

# Strong Homotopy Lie Algebras and Field Theories

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Relevant papers (besides vast literature on BV/BRST):

- [arXiv:1809.09899](https://arxiv.org/abs/1809.09899) with B Jurco, L Raspollini and M Wolf
- [arXiv:1903.05713](https://arxiv.org/abs/1903.05713) with T Macrelli and M Wolf
- [arXiv:1910.xxxxx](https://arxiv.org/abs/1910.xxxxx) with B Jurco, T Macrelli and M Wolf

Strong homotopy Lie algebras from Physics

Homotopy Maurer–Cartan Theory

BRST/BV-Formalism

Scattering amplitudes

## Strong homotopy Lie algebras from Physics

*“... and there is no new thing under the sun.”*

*Ecclesiastes*

*“It’s like déjà vu all over again.”*

*Yogi Berra*

Nuclear Physics B306 (1988) 759–808  
North-Holland, Amsterdam

## RECURSIVE CALCULATIONS FOR PROCESSES WITH $n$ GLUONS

F.A. BERENDS and W.T. GIELE\*

*Instituut-Lorentz, University of Leiden, P.O.B. 9506, 2300 RA Leiden, The Netherlands*

Received 30 December 1987

- Recursion relation for currents in Yang–Mills theory
- Directly translate to relations for amplitudes
- These were used to prove Parke–Taylor (MHV) formula
- Relations have deep algebraic meaning: Quasi-Isomorphisms!

Nuclear Physics B390 (1993) 33–152  
North-Holland

NUCLEAR  
PHYSICS B

## Closed string field theory: Quantum action and the Batalin–Vilkovisky master equation

Barton Zwiebach<sup>1</sup>

*School of Natural Sciences, Institute for Advanced Study, Olden Lane, Princeton NJ 08540, USA*

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Accepted for publication 18 September 1992

This paper has all the important ingredients:

- BV-formalism
- $L_\infty$ -algebras
- quantum  $L_\infty$ -algebras

Strong homotopy Lie algebras =  $L_\infty$ -algebras.

They are everywhere:

- $L_\infty$ -algebras from BV (this talk)  $\rightarrow$  perturbative QFT
- Basis for string field theory (because of above)
- in higher gauge theories (SUGRA, string/M-theory,...)
- $L_\infty$ -algebroids in AKSZ formalism
- $L_\infty$ -algebroids in Generalized Geometry/T-duality
- $L_\infty$ -algebroids in nonassociative geometry
- Deformation theory
- Beautiful mathematics

*“Before functoriality, people lived in caves.”*

*Brian Conrad*

Two formulations dual to each other:

- Formulation as differential graded algebras (dga)
- Formulation as “higher brackets” (from codifferential)
- Both are important and helpful!
- Signs are messy, but can usually be reconstructed

## $L_\infty$ -algebras as differential graded algebras

- Graded vector space  $E = \cdots \oplus E_{-1} \oplus E_0 \oplus E_1 \oplus \cdots$
- Vector field  $Q$  on  $E$ ,  $|Q| = 1$ ,  $Q^2 = 0$

Note:  $E$  vector bundle  $\rightarrow L_\infty$ -algebroid

Example: Lie algebras

$E = \mathfrak{g}[1]$ , coordinate functions  $\xi^\alpha$  of degree 1:

$$Q = -\frac{1}{2} f_{\beta\gamma}^\alpha \xi^\beta \xi^\gamma \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi^\alpha} \quad , \quad Q^2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow \text{Jacobi identity}$$

Example: BRST complex

$E = \text{ghosts}[1] \oplus \text{fields}$ , coords.:  $c$ ,  $|c| = 1$  and  $A$ ,  $|A| = 0$ :

$$Qc = -\frac{1}{2}[c, c] \quad , \quad QA = dc + [A, c]$$



## $L_\infty$ -algebras as differential graded algebras

- Graded vector space  $E = \cdots \oplus E_{-1} \oplus E_0 \oplus E_1 \oplus \cdots$
- Vector field  $Q$  on  $E$ ,  $|Q| = 1$ ,  $Q^2 = 0$
- $Q$  encoded in “structure constants”:

$$Q = \pm \sum_{i \geq 0} \frac{1}{i!} m_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_i}^\beta \xi^{\alpha_1} \dots \xi^{\alpha_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi^\beta}$$

- These encode higher brackets on basis  $\tau_\alpha$  of  $L = E[-1]$ :

$$\mu_i(\tau_{\alpha_1}, \dots, \tau_{\alpha_i}) = m_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_i}^\beta \tau_\beta .$$

## $L_\infty$ -algebras as higher brackets

- Graded vector space  $L = \cdots \oplus L_{-1} \oplus L_0 \oplus L_1 \oplus \cdots$
- Higher brackets/products  $\mu_i : L^{\wedge i} \rightarrow L$ ,  $|\mu_i| = 2 - i$
- Higher Jacobi identities: ( $\Leftrightarrow Q^2 = 0$ )

$$\sum_{i+j=n} \sum_{\sigma \in \text{Sh}(i, n-i)} \pm \mu_{i+1}(\mu_j(\ell_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, \ell_{\sigma(j)}), \ell_{\sigma(j+1)}, \dots, \ell_{\sigma(n)}) = 0$$

- **Graded vector space:**  $* \leftarrow W[1] \leftarrow V[2] \leftarrow * \leftarrow \dots$
- Coords:  $w^a$  of degree 1 on  $W[1]$ ,  $v^i$  of degree 2 on  $V[2]$
- Most general vector field  $Q$  of degree 1:

$$Q = -m_i^a v^i \frac{\partial}{\partial w^a} - \frac{1}{2} m_{ab}^c w^a w^b \frac{\partial}{\partial w^c} - m_{ai}^j w^a v^i \frac{\partial}{\partial v^j} - \frac{1}{3!} m_{abc}^i w^a w^b w^c \frac{\partial}{\partial v^i}$$

- Induces “brackets”/“higher products”:

  - $\mu_1(\tau_i) = m_i^a \tau_a$
  - $\mu_2(\tau_a, \tau_b) = m_{ab}^c \tau_c$ ,  $\mu_2(\tau_a, \tau_i) = m_{ai}^j \tau_j$
  - $\mu_3(\tau_a, \tau_b, \tau_c) = m_{abc}^i \tau_i$

- $Q^2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow$  **Homotopy Jacobi identities**, e.g.
  - $\mu_1(\mu_1(-)) = 0$ :  $\mu_1$  is a differential
  - $\mu_1(\mu_2(x, y)) = \mu_2(\mu_1(x), y) \pm \mu_2(x, \mu_1(y))$ : compatible w.  $\mu_2$ ,
  - $\mu_2(x, \mu_2(y, z)) + \text{cycl.} = \mu_1(\mu_3(x, y, z))$ : **Jacobiator**
- Analogously: **Lie 3-, 4-, ...-algebras**

$L_\infty$ -algebras are generalizations of dg Lie algebras.

**Inner product** on Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$ :  $\langle -, - \rangle : \mathfrak{g} \times \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

- positive definite/**non-degenerate**
- **symmetric**
- **bilinear**
- satisfying **cyclic relation**:

$$\langle l_1, [l_2, l_3] \rangle = \langle l_2, [l_3, l_1] \rangle$$

generalized naturally (**more later**) to

**Cyclic structure** on  $L_\infty$ -algebra  $L$ :  $\langle -, - \rangle : L \times L \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

- **non-degenerate**
- **graded symmetric**
- **bilinear**
- satisfying **cyclic relation**:

$$\langle l_1, \mu_i(l_2, \dots, l_{1+i}) \rangle = \pm \langle l_2, \mu_i(l_3, \dots, l_{1+i}, l_1) \rangle$$

“dg commutative algebra  $\otimes L_\infty$ -algebra yields  $L_\infty$ -algebra”

Example:  $\Omega^\bullet(M, L) := \Omega^\bullet(M) \otimes L = \bigoplus_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \Omega_k^\bullet(M, L)$ :

- $\Omega_k^\bullet(M, L) := \Omega^0(M) \otimes L_k \oplus \Omega^1(M) \otimes L_{k-1} \oplus \dots \oplus \Omega^d(M) \otimes L_{k-d}$
- Higher products:

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\mu}_1(\alpha_1 \otimes \ell_1) &:= d\alpha_1 \otimes \ell_1 \pm \alpha_1 \otimes \mu_1(\ell_1) \\ \hat{\mu}_i(\alpha_1 \otimes \ell_1, \dots, \alpha_i \otimes \ell_i) &:= \pm(\alpha_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \alpha_i) \otimes \mu_i(\ell_1, \dots, \ell_i) \end{aligned}$$

- Cyclic structure for compact manifolds and cyclic L:

$$\langle \alpha_1 \otimes \ell_1, \alpha_2 \otimes \ell_2 \rangle_{\Omega^\bullet(M, L)} := \pm \int_M \alpha_1 \wedge \alpha_2 \langle \ell_1, \ell_2 \rangle_L$$

## Homotopy Maurer–Cartan Theory



*“One ring to rule them all ...”*

**Maurer–Cartan equation** for differential graded Lie algebra,  $(\mathfrak{g}, d)$ :

$$da + \frac{1}{2}[a, a] = 0, \quad a \in \mathfrak{g}.$$

$L_\infty$ -algebras are generalizations of dg Lie algebras.

**Homotopy Maurer–Cartan equation:**

$$f := \mu_1(a) + \frac{1}{2}\mu_2(a, a) + \frac{1}{3!}\mu_3(a, a, a) + \dots = 0, \quad a \in L_1$$

Nomenclature:  $a$ : gauge potential  $f$ : curvature

**Bianchi identity:**

$$\mu_1(f) - \mu_2(f, a) + \frac{1}{2}\mu_3(f, a, a) - \frac{1}{3!}\mu_4(f, a, a, a) + \dots = 0.$$

**Homotopy Maurer–Cartan Action:**

$$S_{\text{MC}}[a] := \sum_{i \geq 1} \frac{1}{(i+1)!} \langle a, \mu_i(a, \dots, a) \rangle_{\mathcal{L}}.$$

Also: this is the structure underlying **closed string field theory**.

Tensor product  $L_\infty$ -algebra  $\hat{L} = \Omega^\bullet(M) \otimes \mathfrak{g}$  with  $\mathfrak{g}$  Lie algebra:

- gauge potential

$$A \in \hat{L}_1 = \Omega^1(M) \otimes \mathfrak{g}$$

- higher products:

$$\hat{\mu}_1 = d \quad \text{and} \quad \mu_2 = [-, -]$$

- Homotopy Maurer–Cartan equation:

$$F := dA + \frac{1}{2}[A, A] = 0$$

- Homotopy Maurer–Cartan action:

$$S_{\text{MC}}[A] := \int_M \left\langle \frac{1}{2}(A, dA) + \frac{1}{3!}(A, [A, A]) \right\rangle .$$

For  $d = 4$ , need cyclic “Lie 2-algebra:”  $\mathbf{L} = \mathbf{L}_{-1} \oplus \mathbf{L}_0$ .

Tensor product  $L_\infty$ -algebra  $\hat{\mathbf{L}} = \Omega^\bullet(M) \otimes \mathbf{L}$ :

- gauge potential

$$A + B \in \hat{\mathbf{L}}_1 = \Omega^1(M) \otimes \mathbf{L}_0 \oplus \Omega^2(M) \otimes \mathbf{L}_{-1}$$

- higher products are  $\hat{\mu}_1 = d + \mu_1, \mu_2, \mu_3$
- Homotopy Maurer–Cartan equation:

$$F = dA + \frac{1}{2}\mu_2(A, A) + \mu_1(B)$$

$$H = dB + \mu_2(A, B) - \frac{1}{3!}\mu_3(A, A, A)$$

- Homotopy Maurer–Cartan action:

$$S_{\text{MC}} = \int_M \left\{ \langle B, dA + \frac{1}{2}\mu_2(A, A) + \frac{1}{2}\mu_1(B) \rangle_{\mathbf{L}} + \frac{1}{4!} \langle \mu_3(A, A, A), A \rangle_{\mathbf{L}} \right\},$$

Generalizes to arbitrary dimensions  $d \geq 3!$



# BRST/BV-Formalism

Classical space of observables:

Functionals on fields  $\mathfrak{F}$

ideal  $\mathfrak{I} := \langle \text{solutions to eom} \rangle$       gauge symmetry  $\mathfrak{G}$

Observation:

- Orbit spaces are often **not nice**
- Better: **derived quotient**
  - Consider **action groupoid**
  - quotient space in **cohomology**.

Action Lie groupoid (“derived quotient”)

(symmetry group  $\times$  field space)  $\rightrightarrows$  field space

$$\Phi \xrightarrow{(g, \Phi)} g \triangleright \Phi$$

This differentiates to the action Lie algebroid

$\mathfrak{F}_{\text{BRST}} := (\text{Lie}(\text{symmetry group}) \times \text{field space} \rightarrow \text{field space})$

BRST complex is the dga-description of this Lie algebroid.

Chevalley–Eilenberg resolution:

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{C}^\infty(\mathfrak{F}/\mathfrak{G}) \cong H^0(\mathfrak{F}/\mathfrak{G}) \hookrightarrow \mathcal{C}_0^\infty(\mathfrak{F}_{\text{BRST}}) \xrightarrow{Q} \mathcal{C}_1^\infty(\mathfrak{F}_{\text{BRST}}) \xrightarrow{Q} \dots$$

## Classical observables:

field configurations modulo symmetries **satisfying eom**

- Field space  $\mathfrak{F}$
- Enlarged:  $\mathfrak{F}_{\text{BV}} := T^*[-1]\mathfrak{F}$  coords. fields  $\Phi^A$ , “antifields”  $\Phi_A^+$
- $S_{\text{BV}}$  defines  $Q_{\text{BV}} = \{S_{\text{BV}}, -\}$  with  $Q_{\text{BV}}^2 = 0$
- Note:  $Q_{\text{BV}}\Phi_A^+ = \{S_{\text{BV}}, \Phi_A^+\} = \delta_{\Phi^A} S$ , **classical eoms.**
- Note:  $Q_{\text{BV}}(\mathcal{C}_{-1}^\infty(T^*[-1]\mathfrak{F})) = \mathfrak{I}$ , ideal vanishing on solutions

## Koszul–Tate resolution:

$$\dots \xrightarrow{Q} \mathcal{C}_{-1}^\infty(T^*[-1]\mathfrak{F}) \xrightarrow{Q} \mathcal{C}_0^\infty(T^*[-1]\mathfrak{F}) \rightarrow H^0(T^*[-1]\mathfrak{F}) = \mathcal{C}^\infty(\mathfrak{F})/\mathfrak{I} \rightarrow 0$$

Essentially:

Classical BRST-BV formalism = Chevalley–Eilenberg resolution + Koszul–Tate resolution

We have

$$S_{\text{BV}}, \quad Q_{\text{BV}} := \{S_{\text{BV}}, -\}, \quad Q_{\text{BV}}^2 = 0$$

Question: What is the  $L_\infty$ -algebra dual to the BV complex?

Recall dualization (invert sign) and shift by one:

Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g} \longleftrightarrow (\mathfrak{g}[1], Q = \dots) \longleftrightarrow$  dg algebra  $(\mathcal{C}^\infty(\mathfrak{g}[1]), Q)$

Translate coordinate functions to elements of vector spaces.

Example: Gauge theory

- Field  $\Phi$  of degree 0  $\longleftrightarrow \Phi \in L_1$
- Ghost  $c$  of degree 1  $\longleftrightarrow c \in L_0$
- antifield  $\Phi^+$  of degree  $-1$   $\longleftrightarrow \Phi^+ \in L_2$
- antifield of ghost  $c^+$  of degree  $-2$   $\longleftrightarrow c^+ \in L_3$
- etc. for higher gauge theories

Altogether:

...	$L_0$	$L_1$	$L_2$	$L_3$	...
...	gauge transf.	physical fields	equations of motion	Noether identities	...

For Yang–Mills theory:

- Manifold  $M$ , Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$ , Coord. functions:  $A, A^+, c, c^+$
- Symplectic form:  $\omega = \int_M \{ \langle \delta A, \delta A^+ \rangle_{\mathfrak{g}} - \langle \delta c, \delta c^+ \rangle_{\mathfrak{g}} \}$
- Action:  $S = \int_M \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \langle F, \star F \rangle_{\mathfrak{g}} - \langle A^+, \nabla c \rangle_{\mathfrak{g}} + \frac{1}{2} \langle c^+, [c, c] \rangle_{\mathfrak{g}} \right\}$
- Homological vector field:  $Q := \{S, -\}$  with  $Q^2 = 0$
- This is the dual of an  $L_{\infty}$ -algebra.

$L_\infty$ -algebra picture:

Complex:

$$\underbrace{\Omega^0(M, \mathfrak{g})}_{\mathcal{L}_0} \xrightarrow{\mu_1 := d} \underbrace{\Omega^1(M, \mathfrak{g})}_{\mathcal{L}_1} \xrightarrow{\mu_1 := d \star d} \underbrace{\Omega^{d-1}(M, \mathfrak{g})}_{\mathcal{L}_2} \xrightarrow{\mu_1 := d} \underbrace{\Omega^d(M, \mathfrak{g})}_{\mathcal{L}_3}$$

Higher Products:

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_1(c_1) &:= dc_1, & \mu_1(A_1) &:= d \star dA_1, & \mu_1(A_1^+) &:= dA_1^+, \\ \mu_2(c_1, c_2) &:= [c_1, c_2], & \mu_2(c_1, A_1) &:= [c_1, A_1], & \mu_2(c_1, A_2^+) &:= [c_1, A_2^+], \\ & & \mu_2(c_1, c_2^+) &:= [c_1, c_2^+], & \mu_2(A_1, A_2^+) &:= [A_1, A_2^+], \\ & & \mu_2(A_1, A_2) &:= d \star [A_1, A_2] + [A_1, \star dA_2] + [A_2, \star dA_1], \\ \mu_3(A_1, A_2, A_3) &:= [A_1, \star [A_2, A_3]] + [A_2, \star [A_3, A_1]] + [A_3, \star [A_1, A_2]] \end{aligned}$$

Homotopy Maurer–Cartan action with  $a = A$  is Yang–Mills action!  
 hMC action with  $a = c_0 + A + A^+ + c^+$  is BV action!



**Classical BV:**

$S_{\text{BV}} \in \mathcal{C}^\infty(\mathfrak{F})$  solving **classical master equation**:

$$\{S_{\text{BV}}, S_{\text{BV}}\} = 0$$

with

$$Q := \{S_{\text{BV}}, -\} \quad \text{with} \quad Q^2 = 0$$

**Full BV:**

$S_{\text{BV}}^{\hbar} \in \mathcal{C}^\infty(\mathfrak{F})[[\hbar]]$  solving **quantum master equation**:

$$\hbar \Delta S_{\text{BV}}^{\hbar} + \{S_{\text{BV}}^{\hbar}, S_{\text{BV}}^{\hbar}\} = 0$$

yields

$$Q^{\hbar} := \hbar \Delta + \{S_{\text{BV}}^{\hbar}, -\} \quad \text{with} \quad (Q^{\hbar})^2 = 0$$

- $Q^{\hbar}$  is **differential**, but **not derivation!**
- Defines **quantum  $L_\infty$ -algebra**:

$$\sum_{i+j=n, \sigma, g_1, g_2} \pm \mu_{i+1}^{g_1}(\mu_j^{g_2}(\ell_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, \ell_{\sigma(j)}), \ell_{\sigma(j+1)}, \dots, \ell_{\sigma(n)}) - \hbar \sum_a \mu_{i+2}^{g_1+g_2-1}(\tau^a, \tau_a, \ell_1, \dots, \ell_i) = 0$$

## Examples of Applications

**Question:** When are two  $L_\infty$ -algebras **essentially the same**?

- Morphisms in dga-picture **clear**:

$$\mathcal{C}^\infty(E) \xrightarrow{\Phi} \mathcal{C}^\infty(E'), \quad Q' \circ \Phi = \Phi \circ Q$$

- Morphisms of  $L_\infty$ -algebras  $\phi : L \rightarrow L'$  **induced**:

$$\phi_i : L^{\wedge i} \rightarrow L', \quad |\phi_i| = 1 - i, \quad \phi_{1*} : H_{\mu_1}^\bullet(L) \rightarrow H_{\mu_1}^\bullet(L')$$

- $L_\infty$ -algebras  $L$  and  $L'$  **quasi-isomorphic**:

There is a  $\phi : L \rightarrow L'$  with  $\phi_1 : H_{\mu_1}^\bullet(L) \cong H_{\mu_1}^\bullet(L')$

Equivalent field theories  
 $FT \sim FT'$

$\Leftrightarrow$

Quasi-isomorphic  $L_\infty$ -algebras  
 $L \cong L'$

## Classical BV formalism:

- Manifold  $M$ , Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$ ,
- Coords:  $A \in \Omega^1(M, \mathfrak{g})$ ,  $B \in \Omega_+^2(M, \mathfrak{g})$ ,  $A^+$ ,  $B_+^+$ ,  $c$ ,  $c^+$
- **Symplectic form**  $\omega$  obvious/canonical, **Action**:

$$S = \int_M \left\{ \langle F, B_+ \rangle_{\mathfrak{g}} + \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \langle B_+, B_+ \rangle_{\mathfrak{g}} - \langle A^+, \nabla c \rangle_{\mathfrak{g}} - \langle B_+^+, [B_+, c] \rangle_{\mathfrak{g}} + \frac{1}{2} \langle c^+, [c, c] \rangle_{\mathfrak{g}} \right\}$$

- Yields  $L_\infty$ -algebra  $\mathbf{L}_{\text{YM}_1\text{BV}}$

## Morphism of $L_\infty$ -algebras:

- Easy to check:  $H_{\mu_1}^\bullet(\mathbf{L}_{\text{YM}_2\text{BV}}) \cong H_{\mu_1}^\bullet(\mathbf{L}_{\text{YM}_1\text{BV}})$
- Moreover: We have  $\Phi : \mathcal{C}^\infty(\mathfrak{F}_{\text{YM}_1\text{BV}}) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}^\infty(\mathfrak{F}_{\text{YM}_2\text{BV}})$  with

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(c) &:= c, & \Phi(B_+) &:= -\frac{1}{\varepsilon} F_+, & \Phi(A) &:= A, \\ \Phi(B_+^+) &:= 0, & \Phi(A^+) &:= A^+, & \Phi(c^+) &:= c^+. \end{aligned}$$

- This satisfies  $Q_{\text{YM}_2\text{BV}} \circ \Phi = \Phi \circ Q_{\text{YM}_1\text{BV}}$

**Definition:**  $L_\infty$ -algebra with  $\mu_1 = 0$ : **minimal** (not  $\cong$  to “smaller”)

## Minimal Model Theorem

Every  $L_\infty$ -algebra is quasi-isomorphic to a minimal one.

In field theory:

- $L_\infty$ -algebra  $L$  encoding field theory
- quadratic term  $\langle a, \mu_1(a) \rangle$ :  $\mu_1$  encodes **inverse propagator**
- Minimal model  $H_{\mu_1}^\bullet(L) \cong L$  encodes equivalent **FT'**
- FT' has **trivial propagator**

Conclusion:

The higher products of the minimal model yield the tree level amplitudes of a field theory:

$$\langle \Psi_1, \mu_i^\circ(\Psi_2, \dots, \Psi_{i+1}) \rangle \longleftrightarrow \langle \Psi_1 \Psi_2 \dots \Psi_{i+1} \rangle$$

Explicitly:

$$\langle \Psi_1, \mu_i^\circ(\Psi_2, \dots, \Psi_{i+1}) \rangle \longleftrightarrow \langle \Psi_1 \Psi_2 \dots \Psi_{i+1} \rangle$$

$$\mu_1^\circ(\Psi_1) := 0 ,$$

$$\mu_2^\circ(\Psi_1, \Psi_2) := (\mathfrak{p} \circ \mu_2)(\phi_1(\Psi_1), \phi_1(\Psi_2)) ,$$

$$\vdots$$

$$\mu_i^\circ(\Psi_1, \dots, \Psi_i) := \sum_{j=2}^i \frac{1}{j!} \sum_{k_1 + \dots + k_j = i} \sum_{\sigma} \pm (\mathfrak{p} \circ \mu_j)(\phi_{k_1}(\Psi_{\sigma(1)}), \dots, \Psi_{\sigma(k_1)}), \dots, \phi_{k_j}(\dots))$$

Recursion for **currents**  $\phi_i$ :

$$\phi_1(\Psi_1) := e(\Psi_1) ,$$

$$\phi_2(\Psi_1, \Psi_2) := -(\mathfrak{h} \circ \mu_2)(\phi_1(\Psi_1), \phi_1(\Psi_2)) ,$$

$$\vdots$$

$$\phi_i(\Psi_1, \dots, \Psi_i) := - \sum_{j=2}^i \frac{1}{j!} \sum_{k_1 + \dots + k_j = i} \sum_{\sigma} \pm (\mathfrak{h} \circ \mu_j)(\phi_{k_1}(\Psi_{\sigma(1)}), \dots, \Psi_{\sigma(k_1)}), \dots, \phi_{k_j}(\dots))$$

Note:

- **Explicit** formulas for computing minimal model:
  - Formulas are **recursive**.
  - In case of **Yang–Mills theory**: **Berends–Giele relations**
  - Our perspective: generalizes this to **all Lagrangian field theories**
- Generalize to **quantum  $L_\infty$ -algebras**
  - Formulas are **recursive**.
  - Exist for **all Lagrangian field theories**
  - Interesting **mathematical challenges**

Our perspective:

perturbative QFT  $\leftrightarrow$  algebraic problem  
+ analytical complications

## Summary:

- The BV-formalism assigns to every Lagrangian field theory:
  - an equivalent classical  $L_\infty$ -algebra
  - an equivalent quantum  $L_\infty$ -algebra
- Minimal models  $\leftrightarrow$  Scattering amplitudes
- Very useful:
  - Classical/quantum **equivalence** of field theories
  - **Recursion relations** for scattering amplitudes
  - Algebraic understanding of Feynman diagrams

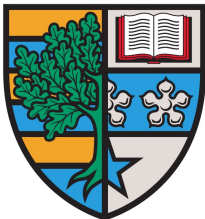
## Soon to come:

- ▷ **Quantum recursion relations** (WIP)
- ▷ **MHV amplitudes** from quasi-isomorphisms (WIP)
- ▷ Applications to **Integrable Systems** (WIP)
- ▷ Better **algebraic understanding** of Feynman diagrams



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