

Quantization of non-geometric flux backgrounds

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EMPG

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Based on:

D.M, P. Schupp and R. Szabo, *JHEP* **1209** (2012) 012,
[arXiv:1207.0926]

Outline

- The past: Background and motivation.
- From a membrane σ -model to string theory on the boundary.
- Deformation quantization a la Kontsevich.
- Convolution product quantization.
- Recap.
- The future: ?

This is the end...



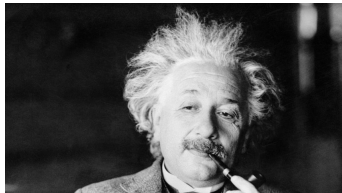
You have...
36d 9hr and 25min
left to the **END OF THE
WORLD!**



This is the end...



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“Two things are infinite: the universe
and human stupidity; and I’m not
sure about the the universe.”

Open and closed strings

Open string with constant B-field

$$[X^i(\tau, \sigma), X^j(\tau, \sigma')]_{\sigma=\sigma'=0, 2\pi} = i\theta^{ij}$$

where $\theta = -2\pi \alpha' (1 + \mathcal{F}^2)^{-1} \mathcal{F}$ and $\mathcal{F} = B - F$.

(Seiberg & Witten, Chu & Ho)

- Commutator not well defined for closed strings. Jacobiator 3-bracket:

$$[X^i, X^j, X^k] := \lim_{\sigma_i \rightarrow \sigma} [[X^i(\tau, \sigma_1), X^j(\tau, \sigma_2)], X^k(\tau, \sigma_3)] + \text{cyclic}$$

- For the linearized $SU(2)$ WZW model with $H = dB \neq 0$
 $[X^i, X^j, X^k] \sim H^{ijk}$, i.e. the target space is **non-associative**.
 (Blumenhagen & Plauschinn, 1010.1263)

T-duality frames

Consider \mathbb{T}^3 with non-vanishing H -flux.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 H\text{-flux} & \xrightarrow{T_{x^3}} & f\text{-flux} & \xrightarrow{T_{x^2}} & Q\text{-flux} & \xrightarrow{T_{x^1}} & R\text{-flux} \\
 & & (\text{nilmanifold}) & & (\text{T-fold}) & & (\text{non-geometric})
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 [X^i(\tau, \sigma), X^j(\tau, \sigma')] = 0 & & [X^i(\tau, \sigma), X_j(\tau, \sigma')] \neq 0 \\
 [X^i(\tau, \sigma), X_j^*(\tau, \sigma')] \neq 0 & \xrightarrow{T_{x^2}} & [X^i(\tau, \sigma), X_j^*(\tau, \sigma')] = 0
 \end{array}$$

where $X_i^* = X_{i,L} - X_{i,R} \in M^*$. *Should use doubled geometry.*

- In this context the same type of nonassociativity was found and a **NA target space algebra** on R -space was proposed. (Lüst, 1010.1361)

Boundary conditions

- Closed str on $M \times M^*$

$$\begin{aligned} X(\tau, \sigma + 2\pi) &= e^{2\pi i\theta} X(\tau, \sigma) \\ X^*(\tau + 2\pi, \sigma) &= e^{2\pi i\theta} X^*(\tau, \sigma) \end{aligned}$$

where $\theta = -nH$ and $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ the dual momentum along the T-dualised direction.

- The situation resembles the open string case:
 NCFT on D-branes \xrightarrow{T} FT on intersecting D-branes
- Are there some kind of closed string “D-branes”? Are they dynamical solutions in doubled gravity? NA SW map?
 (Lüst, 1010.1361)

Linearized CFT

Flat space with constant H -flux

$$[X^i, X^j, X^k] = i\alpha\theta^{ijk}$$

where $\theta^{ijk} \sim H$.

$\alpha = 0$ for the H -flux background

$\alpha = 1$ after an odd number of T-duality transformations.

3-product conjecture for constant R -flux

$$(f_1 \diamond f_2 \diamond f_3)(x) := \exp\left(\frac{\pi^2}{2}\theta^{ijk}\partial_i^{x_1}\partial_j^{x_2}\partial_k^{x_3}\right) f_1(x_1)f_2(x_2)f_3(x_3) \Big|_{x_i=x}$$

(Blumenhagen et al, 1106.0316)

Definitions

Poisson manifold

Given a bivector field $\Theta = \frac{1}{2} \Theta^{ij}(x) \partial_i \wedge \partial_j$ on a smooth manifold \mathcal{M} a skew-symmetric bracket $\{-, -\}_\Theta$ can be defined. This is a Poisson structure if the Schouten-Nijehuis bracket $[\Theta, \Theta]_S$ is zero.

A *quasi-Poisson structure* doesn't satisfy the Jacobi identity.

Lie algebroid

A *Lie algebroid* is a vector bundle $E \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$ endowed with a Lie bracket $[-, -]_E$ on smooth sections of E and an *anchor map* $\rho : E \rightarrow T\mathcal{M}$. The tangent map to ρ is a Lie algebra homomorphism.

Courant algebroid: E is further equipped with a metric $\langle -, - \rangle$ and a Jacobiator.

Poisson σ -model

- A Poisson manifold M (= symplectic Lie 1-algebroid with the canonical symplectic structure on T^*M).
- A 2d string worldsheet Σ_2 .
- A differential form on Σ_2 is given by the embedding $X = (X^i) : \Sigma_2 \rightarrow M$ and an auxiliary 1-form field on Σ_2 $\xi = (\xi_i) \in \Omega^1(\Sigma_2, X^*T^*M)$, $i \in \{1, \dots, d\}$.

Action

$$S^{(1)} = \int_{\Sigma_2} \left(\xi_i \wedge dX^i + \frac{1}{2} \Theta^{ij}(X) \xi_i \wedge \xi_j \right)$$

This is a topological field theory on $C^\infty(T\Sigma_2, T^*M)$.

(Cattaneo & Felder, math.QA/0102108)

Courant σ -model

- Courant algebroid (= symplectic Lie 2-algebroid).
- A 3d **membrane** worldvolume Σ_3 .
- $\alpha = (\alpha^I) \in \Omega^1(\Sigma_3, X^*E)$ and $\phi = (\phi_i) \in \Omega^2(\Sigma_3, X^*T^*M)$.
- Choose a local basis of sections $\{\psi_I\}$ of $E \rightarrow M$ s.t. the fibre metric $h_{IJ} := \langle \psi_I, \psi_J \rangle$ is constant, $I \in \{1, \dots, 2d\}$.
- Def. the anchor matrix $\rho(\psi_I) = P_I^i(x) \partial_i$, and the 3-form $T_{IJK}(x) := [\psi_I, \psi_J, \psi_K]_E$.

Action

$$S^{(2)} = \int_{\Sigma_3} \left(\phi_i \wedge dX^i + \frac{1}{2} h_{IJ} \alpha^I \wedge d\alpha^J - P_I^i(X) \phi_i \wedge \alpha^I + \frac{1}{6} T_{IJK}(X) \alpha^I \wedge \alpha^J \wedge \alpha^K \right)$$

H-space

- Standard Courant algebroid $C = TM \oplus T^*M$ twisted by $H = \frac{1}{6} H_{ijk}(x) dx^i \wedge dx^j \wedge dx^k$.
- Structure maps:
 - Antisymmetrized H -twisted Courant-Dorfman bracket.
 - The usual pairing between TM and T^*M and $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$.
- Assume $TM \cong M \times \mathbb{R}^d$ to keep only H -flux.
- Write $(\alpha^I) := (\alpha^1, \dots, \alpha^d, \xi_1, \dots, \xi_d)$ and integrate out ϕ_i .

H -twisted Poisson σ -model

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{S}^{(1)} &= \int_{\Sigma_2} \left(\xi_i \wedge dX^i + \frac{1}{2} \Theta^{ij}(X) \xi_i \wedge \xi_j \right) \\ &+ \int_{\Sigma_3} \frac{1}{6} H_{ijk}(X) dX^i \wedge dX^j \wedge dX^k \end{aligned}$$

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R-space

- R -twisted C-D bracket; all other structure maps don't change.

Non-topological quasi-Poisson σ -model, constant R -flux

$$S_R^{(2)} = \oint_{\Sigma_2} \left(\eta_I \wedge dX^I + \frac{1}{2} \Theta^{IJ}(X) \eta_I \wedge \eta_J \right) + \oint_{\Sigma_2} \frac{1}{2} G^{IJ} \eta_I \wedge * \eta_J$$

$$\Theta = (\Theta^{IJ}) = \begin{pmatrix} R^{ijk} p_k & \delta^i_j \\ -\delta_i^j & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad (G^{IJ}) = \begin{pmatrix} g^{ij} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

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* $[\Theta, \Theta]_S = \Lambda^3 \Theta^I(H)$, where $H = \frac{1}{6} R^{ijk} dp_i \wedge dp_j \wedge dp_k$.

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- $[\Theta, \Theta]_g = \wedge^3 \Theta^i(H)$, where $H = \frac{1}{8} R^{ijk} dp_i \wedge dp_j \wedge dp_k$.
- The twisting is provided by a $U(1)$ -gerbe in momentum space with 2-connection $B = \frac{1}{8} R^{ijk} p_k dp_i \wedge dp_j$.

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- $\{x^I, x^J\}_\Theta = \Theta^{IJ}(x)$ (antisym.) reproduces **Lüst's NA algebra**.

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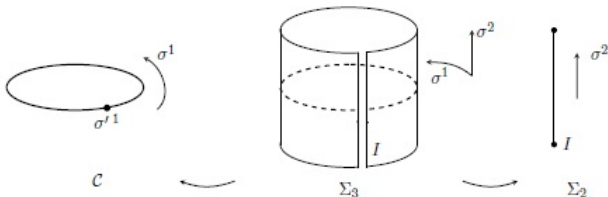
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Boundary conditions

- Consider $M = \mathbb{T}^2 \times S^1$. Elliptic monodromies induce twisted BCs on closed str. Canonical quantization results to NC fibres:

$$\{x^i, x^j\}_Q = Q^{ij}{}_k \tilde{p}^k \quad \text{and} \quad \{x^i, \tilde{p}^j\}_Q = 0 = \{\tilde{p}^i, \tilde{p}^j\}_Q,$$
 with constant Q -flux. **Winding number dependence.**
- Closed str. on an orbifold \rightarrow Open str. on the covering space.
- In CFT, monodromy=twist field at some pt \Rightarrow branch pt.
- Stokes' theorem: $\Sigma_3 \rightarrow \Sigma_2 \Rightarrow$ branch cut I .



Motivation

- Choose BCs on I appropriate for an open str. twisted Poisson σ -model.
- Take the topological limit $g \ll R$.
- The propagator is

$$\langle X^I(w) \eta_J(z) \rangle = \frac{i\hbar}{2\pi} \delta^I_J d_z \phi^h(z, w) ,$$

where $d_z := dz \frac{\partial}{\partial z} + d\bar{z} \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}}$ and $\phi^h(z, w)$ is the **harmonic angle**.

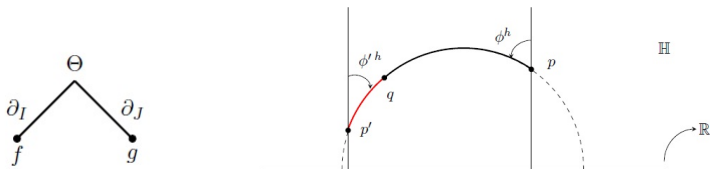
The Feynman diagram expansion reproduces Kontsevich's graphical expansion for global deformation quantization of a twisted Poisson structure.

(Cattaneo & Felder, math.QA/9902090, hep-th/0111028)

Star product

- Formality map = a sequence of L_∞ morphisms U_n .

$$f \star g := \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(i\hbar)^n}{n!} U_n(\Theta, \dots, \Theta)(f, g)$$



- Jacobiator quantization, i.e. $\Pi = [\Theta, \Theta]_S$.

$$[f, g, h]_\star := \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(i\hbar)^n}{n!} U_{n+1}(\Pi, \Theta, \dots, \Theta)(f, g, h) \equiv \Phi(\Pi)(f, g, h)$$

Derivation properties

- \exists a **formality condition** s.t. U_n is an L_∞ morphism.
- Associator.

$$[f, g, h]_\star = \frac{2i}{\hbar} ((f \star g) \star h - f \star (g \star h))$$

- Derivation properties.

$$i\hbar \Phi(d_\Theta \Pi)(f, g, h) = f \star [g, h, k]_\star - [f \star g, h, k]_\star + \\ + [f, g \star h, k]_\star - [f, g, h \star k]_\star + [f, g, h]_\star \star k$$

where $d_\Theta \Pi := [\Pi, \Theta]_S$.

- l.h.s. is equal to zero for constant R -flux. **“Pentagon identity”**.

Constant R -flux

- Nonassociative star product.

$$f \star g = \mu_2 \left(\exp \left(\frac{i\hbar}{2} \Theta^{IJ} \partial_I \otimes \partial_J \right) (f \otimes g) \right)$$

- Associator.

$$[f, g, h]_{\star} = \frac{4i}{\hbar} \left[\tilde{\star} \left(\sinh \left(\frac{\hbar^2}{4} R^{ijk} \partial_i \otimes \partial_j \otimes \partial_k \right) (f \otimes g \otimes h) \right) \right]_{\tilde{p} \rightarrow p}$$

- The associator defines a quantization of the Nambu-Poisson structure defined by Π

$$[f, g, h]_{\star} = 6i\hbar \{f, g, h\}_{\Theta} + \mathcal{O}(\hbar^2) .$$

Leibnitz rule \implies pentagon identity at the quantum level.

Seiberg-Witten maps (generalities)

YM

① gauge field a_μ , parameter λ

② $\delta_\lambda a_\mu = \partial_\mu \lambda$

$\hat{A}(a)$ and $\hat{\Lambda}(\lambda, a)$ are the Seiberg-Witten maps.

NCYM

① \hat{A}_μ and $\hat{\Lambda}$

② $\delta_{\hat{\Lambda}} \hat{A}_\mu = \partial_\mu \hat{\Lambda} + i[\hat{\Lambda}, \hat{A}_\mu]_\star$

(Seiberg-Witten)

- Covariantizing map.

$$\mathcal{D} : x^\mu \mapsto \hat{x}^\mu = x^\mu + \theta^{\mu\nu} \hat{A}_\nu(x)$$

- Gauge transformations.

$$\theta \mapsto \theta' = \theta (1 + \hbar f \theta)^{-1},$$

then

$$\mathcal{D}(f \star_{\theta'} g) = \mathcal{D}f \star_\theta \mathcal{D}g$$

(Jurčo, Schupp & Wess)

Seiberg-Witten maps (on gerbes)

- On gerbes:
 - $H = dB_\alpha$ on each patch,
 - $F_{\alpha\beta} := B_\beta - B_\alpha = da_{\alpha\beta}$ on overlaps,
 - $\lambda_{\alpha\beta\gamma}$ on triple overlaps.
- Θ can be locally untwisted by B_α to:
$$\Theta_\alpha = \Theta (1 - \hbar B_\alpha \Theta)^{-1}.$$
- Θ_α (Poisson) and \star_α (associative) are related by covariantizing maps computed from $a_{\alpha\beta}$.

(Jurčo, Schupp & Wess)

Seiberg-Witten maps (on phase space)

- Replace patch index α by a constant momentum vector \tilde{p} .

$$\Theta_{\tilde{p}} = \begin{pmatrix} \hbar R^{ijk} \tilde{p}_k & \delta^i_j \\ -\delta_i^j & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad B_{\tilde{p}} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & R^{ijk} (p_k - \tilde{p}_k) \end{pmatrix}$$

- 1-connection is given by:

$$a_{\tilde{p}, \tilde{p}'} = R^{ijk} p_i (\tilde{p}_k - \tilde{p}'_k) dp_j$$

- 1 For H fixed the \mathcal{D} 's are constructed from the gauge potential:

$$A = A_I(x) dx^I = a_i(x, p) dx^i + \tilde{a}^i(x, p) dp_i .$$

- 2 Relationship between \star_0 and $\star_{\tilde{p}}$.

$$f \star g = [\mathcal{D}_{\tilde{p}}(f \star g)]_{\tilde{p} \rightarrow p} = [\mathcal{D}_{\tilde{p}} f \star_0 \mathcal{D}_{\tilde{p}} g]_{\tilde{p} \rightarrow p}$$

SW map can be computed in closed form.

Definitions

Objective

Find a suitable higher analogue of Weyl quantization.

A 2-vector space is a linear category $\mathcal{V} = (\mathcal{V}_0, \mathcal{V}_1)$ of

- 1 a vector space of objects \mathcal{V}_0
- 2 a vector space of morphisms \mathcal{V}_1
- 3 a source and a target maps $s, t : \mathcal{V}_1 \rightrightarrows \mathcal{V}_0$
- 4 an inclusion map $\mathbb{1} : \mathcal{V}_0 \rightarrow \mathcal{V}_1, v \mapsto \mathbb{1}_v$.

Lie 2-algebras

A Lie 2-algebra is a 2-vector space \mathcal{V} together with an antisymmetric bilinear bracket $[-, -]_{\mathcal{V}} : \mathcal{V} \times \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{V}$ and an antisymmetric trilinear Jacobiator isomorphism on objects satisfying a higher Jacobi identity.

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More definitions

L_∞ -algebras

An L_∞ -algebra is a graded vector space V with a collection of totally (graded) antisymmetric n -brackets $[-, \dots, -] : \bigwedge^n V \rightarrow V$ of degree $n - 2$ satisfying *higher* or *homotopy Jacobi identities*.

A *2-term L_∞ -algebra* is one with underlying graded vector space $V = V_0 \oplus V_1$; it has vanishing n -brackets for $n > 3$.

2-term L_∞ -algebras are the same things as Lie 2-algebras.

(Baez & Crans, math.QA/0307263)

Even more definitions

A *tensor* or *monoidal* category $\mathcal{C} = (\mathcal{C}_0, \mathcal{C}_1)$ has

- an exterior product $\otimes : \mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$
- an identity object $\mathbb{1} \in \mathcal{C}_0$
- unity isomorphisms
$$\mathbb{1}_X := \mathbb{1} \otimes X \cong X \cong X \otimes \mathbb{1} \text{ in } \mathcal{C}_1, \forall X \in \mathcal{C}_0$$
- associator isomorphisms
$$\mathcal{P}_{X,Y,Z} : (X \otimes Y) \otimes Z \xrightarrow{\sim} X \otimes (Y \otimes Z), \forall X, Y, Z \in \mathcal{C}_0.$$

For higher associators to be consistent, $\mathbb{1}_X$ and \mathcal{P} must satisfy:

- 1 the **pentagon identities** (5 bracketings of 4 objects)
- 2 the triangle identities (associator is compatible with the unity)

Braiding

\mathcal{C} is *braided* if $\exists \mathcal{B}_{X,Y} : X \otimes Y \xrightarrow{\sim} Y \otimes X, \forall X, Y \in \mathcal{C}_0.$

\mathcal{B} are called **commutativity relations**.

Lie-2 groups

A *2-group* is a monoidal category in which every object and morphism has an inverse.

A *Lie 2-group* is a pair $\mathcal{G} = (\mathcal{G}_0, \mathcal{G}_1)$ of objects in the category of smooth manifolds and smooth maps with

- 1 source and target maps $s, t : \mathcal{G}_1 \rightrightarrows \mathcal{G}_0$
- 2 vertical multiplication $\circ : \mathcal{G}_1 \times \mathcal{G}_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{G}_1$
- 3 horizontal multiplication functor $\otimes : \mathcal{G} \times \mathcal{G} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}$
- 4 identity object 1
- 5 inversion functor $(-)^{-1} : \mathcal{G} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}$
- 6 associator, left and right units as before
- 7 units and counits $g \otimes g^{-1} \cong 1 \cong g^{-1} \otimes g$

R-space and Q-space Lie 2-algebras

- Let $V \cong \mathbb{R}^{2d}$ and define $[-, -]_R : V \wedge V \rightarrow V$ by the R -space commutation relations. This is a *pre-Lie algebra*.
- $V_0 = V_1 = V$ and let $d := [-] : V_1 \rightarrow V_0$ be the identity map. This is a 2-term L_∞ -algebra = the **R -space Lie 2-algebra \mathcal{V}** .

\mathcal{V} can not be directly integrated to a Lie 2-group.

- Take the Q -space algebra \mathfrak{g} .
- 2-term L_∞ -algebra: $(\tilde{V}_1 = \mathbb{R} \xrightarrow{\tilde{d}} \tilde{V}_0 = \mathfrak{g})$ with 3-cocycle:
$$j(\hat{x}^i, \hat{x}^j, \hat{x}^k) = R^{ijk}.$$

This is the **Q -space Lie 2-algebra $\tilde{\mathcal{V}}$** .

Integrating 2-groups

- $(\mathfrak{g}, \mathbb{R}, j)$ exponentiates $(G, U(1), \varphi)$, where $G=d$ -dim Heisenberg and φ =associator.
 - To exponentiate $[j] \in H^3(\mathfrak{g}, \mathbb{R})$ to a *compact* element $[\varphi] \in H^3(G, U(1))$, we need to restrict the space of 3-cocycles to a lattice $\Lambda \cong \mathbb{Z}^d$.
 - Λ injects into Γ = cocompact lattice in G . G/Γ is a **Heisenberg nilmanifold**.
 - Λ is equipped with an inner product and a dual pairing Σ .
- $\hat{p}_i \rightarrow \hat{p}_i$ with braiding: $\mathcal{B}_{g,h} = (gh, \beta(g,h))$.

This braided monoidal category \mathcal{G} is the Lie 2-group that integrates the Lie 2-algebra \mathcal{V} .

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Explicit construction

- Exponentiation of the Lie 2-algebra generators.

$$\hat{Z}^a = \exp (2\pi i (\Sigma^{-1})_i{}^a \hat{x}^i)$$

$$\hat{P}_\xi = \exp (i \xi^i \hat{p}_i),$$

where $a = 1, \dots, d$ and $\xi = (\xi^i) \in \mathbb{R}^d$.

- Commutation relations.

$$\hat{Z}^a \otimes \hat{Z}^b = \hat{P}_{\xi_R^{ab}} \otimes \hat{Z}^b \otimes \hat{Z}^a$$

$$\hat{Z}^a \otimes \hat{P}_\xi = e^{2\pi i \hbar (\Sigma^{-1})_i{}^a \xi^i} \hat{P}_\xi \otimes \hat{Z}^a$$

$$\hat{P}_\xi \otimes \hat{P}_{\xi'} = \hat{P}_{\xi'} \otimes \hat{P}_\xi$$

where $(\xi_R^{ab})^i = -4\pi^2 (\Sigma^{-1})_j{}^a R^{ijk} (\Sigma^{-1})_k{}^b$.

Explicit construction

- Associativity relation.

$$(\hat{Z}^a \otimes \hat{Z}^b) \otimes \hat{Z}^c = e^{-2\pi i \hbar R^{abc}} \hat{Z}^a \otimes (\hat{Z}^b \otimes \hat{Z}^c) ,$$

where $R^{abc} = 2\pi^2 R^{ijk} (\Sigma^{-1})_i^a (\Sigma^{-1})_j^b (\Sigma^{-1})_k^c$.

- The tricharacter

$$\varphi(m, n, q) = e^{-2\pi i \hbar R^{abc} m_a n_b q_c} ,$$

where $m_a \in \Lambda^* \cong \mathbb{Z}^d$, obeys the required pentagonal cocycle condition.

- Higher associativity relations in \mathcal{G} were computed. \Rightarrow
Quantization of the fundamental identity for Nambu-Poisson structures is encoded in \mathcal{G} .

Convolution star product

- Consider $C^\infty(T^*M)$ on $T^*M = \mathbb{T}^d \times (\mathbb{R}^d)^*$. Embed it as an algebra object \mathcal{A} of \mathcal{G} .
- Categorify the Weyl map: defined it as the linear isomorphism

$$\mathcal{W}(e^{i k_I x^I}) = \hat{W}(m, \xi) := \exp(i k_I \hat{x}^I),$$

where $(k_I) = (k_1, \dots, k_d, \xi^1, \dots, \xi^d)$ with $k_i = 2\pi (\Sigma^{-1})_i^a m_a$ and extended by linearity (Fourier expansion).

Star product definition

$$\mathcal{W}(f \circledast g) := \mathcal{W}(f) \otimes \mathcal{W}(g)$$

- The NA \circledast -product satisfies the associativity relation of the category; i.e. $(\mathcal{A}, \circledast)$ really is an object of \mathcal{G} .

Summary

- Courant σ -model \longrightarrow twisted Poisson σ -model that offers a *geometric interpretation* of the R -flux background.
- Deformation quantization gave us the nonassociative star product as well as quantization of Nambu-Poisson brackets.
- SW maps from NA to associative star products were computed.
- Using the appropriate categorical formalism the Weyl quantization map has been categorified and the pertinent NA convolution product was computed.
- The two products coincide giving us a categorical version of Kathotia's theorem.