algebra with residue field k , respectively \bar{K} , then $\widehat{X}_x(R)$ is the set of homomorphisms $\mathcal{O}(X) \rightarrow R$ which lift x .

Let $Y \subset V$ be a closed G -invariant subscheme such that ν factors through a morphism $\mu : G/S \rightarrow Y$.

Proposition 2.9. *Suppose that*

- (i) *for any point g of G/S over k or \bar{K} , the morphism of formal neighborhoods $\mu_g : \widehat{G/S}_g \rightarrow \widehat{Y}_{\mu(g)}$ induced by μ is an isomorphism; and*
- (ii) *Y consists of finitely many closed G -orbits both over k and over \bar{K} .*

Then μ is a closed embedding. In particular, the morphisms μ, ν, ϕ are finite.

Proof. Let us cut down the target of μ . Pick a G -invariant polynomial $b_0 \in \mathcal{O}(V_k)$ such that $b_0(v^0) = 0$ and $b_0 = 1$ on all the other orbits of G in Y_k . Since by (ii), Y_k consists of finitely many closed G -orbits, such b_0 exists by Haboush’s theorem [1975].

Now use Proposition 2.1 to lift some power b_0^N of b_0 to a G -invariant polynomial $b \in \mathcal{O}(V)$ such that $b(v) = 0$ (namely, choose any lift b of b_0^N and then replace b with $b - b(v)$). Also, consider a polynomial $c' \in \mathcal{O}(V_{\bar{K}})$ such that $c'(v) = 0$ but $c' \neq 0$ on all other orbits of G on $Y_{\bar{K}}$. Since by (ii), $Y_{\bar{K}}$ is a union of finitely many closed G -orbits, c' exists, and by setting $c' = p^M c$ for sufficiently large $M \in \mathbb{Z}_+$, we obtain a polynomial $c \in \mathcal{O}(V)$.

Now consider the closed subscheme $Z \subset Y$ cut out by the equations $b = 0, c = 0$. Then the morphism μ factors through a monomorphism $\bar{\mu} : G/S \rightarrow Z$, and it suffices to show that this morphism is a closed embedding. We will do so by showing that, in fact, $\bar{\mu}$ is an isomorphism.

Lemma 2.10. *The morphism $\bar{\mu}$ is surjective.*

Proof. This follows since by construction, Z has only one G -orbit both over k and over \bar{K} (namely, that of v^0 , respectively v). \square

Lemma 2.11. *The morphism $\bar{\mu}$ is étale.*

Proof. By (i), $\bar{\mu}$ is a formally étale morphism between affine $W(k)$ -schemes of finite type. This implies the statement. □

Now the proposition follows from Lemmas 2.10 and 2.11, since a surjective étale monomorphism is an isomorphism, [EGA IV₄ 1967, Theorem 17.9.1]. □

Remark 2.12. The reductivity of G is essential in Proposition 2.9. Namely, let $p > 2$ and consider the action of $G = \mathbb{G}_a$ by translations $x \mapsto x + b$ on the 3-dimensional space V of quadratic polynomials in x . Let $v = x - px^2$. Then $b \circ v = x + b - p(x + b)^2 = b - pb^2 + (1 - 2pb)x - px^2$. Thus, the map $\phi : G \rightarrow V$, $\phi(g) = gv$, is given by

$$\phi(b) = (b - pb^2, 1 - 2pb, -p).$$

We have

$$\mathcal{O}(\phi^{-1}(0, -1, -p)) = W(k)[b]/(b - pb^2, 2 - 2pb) = W(k)[1/p] = K$$

(as $pb = 1$ in this ring). This implies that ϕ is not finite (as K is not a finitely generated $W(k)$ -module), even though it is finite over \bar{K} and over $W(k)/I^N$ for each N .

We note that in this example the orbits of v over \bar{K} and its reduction v^0 over k are closed, and the scheme-theoretic stabilizers S of v and S_0 of v^0 are both trivial. Also, one may take Y to be the curve consisting of polynomials $-px^2 + \alpha x + \beta$ such that $4p\beta = 1 - \alpha^2$. This curve is G -invariant, and the map $\mu : G = G/S \rightarrow Y$ is a monomorphism which induces an isomorphism on formal neighborhoods. However, Y_k has two orbits, $\alpha = 1$ and $\alpha = -1$, and μ lands in the first one. We have a G -invariant polynomial b_0 on V_k separating these orbits, namely $b_0 = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \alpha)$. But power reductivity does not apply since G is not reductive, and no power of b_0 lifts to a G -invariant in $\mathcal{O}(Y)$, since $Y_{\bar{K}}$ has only one G -orbit, so the only invariant regular functions on Y are constants. As a result, we cannot define a closed subscheme $Z \subset Y$ such that μ factors through a surjective morphism $\bar{\mu} : G/S \rightarrow Z$.

3. Faithfulness of the lifting for Hopf algebras

3A. Faithfulness of the lifting. If H is a semisimple cosemisimple Hopf algebra over k , let \tilde{H} denote its lift over $W(k)$ constructed in [Etingof and Gelaki 1998, Theorem 2.1], and let $\widehat{H} := \bar{K} \otimes_{W(k)} \tilde{H}$.

Let H_1, H_2 be semisimple cosemisimple Hopf algebras over k .

Theorem 3.1 [Etingof et al. 2005, Corollary 9.10]. *If \widehat{H}_1 is isomorphic to \widehat{H}_2 then H_1 is isomorphic to H_2 .*

Proof. By the assumption, $\dim H_1 = \dim H_2 = d$, a number coprime to p . Indeed, by Theorem 3.1 of [Etingof and Gelaki 1998] in a semisimple cosemisimple Hopf algebra we have $\mathbb{S}^2 = 1$, where \mathbb{S} is the antipode, and by the Larson–Radford theorem [1988], we have $\text{Tr}(\mathbb{S}^2) \neq 0$.

Fix identifications $\tilde{H}_1 \cong W(k)^d$, $\tilde{H}_2 \cong W(k)^d$ as $W(k)$ -modules; they, in particular, define identifications $H_1 \cong k^d$, $H_2 \cong k^d$ as vector spaces over k .

Let V be the space of all possible pre-Hopf structures, i.e., product, coproduct, unit, counit, and antipode maps on the d -dimensional space, without any axioms, regarded as an affine scheme. In other words, if $E = \mathbb{A}^d$ is the defining representation of G , then

$$V = E \otimes E \otimes E^* \oplus E \otimes E^* \otimes E^* \oplus E \oplus E^* \oplus E \otimes E^*.$$

Then V is a rational representation of $G = GL(d)$, and \tilde{H}_1, \tilde{H}_2 together with the above identifications give rise to two vectors $v_1, v_2 \in V(W(k))$, while H_1, H_2 correspond to their reductions mod I , $v_1^0, v_2^0 \in V(k)$. Moreover, by the assumption of the theorem, v_1, v_2 are conjugate under the action of $G(\bar{K})$. We are going to show that the reductions v_1^0, v_2^0 are conjugate under the action of $G(k)$, i.e., $H_1 \cong H_2$, as claimed.

Let $H \cong k^d$ be a semisimple cosemisimple Hopf algebra over k , and u be the corresponding vector in $V(k)$.

Lemma 3.2 [Etingof et al. 2005, Section 9]. *The G -orbit Gu of u is closed.*

Proof. Let $u' \in \overline{Gu}$. Then u' corresponds to a d -dimensional Hopf algebra H' such that $\text{Tr}|_{H'}(\mathbb{S}^2) = d \neq 0$, since this is so for all points of Gu . Hence H' is semisimple and cosemisimple by the Larson–Radford theorem. But then the stabilizers of u, u' in $G(k)$, which are isomorphic to $\text{Aut}(H), \text{Aut}(H')$, are finite; see [Etingof and Gelaki 1998, Corollary 1.3]. Hence, $\dim Gu' = \dim Gu = \dim G$. This implies that $u' \in Gu$. Hence, Gu is closed. □

Thus, the orbits of v_1^0, v_2^0 are closed. Hence, [Theorem 3.1](#) follows from [Proposition 2.3](#). □

3B. Integrality of the stabilizer.

Theorem 3.3. *Let H_1, H_2 be semisimple cosemisimple Hopf algebras over k , and $g : \widehat{H}_1 \rightarrow \widehat{H}_2$ be an isomorphism. Then g maps \tilde{H}_1 isomorphically to \tilde{H}_2 , i.e., it is a lift of an isomorphism $g_0 : H_1 \rightarrow H_2$ over $W(k)$. In particular, for a semisimple cosemisimple Hopf algebra H over k , the lifting map $i : \text{Aut}(H) \rightarrow \text{Aut}(\widehat{H})$ defined in [Etingof and Gelaki 1998, Theorem 2.2] is an isomorphism.*

Proof. By [Theorem 3.1](#), we may assume that $H_1 = H_2 = H$. Let $v \in V(W(k))$ be the vector corresponding to \tilde{H} , and $v^0 \in V(k)$ be its reduction mod I , corresponding to H . Let $S := \text{Aut}(\widehat{H}) \subset G(\bar{K})$ be the stabilizer of v , $S_0 := \text{Aut}(H) \subset G(k)$ be the stabilizer of v^0 , and S_0 be the scheme-theoretic stabilizer of v^0 .

By [Lemma 3.2](#), the G -orbit of v^0 is closed. Also, by [Etingof and Gelaki 1998, Theorem 1.2, Corollary 1.3], S_0 is finite and reduced. Finally, by [Etingof and Gelaki 1998, Theorem 2.2], we have a lifting map $i : S_0 \hookrightarrow S$ such that for any $g_0 \in S_0$, $i(g_0)$ is integral, and the reduction modulo p of $i(g_0)$ equals g_0 . Thus, [Proposition 2.5](#) applies, and the result follows. □

Remark 3.4. Theorems [3.1](#), [3.3](#) also hold for quasitriangular and triangular Hopf algebras, with the same proofs.

3C. Finiteness of the orbit map. We would now like to prove an analog of [Lemma 9.7](#) of [Etingof et al. 2005] in the Hopf algebra setting.

Theorem 3.5. *Let H be a semisimple cosemisimple Hopf algebra over k , and $v \in V(W(k))$ be the vector corresponding to \tilde{H} . Then the morphism $\phi : \mathbf{G} \rightarrow \mathbf{V}$ defined by $\phi(g) = gv$ is finite.*

Proof. Let \mathbf{S} be the scheme-theoretic stabilizer of v . [Theorem 3.3](#) and [Lemma 2.8](#) imply that \mathbf{S} is the lift of \mathbf{S}_0 over $W(k)$, and the tautological morphism $\pi : \mathbf{G} \rightarrow \mathbf{G}/\mathbf{S}$ is finite étale. We also have a natural morphism $\nu : \mathbf{G}/\mathbf{S} \rightarrow \mathbf{V}$ induced by ϕ , such that $\phi = \nu \circ \pi$.

Let $\mathbf{Y} \subset \mathbf{V}$ be the closed subscheme of Hopf algebra structures with $\text{Tr}(\mathbb{S}^2) = d$. Then \mathbf{Y} is a closed \mathbf{G} -invariant subscheme, and ν factors through a morphism $\mu : \mathbf{G}/\mathbf{S} \rightarrow \mathbf{Y}$. By the Larson–Radford theorem, $d \neq 0$ in k , so any Hopf algebra of dimension d over k or \bar{K} is semisimple and cosemisimple. Hence, by Ştefan’s theorem [[1997](#)] (restated in [[Etingof and Gelaki 1998](#), Theorem 1.1]), \mathbf{Y} consists of finitely many orbits both over k and over \bar{K} , which are closed by [Lemma 3.2](#). Also, it follows from [[Etingof and Gelaki 1998](#), Theorem 2.2], that μ induces an isomorphism on formal neighborhoods. Thus, [Proposition 2.9](#) applies, and the statement follows. □

Remark 3.6. [Theorems 3.1](#), [3.3](#), [3.5](#) are subsumed by the results of [Section 4](#). However, we felt it was useful to give independent direct proofs of these theorems which do not use tensor categories.

3D. Fullness of the lifting functor. Finally, let us prove the following result, which appears to be new.

Theorem 3.7. *Let H_1, H_2 be semisimple cosemisimple Hopf algebras over k . Then any Hopf algebra homomorphism $\theta : \widehat{H}_1 \rightarrow \widehat{H}_2$ is a lifting of some homomorphism $\theta_0 : H_1 \rightarrow H_2$. In other words, the lifting functor defined by [[Etingof and Gelaki 1998](#), Corollary 2.4], is a fully faithful embedding from the category of semisimple cosemisimple Hopf algebras over k to the category of semisimple (thus, cosemisimple) Hopf algebras over \bar{K} .*

Proof. We first prove the following lemma.

Lemma 3.8. *Let H be a semisimple cosemisimple Hopf algebra over k . Then lifting defines a bijection between Hopf ideals of H and Hopf ideals of \widehat{H} . The same applies to Hopf subalgebras.*

Proof. A Hopf ideal $J \subset A$ of a semisimple Hopf algebra A corresponds to a full tensor subcategory $\mathcal{C}_J \subset \text{Rep } H$ of objects annihilated by J , and this correspondence is a bijection. Full tensor subcategories, in turn, correspond to fusion subrings of the Grothendieck ring of $\text{Rep } A$. So the first statement follows from the fact that the Grothendieck rings of H and \widehat{H} are the same. The second statement is dual to the first statement, since the orthogonal complement of a Hopf ideal in A is a Hopf subalgebra of A^* , and vice versa. □

Now let $B = \text{Im } \theta \subset \widehat{H}_2$. Then by [Lemma 3.8](#), B is a lifting of some Hopf subalgebra $B_0 \subset H_2$. Note that B_0 is semisimple, since its dimension divides the dimension of H_2 by the Nichols–Zoeller theorem [[1989](#)], hence is coprime to p . Thus, without loss of generality we may replace H_2 with B_0 , i.e., assume that θ is surjective.

Now let $J = \text{Ker } \theta \subset \widehat{H}_1$. Then by [Lemma 3.8](#), J is a lift of some Hopf ideal $J_0 \subset H_1$. Let $C_0 = H_1/J_0$. Then C_0 is cosemisimple, as it is a quotient of H_1 , so by the Nichols–Zoeller theorem, its dimension is

coprime to p . Moreover, $\widehat{C} \cong \widehat{H}_1/J$. Thus, without loss of generality we may replace H_1 with C_0 , i.e., assume that θ is an isomorphism.

But in this case the desired statement is [Theorem 3.3](#). □

4. Faithfulness of the lifting for fusion categories

4A. Faithfulness of the lifting. Now we generalize the results of the previous section to separable fusion categories. (For basics on tensor categories we refer the reader to [\[Etingof et al. 2015\]](#).) Most of the proofs are parallel to the Hopf algebra case, and we will indicate the necessary modifications. We will develop the theory for ordinary fusion categories; the case of braided and symmetric categories is completely parallel.

We call a fusion category \mathcal{C} *separable* if its global dimension is nonzero. This is equivalent to the definition of [\[Douglas et al. 2013\]](#) by Theorem 3.6.7 in that paper.

If \mathcal{C} is a (braided, symmetric) separable fusion category over k , let $\widetilde{\mathcal{C}}$ be its lift to $W(k)$ constructed in [\[Etingof et al. 2005, Theorem 9.3, Corollary 9.4\]](#), and let $\widehat{\mathcal{C}} := \overline{K} \otimes_{W(k)} \widetilde{\mathcal{C}}$.

Let $\mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{C}_2$ be (braided, symmetric) separable fusion categories over k . First we prove the following theorem, which is Corollary 9.9(i) of [\[Etingof et al. 2005\]](#).

Theorem 4.1. *If $\widehat{\mathcal{C}}_1$ is equivalent to $\widehat{\mathcal{C}}_2$ then \mathcal{C}_1 is equivalent to \mathcal{C}_2 .*

Proof. We will treat the fusion case; the braided and symmetric cases are similar.

We generalize the proof of [Theorem 3.1](#). As in [\[Etingof et al. 2005, Section 9.3\]](#), we may assume that \mathcal{C}_1 and \mathcal{C}_2 have the same underlying semisimple abelian category $\overline{\mathcal{C}}$ with the tensor product functor \otimes , a skeletal category with Grothendieck ring $\text{Gr}(\overline{\mathcal{C}})$. So it has simple objects $X_i, i \in \mathbb{I}$, with $X_0 = \mathbf{1}$, and $X_i \otimes X_j = \bigoplus_m k^{N_{ij}^m} X_m$. We will also fix the unit morphism $\iota : \mathbf{1} \otimes \mathbf{1} \rightarrow \mathbf{1}$, and the coevaluation morphisms. Define a pretensor structure on $\overline{\mathcal{C}}$ to be a triple (Φ, Φ', ev) , where Φ is an associativity morphism, Φ' an “inverse” associativity morphism in the opposite direction, and ev is a collection of evaluation morphisms, but without any axioms. Then a tensor structure on $\overline{\mathcal{C}}$ is a pretensor structure such that $\Phi \circ \Phi' = \Phi' \circ \Phi = \text{Id}$ and (Φ, ev) satisfy the axioms of a rigid tensor category (with the fixed unit and coevaluation morphisms); see [\[Etingof et al. 2015, Definitions 2.1.1 and 2.10.11\]](#).

Let

$$N_{ijl}^s := [X_i \otimes X_j \otimes X_l : X_s] = \sum_m N_{ij}^m N_{ml}^s = \sum_p N_{ip}^s N_{jl}^p.$$

Let V be the space of all pretensor structures on $\overline{\mathcal{C}}$, which is an affine space over $W(k)$ of dimension $2 \sum_{i,j,l,s} (N_{ijl}^s)^2 + \text{rank Gr}(\overline{\mathcal{C}})$ (where the first summand corresponds to pairs (Φ, Φ') and the second summand to ev). Then the $\widehat{\mathcal{C}}_i$ give rise to vectors $v_i \in V(W(k))$, and the \mathcal{C}_i correspond to their reductions v_i^0 modulo I .

Now let us define the relevant affine group scheme G . To this end, following [\[Etingof et al. 2005, Section 9.3\]](#), let $T = \text{Aut}(\otimes)$ be the group of automorphisms of the tensor product functor on $\overline{\mathcal{C}}$. Then T acts naturally on V by twisting (where after twisting we renormalize the coevaluation and unit

morphisms to be the fixed ones). Let $T_0 \subset T$ be the subgroup of “trivial twists”, i.e., ones of the form $J_{X,Y} = z_{X \otimes Y}(z_X^{-1} \otimes z_Y^{-1})$, where $z \in \text{Aut}(\text{Id}_{\bar{C}})$ is an invertible element of the center of \bar{C} . Then T_0 is a closed central subgroup of T which acts trivially on V . Let $G := T/T_0$. Then G is an affine group scheme acting rationally on V . Moreover, $T = \prod_{i,j,m} \text{GL}(N_{ij}^m)$, and T_0 is a central torus in T , hence G is a split reductive group.

Let \mathcal{C} be a separable fusion category over k of some global dimension $d \neq 0$, and u be the corresponding vector in $V(k)$. Let $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{C})$ denote the group of isomorphism classes of tensor autoequivalences of \mathcal{C} .

Lemma 4.2 [Etingof et al. 2005, Section 9]. *The G -orbit Gu of u is closed.*

Proof. Let $u' \in \overline{Gu}$. Then u' corresponds to a fusion category \mathcal{C}' . Moreover the global dimension of \mathcal{C}' is d , since this is so for all points of Gu , and the global dimension depends algebraically on Φ, Φ', ev . Thus, \mathcal{C}' is separable. But then the stabilizers of u, u' in $G(k)$, which are isomorphic to $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{C}), \text{Aut}(\mathcal{C}')$ are finite by [Etingof et al. 2005, Theorem 2.31] (which applies in characteristic p for separable categories; see [Etingof et al. 2005, Section 9]). Hence, $\dim Gu' = \dim Gu = \dim G$. This implies that $u' \in Gu$. Hence, Gu is closed. □

Thus, the orbits of v_1^0, v_2^0 are closed. Hence, Theorem 4.1 follows from Proposition 2.3 and the fact that the natural map $T(W(k)) \rightarrow (T/T_0)(W(k))$ is surjective. □

Remark 4.3. Note that Theorem 4.1 implies [Etingof et al. 2005, Theorem 9.6]; namely, the complete local ring R in Theorem 9.6 without loss of generality may be replaced by $W(k)$.

Remark 4.4. We can now complete the proof of [Etingof and Gelaki 2000, Theorem 6.1], which states, essentially, that any semisimple cosemisimple triangular Hopf algebra over k is a twist of a group algebra. The original proof of this theorem appearing in that work is incomplete (namely, it is not clear at the end of this proof why $F \circ F' = \text{Id}$). This is really a consequence of faithfulness of the lifting. Namely, if (A, R) is a semisimple cosemisimple triangular Hopf algebra over k , and $(A', R') = F \circ F'(A, R)$, then (A, R) and (A', R') have isomorphic liftings over \bar{K} ; hence by Theorem 3.1 they are isomorphic.

Another proof of [Etingof and Gelaki 2000, Theorem 6.1] is obtained by using Theorem 4.1 for symmetric tensor categories. Namely, consider the separable symmetric fusion category $\mathcal{C} := \text{Rep}(A, R)$. Then $\widehat{\mathcal{C}}$ is a symmetric fusion category over \bar{K} . Hence, by Deligne’s theorem [1990] (see also [Etingof et al. 2015, Corollary 9.9.25]), $\widehat{\mathcal{C}} = \text{Rep}_{\bar{K}}(G, z)$, where G is a finite group of order coprime to p and $z \in G$ is a central element of order ≤ 2 (the category of representations of G on superspaces with parity defined by z). Thus, $\widehat{\mathcal{C}} \cong \widehat{\mathcal{D}}$ as symmetric tensor categories, where $\mathcal{D} = \text{Rep}_k(G, z)$. Hence, by Theorem 4.1, $\mathcal{C} \cong \mathcal{D}$, i.e., (A, R) is obtained by twisting of $(k[G], R_z)$, where $R_z = 1 \otimes 1$ if $z = 1$ and $R_z = \frac{1}{2}(1 \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes z + z \otimes 1 - z \otimes z)$ if $z \neq 1$ (note that if $z \neq 1$ then $|G|$ is necessarily even, so $p > 2$ and $\frac{1}{2} \in k$).

Remark 4.5. Let G be a finite group. Recall from [Etingof et al. 2015] that categorifications of the group ring $\mathbb{Z}G$ over a field F correspond to elements of $H^3(G, F^\times)$. Hence, the lifting map for pointed fusion categories which categorify $\mathbb{Z}G$ is the natural map $\alpha : H^3(G, k^\times) \rightarrow H^3(G, \bar{K}^\times)$ arising from the isomorphisms $H^i(G, \bar{K}^\times) \cong H^i(G, \bar{K}_f^\times)$ and $H^i(G, k^\times) \cong H^i(G, k_f^\times)$, where \bar{K}_f^\times is the group of

elements of finite order (i.e., roots of unity) in \bar{K}^\times , and k_f^\times is the group of roots of unity in k^\times . The map α is then induced by the Brauer lift map $k_f^\times \rightarrow \bar{K}_f^\times$, and is clearly injective since the Brauer lift identifies k_f^\times with a direct summand of \bar{K}_f^\times . Thus, for pointed categories faithfulness of the lifting is elementary.

Similarly, braided categorifications $\mathbb{Z}G$ over F (for abelian G) correspond to quadratic forms $G \rightarrow F^\times$ (see [Etingof et al. 2015]), and lifting for such categorifications is defined by the Brauer lift for quadratic forms, hence is clearly faithful.

4B. Integrality of the stabilizer.

Theorem 4.6. *Let $\mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{C}_2$ be (braided, symmetric) separable fusion categories over k , and $g : \widehat{\mathcal{C}}_1 \rightarrow \widehat{\mathcal{C}}_2$ be an equivalence. Then g defines an equivalence $\widetilde{\mathcal{C}}_1 \rightarrow \widetilde{\mathcal{C}}_2$, i.e., it is isomorphic to the lift of an equivalence $g_0 : \mathcal{C}_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_2$ over $W(k)$.*

Proof. As before, we treat only the fusion case; the braided and symmetric cases are similar. By Theorem 4.1, we may assume that $\mathcal{C}_1 = \mathcal{C}_2 = \mathcal{C}$. Let $v \in V(W(k))$ be the vector corresponding to $\widetilde{\mathcal{C}}$, and $v^0 \in V(k)$ be its reduction mod I , corresponding to \mathcal{C} . Let $S := \text{Aut}(\widehat{\mathcal{C}})$ be the stabilizer of v , $S_0 := \text{Aut}(\mathcal{C})$ be the stabilizer of v^0 , and S_0 the scheme-theoretic stabilizer of v^0 .

By Lemma 4.2, the G -orbit of v^0 is closed. By Theorem 2.27 and Theorem 2.31 of [Etingof et al. 2005] (both valid in characteristic p for separable fusion categories, see Section 9 of that paper), S_0 is finite and reduced. Finally, by Theorems 9.3 and 9.4 there, we have a lifting map $i : S_0 \hookrightarrow S$, such that for all $g_0 \in G(k)$, $i(g_0)$ is integral and the reduction of $i(g_0)$ modulo p equals g_0 . Thus, Proposition 2.5 applies, and the result follows (again using that the natural map $T(W(k)) \rightarrow (T/T_0)(W(k))$ is surjective). \square

Remark 4.7. (1) Recall that a multifusion category is called separable if all of its component fusion categories are separable; see [Etingof et al. 2005, Section 9] and [Douglas et al. 2013]. Theorems 4.9 and 4.11 extend to separable multifusion categories with similar proofs.

(2) Theorem 4.6 is not stated explicitly in [Etingof et al. 2005], but is claimed implicitly in the (incomplete) proof of Theorem 9.6 there.

4C. Finiteness of the orbit map. Let us now prove Lemma 9.7 of [Etingof et al. 2005] (which completes the proofs in Section 9.3 of that paper).

Theorem 4.8. *Let \mathcal{C} be a (braided, symmetric) separable fusion category over k , and $v \in V(W(k))$ be the vector corresponding to $\widetilde{\mathcal{C}}$. Then the morphism $\phi : G \rightarrow V$ defined by $\phi(g) = gv$ is finite.*

Proof. We treat the case of fusion categories; the braided and symmetric cases are similar. The proof is parallel to the proof of Theorem 3.5. Namely, let S be the scheme-theoretic stabilizer of v . Then $\phi = v \circ \pi$, where $\pi : G \rightarrow G/S$ is finite étale, and $v : G/S \rightarrow V$. Let $Y \subset V$ denote the closed subscheme of vectors corresponding to fusion categories of global dimension $\tilde{d} := \dim(\widetilde{\mathcal{C}})$. Then v factors through $\mu : G/S \rightarrow Y$. By [Etingof et al. 2005, Theorem 2.27], Y consists of finitely many G -orbits both over k and over \bar{K} . Also, these orbits are closed by Lemma 4.2. Finally, by Theorem 9.3 and Corollary 9.4 of the same paper, μ induces an isomorphism on formal neighborhoods. Thus, Proposition 2.9 applies, and the statement follows. \square

4D. Faithfulness of the lifting and integrality of the stabilizer for tensor functors. Let us now prove similar results for tensor functors, i.e., Theorem 9.8 and Corollary 9.9(ii) of [Etingof et al. 2005].

Theorem 4.9. *Let \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D} be two (braided, symmetric) separable fusion categories over k , and $F_1, F_2 : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ two (braided) tensor functors. Let $g : \widehat{F}_1 \rightarrow \widehat{F}_2$ be an isomorphism of lifts of F_1, F_2 over \bar{K} . Then g is a lift of an isomorphism $g_0 : F_1 \rightarrow F_2$. In particular, if $\widehat{F}_1, \widehat{F}_2$ are isomorphic then so are F_1, F_2 .*

Proof. The proof is similar to the proofs of Theorems 3.1, 3.3 and Theorems 4.1, 4.6. We treat the case of tensor functors between fusion categories; the cases of braided and symmetric categories are similar.

We may assume that F_1, F_2 coincide with a given functor \bar{F} as additive functors, and differ only by the tensor structures. Let V be the space of pretensor structures on \bar{F} , i.e., pairs (J, J') of endomorphisms of the functor $\bar{F}(\cdot \otimes \cdot)$, without any axioms. Then a tensor structure on \bar{F} is such a pair (J, J') for which $J \circ J' = J' \circ J = \text{Id}$, and J satisfies the tensor structure axiom, [Etingof et al. 2015, Definition 2.4.1]. Let G be the group scheme of all automorphisms of the functor \bar{F} . Then G is a split reductive group (a product of general linear groups) which acts on V by “gauge transformations”. Moreover, the functors $\tilde{F}_j, j = 1, 2$, correspond to vectors $v_j \in V(W(k))$, and the F_j correspond to their reductions v_j^0 modulo p .

Lemma 4.10. *Let $u \in V(k)$ be a vector representing a tensor functor F . Then the orbit Gu is closed.*

Proof. Let $u' \in \bar{G}u$. Then u' corresponds to a tensor functor F' . But the group of automorphisms of a tensor functor between separable fusion categories is finite by [Etingof et al. 2005, Theorem 2.27]. Hence the stabilizers of u, u' in $G(k)$, which are isomorphic to $\text{Aut}(F), \text{Aut}(F')$, are finite. Hence, $\dim Gu' = \dim Gu = \dim G$. This implies that $u' \in Gu$. Hence, Gu is closed. □

By Lemma 4.10, Proposition 2.3 applies. Thus, $F_1 \cong F_2$ as tensor functors. So we may assume without loss of generality that $F_1 = F_2 = F$ for some tensor functor F .

Let $v \in V(W(k))$ and $v^0 \in V(k)$ be its reduction modulo p . Let $S_0 = \text{Aut}(F) \subset G(k)$, S_0 be the scheme-theoretic stabilizer of v^0 , and $S = \text{Aut}(\widehat{F}) \subset G(\bar{K})$. Then S_0 is finite and reduced by [Etingof et al. 2005, Theorem 2.27]. Also, by Theorem 9.3 and Corollary 9.4 of the same work, we have a lifting map $i : S_0 \hookrightarrow S$ such that for any $g_0 \in S_0$, $i(g_0)$ is integral and the reduction of $i(g_0)$ modulo p is g_0 . Hence, Proposition 2.5 applies, and the result follows. □

Corollary 4.11. *For a (braided, symmetric) separable fusion category \mathcal{C} over k , the lifting map $i : \text{Aut}(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \text{Aut}(\widehat{\mathcal{C}})$ defined in [Etingof et al. 2005, Theorem 9.3], is an isomorphism.*

Proof. Theorem 4.9 implies that i is injective, and Theorem 4.6 implies that i is surjective. □

4E. Application to Brauer–Picard and Picard groups of tensor categories. Recall from [Etingof et al. 2010] that to any fusion category \mathcal{C} one can attach its Brauer–Picard groupoid $\underline{\text{BrPic}}(\mathcal{C})$. This is a 3-group, whose 1-morphisms are equivalence classes of invertible \mathcal{C} -bimodule categories, 2-morphisms are bimodule equivalences of such bimodule categories, and 3-morphisms are isomorphisms of such equivalences. Similarly, if \mathcal{C} is braided then one can define its Picard groupoid $\underline{\text{Pic}}(\mathcal{C})$, a 3-group whose 1-morphisms

are equivalence classes of invertible \mathcal{C} -module categories, 2-morphisms are module equivalences of such module categories, and 3-morphisms are isomorphisms of such equivalences.

Theorems 9.3 and 9.4 of [Etingof et al. 2005] then imply that if \mathcal{C} is separable then we have the lifting morphism $i : \underline{\text{BrPic}}(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \underline{\text{BrPic}}(\widehat{\mathcal{C}})$ and (in the braided case) $i : \underline{\text{Pic}}(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \underline{\text{Pic}}(\widehat{\mathcal{C}})$ of the underlying 2-groups.

Corollary 4.12. *Let \mathcal{C} be a separable fusion category over k .*

- (i) *The lifting morphism $i : \underline{\text{BrPic}}(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \underline{\text{BrPic}}(\widehat{\mathcal{C}})$ is an isomorphism.*
- (ii) *If \mathcal{C} is braided then the lifting morphism $i : \underline{\text{Pic}}(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \underline{\text{Pic}}(\widehat{\mathcal{C}})$ is an isomorphism.*

Proof. (i) By [Etingof et al. 2010, Theorem 1.1], for any separable fusion category \mathcal{D} one has an isomorphism $\xi : \text{BrPic}(\mathcal{D}) \cong \text{Aut}^{\text{br}}(\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{D}))$ of the Brauer–Picard group $\text{BrPic}(\mathcal{D})$ with the group of isomorphism classes of braided autoequivalences of the Drinfeld center of \mathcal{D} . It is clear that this isomorphism is compatible with lifting. Therefore, the statement at the level of 1-morphisms follows from Corollary 4.11. Also, recall that $\pi_2(\text{BrPic}(\mathcal{D})) = \text{Inv}(\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{D}))$, the group of isomorphism classes of invertible objects of $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{D})$. Thus, at the level of 2-morphisms i comes from the obvious isomorphism $\text{Inv}(\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C})) \cong \text{Inv}(\mathcal{Z}(\widehat{\mathcal{C}}))$, which gives (i).

(ii) By [Davydov and Nikshych 2013], if \mathcal{D} is braided then $\text{Pic}(\mathcal{D})$ is naturally identified with the subgroup of $\text{Aut}^{\text{br}}(\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{D}))$ of elements that preserve $\mathcal{D} \subset \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{D})$ and have trivial restriction to \mathcal{D} . Thus, (ii) follows from (i) and Theorem 4.9. Also, recall that $\pi_2(\underline{\text{Pic}}(\mathcal{D})) = \text{Inv}(\mathcal{D})$, the group of isomorphism classes of invertible objects of \mathcal{D} . Thus, at the level of 2-morphisms i comes from the obvious isomorphism $\text{Inv}(\mathcal{C}) \cong \text{Inv}(\widehat{\mathcal{C}})$, which gives (ii). □

Note that in Corollary 4.12, i does not define an isomorphism of 3-groups, since π_3 of these 3-groups is the multiplicative group of the ground field, and $k^\times \not\cong \overline{K}^\times$. However, we can lift i to an injection at the level of 3-morphisms. For simplicity assume that $k = \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$ (this is not restrictive since by [Etingof et al. 2005, Theorem 2.31], any separable fusion category in characteristic p is defined over $\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$). Then by Hensel’s lemma, the surjection $W(k)^\times \rightarrow k^\times$ defined by reduction modulo p uniquely splits, since all elements of k^\times are roots of unity of order coprime to p (the Brauer lift, see Remark 4.5). Then i extends to a morphism of 3-groups using the corresponding splitting $\beta : k^\times \rightarrow W(k)^\times \subset \overline{K}^\times$. In particular, using the main results of [Etingof et al. 2010], this implies the following result.

Theorem 4.13. *Let G be a finite group and $k = \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$. Then any G -extension of \mathcal{C} canonically lifts to a G -extension of $\widehat{\mathcal{C}}$, and any braided G -crossed category \mathcal{D} with $\mathcal{D}_1 = \mathcal{C}$ canonically lifts to a braided G -crossed category $\widehat{\mathcal{D}}$ with $\widehat{\mathcal{D}}_1 = \widehat{\mathcal{C}}$.*

Remark 4.14. One can propose the following definition (which we are not making completely precise here). We recall (and refer, e.g., to the textbook [Yau and Johnson 2015] for details and some history) that a *linear algebraic structure* is defined by a colored PROP \mathbf{P} (say, over \mathbb{Z}). Realizations of \mathbf{P} over a commutative ring R are then \mathbf{P} -algebras over R . We call an algebraic structure \mathbf{P} *3-separable* if every finite-dimensional realization A of \mathbf{P} over a field k

- (i) has a finite and reduced group of automorphisms (i.e., has no nontrivial derivations);

- (ii) has no nontrivial first order deformations;
- (iii) has a vanishing space of obstructions to deformations.

These conditions should be expressed as requiring that $H^i(A) = 0$ for $i = 1, 2, 3$ for an appropriate cohomology theory, controlling deformations of A . Then A should admit a unique lifting from a field k of characteristic p to $W(k)$, and this lifting should have the faithfulness and stabilizer integrality properties similar to Theorems 3.1, 3.3, 4.1, 4.6, 4.9: any isomorphism g of liftings of A_1, A_2 over \bar{K} is defined over $W(k)$ and hence is a lifting of an isomorphism $g_0 : A_1 \rightarrow A_2$. We have seen a number of examples of 3-separable structures: semisimple cosemisimple (quasitriangular, triangular) Hopf algebras, separable (braided, symmetric) fusion categories, (braided) tensor functors between such categories.⁴ It would therefore be interesting to make this notion more precise, and prove a general theorem on the existence and faithfulness of the lifting for 3-separable structures, which would unify the results of [Etingof et al. 2005, Section 9], [Etingof and Gelaki 1998], and this paper. It would also be interesting to find other examples of 3-separable structures.

5. Descent of tensor functors between separable fusion categories to characteristic p .

5A. Separability of subcategories and quotient categories. We will first prove separability of subcategories and quotients of separable categories. First we need the following result, which is a generalization of [Etingof and Ostrik 2004, Theorem 2.5].

Theorem 5.1. *Let \mathcal{C} be a finite tensor category and \mathcal{D} a finite indecomposable multitensor category. Let $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ be a quasitensor functor. If F is surjective (i.e., every object of \mathcal{D} is a subquotient of $F(X)$, $X \in \mathcal{C}$) then*

- (i) F maps projective objects to projective ones; and
- (ii) \mathcal{D} is an exact module category over \mathcal{C} .

Proof. (i) The proof is almost identical to the proof of [Etingof and Gelaki 2017, Theorem 2.9]. We reproduce it here for the convenience of the reader.

Let P_i be the indecomposable projectives of \mathcal{C} . Write $F(P_i) = T_i \oplus N_i$, where T_i is projective, and N_i has no projective direct summands. Our job is to show that $N_i = 0$ for all i . So let us assume for the sake of contradiction that $N_p \neq 0$ for some p .

Let $P_i \otimes P_j = \bigoplus_r c_{ij}^r P_r$. Since the tensor product of a projective object with any object in \mathcal{D} is projective, the objects $T_i \otimes T_j, T_i \otimes N_j$, and $N_i \otimes T_j$ are projective. Thus,

$$\left(\bigoplus_i N_i \right) \otimes N_j \supset \bigoplus_r \left(\sum_i c_{ij}^r \right) N_r \tag{2}$$

as a direct summand.

⁴Semisimplicity/cosemisimplicity for Hopf algebras and separability for fusion categories may be forced in the setting of linear algebraic structures by adding an auxiliary variable x and the relation $dx = 1$, where d is the global dimension.

Let $\mathbf{1} = \sum_i \mathbf{1}_i$ be the irreducible decomposition of the unit object of \mathcal{D} , and let s be such that $Y := \sum_r d_r N_r \mathbf{1}_s$ is nonzero (it exists since $N_p \neq 0$). Denote by X_j the simples of \mathcal{C} , and let d_j be their Frobenius–Perron dimensions. For any i, r , we have $\sum_j d_j c_{ij}^r = D_i d_r$, where $D_i := \text{FPdim}(P_i)$. Thus, tensoring inclusion (2) on the right by $\mathbf{1}_s$, multiplying by d_j and summing over j , we get a coefficientwise inequality

$$\left[\bigoplus_i N_i \right] [Y] \geq \left(\sum_i D_i \right) [Y]$$

in $\text{Gr}(\mathcal{D}_s)$, where $\mathcal{D}_s := \mathcal{D} \otimes \mathbf{1}_s$. This implies that the largest eigenvalue of the matrix of $\left[\bigoplus_i N_i \right]$ on $\text{Gr}(\mathcal{D}_s)$ is at least $\sum_i D_i$, which is the same as the largest eigenvalue of $\left[\bigoplus_i F(P_i) \right]$. Since F is surjective, all the entries of $\left[\bigoplus_i F(P_i) \right]$ are positive. Thus, by the Frobenius–Perron theorem (see Lemma 2.1 of [Etingof and Gelaki 2017]), $\left[\bigoplus_i N_i \right] = \left[\bigoplus_i F(P_i) \right]$. This implies that $N_i = F(P_i)$ for all i . Thus, $F(P_i)$ has no nonzero projective direct summands for all i .

However, let Q be an indecomposable projective object in \mathcal{D} . Then Q is injective by the quasi-Frobenius property of finite multitensor categories. Since F is surjective, Q is a subquotient, hence a direct summand of $F(P)$ for some projective $P \in \mathcal{C}$. Hence Q is a direct summand of $F(P_i)$ for some i , which gives the desired contradiction.

(ii) This follows from (i) and the fact that in a multitensor category, the tensor product of a projective object with any object is projective. □

Theorem 5.2. *Let \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D} be multitensor categories and let $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ be a surjective tensor functor. If \mathcal{C} is separable, then so is \mathcal{D} . In other words, a quotient category of a separable multifusion category is separable.*

Proof. Consider first the special case when \mathcal{C} is a tensor category (i.e., $\mathbf{1} \in \mathcal{C}$ is simple). Without loss of generality, we may assume that \mathcal{D} is indecomposable. By Theorem 5.1, \mathcal{D} is an exact \mathcal{C} -module category, hence semisimple (as \mathcal{C} is semisimple). Moreover, we have the surjective tensor functor $F \boxtimes F : \mathcal{C} \boxtimes \mathcal{C}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \mathcal{D} \boxtimes \mathcal{D}^{\text{op}}$. Let us take the dual of this functor with respect to \mathcal{D} . By [Etingof et al. 2005, Proposition 5.3], we get an injective tensor functor (i.e., a fully faithful embedding)

$$(F \boxtimes F)_\mathcal{D}^* : \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{D}) \hookrightarrow (\mathcal{C} \boxtimes \mathcal{C}^{\text{op}})_\mathcal{D}^*.$$

But the category $(\mathcal{C} \boxtimes \mathcal{C}^{\text{op}})_\mathcal{D}^*$ is semisimple, since \mathcal{C} is separable and \mathcal{D} is semisimple. Hence, $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{D})$ is semisimple. Thus, by Corollary 3.5.9 of [Douglas et al. 2013], \mathcal{D} is separable.

The general case now follows by applying the above special case to the surjective tensor functors $F_i : \mathcal{C}_{ii} \rightarrow F(\mathbf{1}_i) \otimes \mathcal{D} \otimes F(\mathbf{1}_i)$, where the $\mathbf{1}_i$ are the simple composition factors of $\mathbf{1}$ in \mathcal{C} , and where $\mathcal{C}_{ii} := \mathbf{1}_i \otimes \mathcal{C} \otimes \mathbf{1}_i$. □

The following theorem resolves an open question in [Etingof et al. 2005, Section 9.4]:

Theorem 5.3. *A (full) multitensor subcategory of a separable multifusion category is separable.*

Proof. Let $F : \mathcal{C} \hookrightarrow \mathcal{D}$ be an inclusion of \mathcal{C} into a separable category \mathcal{D} . Then by [Etingof et al. 2005, Proposition 5.3], we have a surjective tensor functor $F_{\mathcal{D}}^* : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{D}}^*$, where $\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{D}}^*$ is a multitensor category. By Theorem 5.2, $\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{D}}^*$ is separable. Hence $\mathcal{D} = (\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{D}}^*)_{\mathcal{D}}^*$ is separable as well. \square

5B. Descent of tensor functors.

Theorem 5.4. *Let $\mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{C}_2, \mathcal{D}$ be separable multifusion categories over k . Let $F_i : \mathcal{C}_i \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ be tensor functors. Let $F : \widehat{\mathcal{C}}_1 \rightarrow \widehat{\mathcal{C}}_2$ be a tensor functor such that $\widehat{F}_2 \circ F \cong \widehat{F}_1$. Then there exists a tensor functor $F_0 : \mathcal{C}_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_2$ such that $F_2 \circ F_0 \cong F_1$, and $F \cong \widehat{F}_0$. In other words, if tensor functors G and $G \circ F$ are integral then F is integral.*

Note that Theorem 3.7 is recovered from Theorem 5.4 when $\mathcal{D} = \text{Vec}_k$ (namely, $H_i = \text{Coend } F_i$). Moreover, if $\mathcal{D} = \text{Rep } A$, where A is a semisimple k -algebra, then Theorem 5.4 gives a generalization of Theorem 3.7 to weak Hopf algebras.

Proof. The proof is similar to the proof of Theorem 3.7. If \mathcal{C} is a separable multifusion category over k , there is a natural bijection between full tensor subcategories of \mathcal{C} and $\widehat{\mathcal{C}}$. In particular, $\text{Im } F$ is a lift of some multifusion subcategory $\mathcal{E} \subset \mathcal{C}_2$. By Theorem 5.3, \mathcal{E} is separable. Thus, we may replace \mathcal{C}_2 by \mathcal{E} , i.e., we may assume without loss of generality that F is surjective.

Also, we may replace \mathcal{D} with the image $\text{Im } F_2$ of F_2 , which is separable by Theorem 5.2 (or Theorem 5.3), i.e., we may assume without loss of generality that F_2 (hence \widehat{F}_2 , hence \widehat{F}_1 , hence F_1) is surjective.

Consider the dual functor $F_{\mathcal{D}}^* : (\widehat{\mathcal{C}}_2)_{\mathcal{D}}^* \rightarrow (\widehat{\mathcal{C}}_1)_{\mathcal{D}}^* = \widehat{(\mathcal{C}_1)_{\mathcal{D}}^*}$, which is an inclusion of multifusion categories by [Etingof et al. 2005, Proposition 5.3]. Thus, $(\widehat{\mathcal{C}}_2)_{\mathcal{D}}^*$ is a lift of some multifusion subcategory \mathcal{B} of $(\mathcal{C}_1)_{\mathcal{D}}^*$. Moreover, by Theorem 5.3, \mathcal{B} is separable, so $(\widehat{\mathcal{C}}_2)_{\mathcal{D}}^* = \widehat{(\mathcal{C}_2)_{\mathcal{D}}^*} \cong \widehat{\mathcal{B}}$. Let $H : \mathcal{B} \hookrightarrow (\mathcal{C}_1)_{\mathcal{D}}^*$ be the corresponding inclusion functor. Then the dual functor $H_{\mathcal{D}}^* : \mathcal{C}_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{D}}^*$ is a surjection, and $F \cong F' \circ \widehat{H_{\mathcal{D}}^*}$, where $F' : \widehat{\mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{D}}^*} \cong \widehat{\mathcal{C}}_2$ is an equivalence. By Theorem 4.6, F' is isomorphic to the lift \widehat{F}'_0 of an equivalence $F'_0 : \mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{D}}^* \cong \mathcal{C}_2$; hence F is isomorphic to the lift \widehat{F}_0 of a tensor functor $F_0 = F'_0 \circ H_{\mathcal{D}}^* : \mathcal{C}_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_2$. This proves the theorem. \square

Theorem 5.5. *Let $\mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{C}_2, \mathcal{D}$ be separable multifusion categories over k . Let $F_i : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_i$ be tensor functors, such that F_1 is surjective. Let $F : \widehat{\mathcal{C}}_1 \rightarrow \widehat{\mathcal{C}}_2$ be a tensor functor such that $F \circ \widehat{F}_1 \cong \widehat{F}_2$. Then there exists a tensor functor $F_0 : \mathcal{C}_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_2$ such that $F_0 \circ F_1 \cong F_2$, and $F \cong \widehat{F}_0$. In other words, if tensor functors G and $F \circ G$ are integral and G is surjective then F is integral.*

Proof. We may replace \mathcal{C}_2 with $\text{Im } F_2$, which is separable by Theorems 5.2 or 5.3, and assume that F_2, \widehat{F}_2, F are surjective. Then by [Etingof et al. 2005, Proposition 5.3], we have an inclusion $(\widehat{F}_1)_{\widehat{\mathcal{C}}_2}^* : (\widehat{\mathcal{C}}_1)_{\widehat{\mathcal{C}}_2}^* \hookrightarrow \widehat{\mathcal{D}}_{\widehat{\mathcal{C}}_2}^* = \widehat{\mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{C}_2}^*}$. The image of $(\widehat{F}_1)_{\widehat{\mathcal{C}}_2}^*$ is then a lift of some multifusion subcategory $\mathcal{B} \subset \mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{C}_2}^*$. By Theorem 5.3, \mathcal{B} is separable. Let $H : \mathcal{B} \hookrightarrow \mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{C}_2}^*$ be the corresponding inclusion functor. Then $(\widehat{F}_1)_{\widehat{\mathcal{C}}_2}^*$ defines an equivalence $L : (\widehat{\mathcal{C}}_1)_{\widehat{\mathcal{C}}_2}^* \cong \widehat{\mathcal{B}}$ such that $(\widehat{F}_1)_{\widehat{\mathcal{C}}_2}^* = \widehat{H} \circ L$. Then

$$\widehat{H} \circ L \circ F_{\widehat{\mathcal{C}}_2}^* = (\widehat{F}_1)_{\widehat{\mathcal{C}}_2}^* \circ F_{\widehat{\mathcal{C}}_2}^* = (\widehat{F}_2)_{\widehat{\mathcal{C}}_2}^* = \widehat{(F_2)_{\mathcal{C}_2}^*}.$$

Thus, by [Theorem 5.4](#), $L \circ F_{\widehat{\mathcal{C}}_2}^* = \widehat{M}$ for some $M : \mathcal{C}_2 \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$. Dualizing, we get $\widehat{M}_{\mathcal{C}_2}^* = F \circ L_{\widehat{\mathcal{C}}_2}^*$, where $L_{\widehat{\mathcal{C}}_2}^* : \widehat{\mathcal{B}}_{\mathcal{C}_2}^* \rightarrow \widehat{\mathcal{C}}_1$ is an equivalence. By [Theorem 4.6](#), $L_{\widehat{\mathcal{C}}_2}^* = \widehat{N}$ for some equivalence $N : \mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{C}_2}^* \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_1$. Thus, $F = \widehat{F}_0$, where $F_0 := M_{\mathcal{C}_2}^* \circ N^{-1}$. \square

Remark 5.6. In spite of [Theorems 5.4](#) and [5.5](#), in general we don't know if any tensor functor $F : \widehat{\mathcal{C}}_1 \rightarrow \widehat{\mathcal{C}}_2$ between liftings of separable (multi)fusion categories is always isomorphic to a lifting of a tensor functor $F_0 : \mathcal{C}_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_2$, even in the case when $\mathcal{C}_2 = \text{Vec}_k$ and $\mathcal{C}_1 = \text{Rep } H$, where H is a semisimple cosemisimple Hopf algebra over k . In this special case, this is the question whether any Drinfeld twist J for \widehat{H} is gauge equivalent to a lifting of a twist J_0 for H .

Likewise, we don't know if any fusion category or semisimple cosemisimple Hopf algebra in characteristic zero whose (global) dimension is coprime to p descends to characteristic p .

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