

# Signature cumulants and generalized Magnus expansions



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# Motivation: Moments and Cumulants

Let  $X$  be a r.v. s.t.  $\mathbb{E}e^{\lambda X} < \infty$  for some  $\lambda > 0$ .

## Definition

Moment-generating function:

$$\mu(z) := \mathbb{E}[e^{zX}] = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \mathbb{E}[X^n] \frac{z^n}{n!}, \quad z \leq \lambda$$

Cumulant-generating function:

$$\kappa(z) := \log \mu(z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \kappa_n \frac{z^n}{n!}, \quad z \leq \lambda.$$

Under some conditions, cumulants characterize the distribution of  $X$ , e.g.  $X \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$  iff

$$\kappa_1 = 0, \quad \kappa_2 = \sigma^2, \quad \kappa_3 = \kappa_4 = \dots = 0.$$

Also,  $X \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$  iff

$$\kappa_n = \lambda, \quad n \geq 1.$$

## Theorem (Leonov–Shiryaev (1959))

$$\kappa_n = \mathbb{E}[X^n] - \sum_{m=1}^{n-1} \binom{n-1}{m} \kappa_m \mathbb{E}[X^{n-m}]$$

## Theorem (Speed (1983), Ebrahimi-Fard–Patras–T.–Zambotti (2018))

*The following relation between moments and cumulants holds:*

$$\mathbb{E}[X^n] = \sum_{\pi \in \mathcal{P}(n)} \prod_{B \in \pi} \kappa_{|B|}.$$

*Also a multivariate version indexed by the same lattice.*

## Remark

Cumulants are also related to Wick products:

$$e^{zX - \kappa(z)} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} :X^n: \frac{z^n}{n!}$$

# Motivation: Sine–Gordon model

Let  $K$  be a positive-semidefinite kernel on  $\mathbb{R}^d$  and consider  $X$  a Gaussian field with covariance  $K$ , i.e.  $\mathbb{E}[X(x)X(y)] = K(x, y)$ .

Formally tilt the measure by setting

$$\tilde{\mathbb{P}}(dX) := \frac{1}{Z} \exp\left(2\alpha \int \cos(\beta X(x)) dx\right) \mathbb{P}(dX).$$

Since  $X$  is a distribution, this does not make sense.

Consider a regularised kernel  $K_t$  and the corresponding field  $X_t(x)$  with  $\mathbb{E}[X_s(x)X_t(y)] = K_{t \wedge s}(x, y)$ .

This gives rise to the martingale

$$M_t := \int \cos(\beta X_t(x)) e^{\frac{\beta^2}{2} K_t(x,x)} dx$$

One can show that  $\mathbb{E}[e^{\alpha M_t}]$  equals

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\alpha^n}{2^n n!} \sum_{\lambda \in \{+1, -1\}^n} \int \exp\left(-\beta^2 \sum_{i < j} \lambda_i \lambda_j K_t(x_i, x_j)\right) \prod_{i=1}^n dx_i.$$

Let  $\mathbb{K}_t^{(n)}$  be the “martingale cumulants” and define

$$Z_t[f] := \mathbb{E}[f(X) e^{\alpha M_t}] e^{-\sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{\alpha^{2k}}{(2k)!} \mathbb{K}_t^{(2k)}}.$$

## Theorem (Lacoin–Rhodes–Vargas (2019))

For  $\beta < 2d$ , the sequence  $Z_t$  has a limit as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .  
Moreover,

$$\tilde{\mathbb{P}}(dX) := \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{Z_t[1]} e^{\alpha M_t - \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{\alpha^{2k}}{(2k)!} \mathbb{K}_t^{(2k)}} \mathbb{P}(dX)$$

defines a probability measure.

# Motivation: Diamond expansions

Let  $\mathcal{S}$  be the space of semimartingales on a filtered probability space  $(\mathcal{F}_t)_{t \geq 0}$ .

## Definition (Diamond product)

Let  $X, Y \in \mathcal{S}$ . Define

$$(X \diamond Y)_t(T) := \mathbb{E}_t[\langle X^c, Y^c \rangle_{t,T}] \in \mathcal{S}.$$

## Theorem (Gatheral–Radoičić (2018), Friz–Gatheral–Radoičić (2020), Lacoin–Rhodes–Vargas (2019))

Let  $A_T \in \mathcal{F}_T$  sufficiently integrable. Set  $\mu_t(T) := \mathbb{E}_t[e^{zA_T}]$  and  $\mathbb{K}_t(T) := \log \mu_t(T)$ . If  $\mathbb{K}_t(T) = z\mathbb{E}_t[A_T] + \sum_{n \geq 2} z^n \mathbb{K}_t^{(n)}(T)$ , we have the recursion

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{K}_t^{(1)}(T) &:= \mathbb{E}_t[A_T] \\ \mathbb{K}_t^{(n+1)}(T) &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^n (\mathbb{K}_t^{(k)} \diamond \mathbb{K}_t^{(n-k)})(T). \end{aligned}$$

## Proof.

Let  $M_t := \mathbb{E}_t[A_T]$ ,  $\Lambda_t^T = \sum_{k \geq 2} z^k \mathbb{K}_t^{(k)}(T)$ . Then  $e^{zM_t + \Lambda_t^T}$  is a martingale, so  $zM_t + \Lambda_t^T + \frac{1}{2} \langle zM_t + \Lambda_t^T \rangle_t$  is also a martingale by Itô's formula. In particular

$$\mathbb{E}_t \left\{ \mathbb{K}_T(T) + \frac{1}{2} \langle \mathbb{K}(T) \rangle_{t,T} \right\} = 0.$$

# Motivation: Signatures

Denote by  $T(d)$  the tensor algebra over  $\{1, \dots, d\}$ . The dual  $T((d)) := T(d)^*$  is identified with formal word (tensor) series.

For  $\mathbf{S} \in T((d))$  we write

$$\mathbf{S} = \sum_w S^w w = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \mathbf{S}^{(n)}.$$

## Definition (Cauchy product)

For  $\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{S} \in T((d))$ ,

$$\mathbf{RS} = \sum_w \left( \sum_{uv=w} R^u S^v \right) w = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{k=0}^n \mathbf{R}^{(k)} \mathbf{S}^{(n-k)}$$

Maps  $\exp$  and  $\log$  are defined via the usual power series.

Denote by  $G \subset T_1$  the set of series such that  $S^u S^v = S^{u \sqcup v}$ , and  $\mathfrak{g} \subset \mathfrak{t}$  the (linear) space of series such that  $S^{u \sqcup v} = 0$  for non-empty  $u, v$ .

## Theorem

*The map  $\exp: \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow G$  is a bijection, with inverse  $\log: G \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}$ .*

Denote by  $T_1$  (resp.  $\mathfrak{t}$ ) the sets of series with  $S^e = 1$  (resp.  $S^e = 0$ ).

## Theorem

*The map  $\exp: \mathfrak{t} \rightarrow T_1$  is a bijection, with inverse  $\log: T_1 \rightarrow \mathfrak{t}$ .*

## Remark

Both  $\mathfrak{t}$  and  $\mathfrak{g}$  are Lie algebras wrt the commutator bracket.

# Motivation: Signatures

## Definition (Chen (1953), Lyons (1998))

For an absolutely continuous path  $X$  in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , its signature is the formal tensor series

$$\text{Sig}(X)_{s,t} := \sum_w \left( \int_{s < u_1 < \dots < u_n < t} \dot{X}_{u_1}^{w_1} \dots \dot{X}_{u_n}^{w_n} du_1 \dots du_n \right) w \in T((d))$$

## Theorem (see e.g. Friz–Victoir (2010))

*The signature satisfies the ODE*

$$d_t \mathbf{S}_{s,t} = \mathbf{S}_{s,t} \dot{X}_t, \quad \mathbf{S}_{s,s} = 1$$

## Theorem (Chen–Fliess series, Fliess (1981))

*Let  $Y$  solve  $dY = f_i(Y) dX^i$ . Then*

$$Y_t = \sum_{|w| \leq N} f_w(Y_s) \text{Sig}(X)_{s,t}^w + O(|t - s|^{N+1}).$$

## Theorem (Chen (1953))

*Given  $0 \leq s < u < t \leq T$  we have*

$$\text{Sig}(X)_{s,u} \text{Sig}(X)_{u,t} = \text{Sig}(X)_{s,t}.$$

## Theorem (Ree (1954))

*We have  $\text{Sig}(X)_{s,t} \in G$ , i.e. for all words  $u, v$*

$$\text{Sig}(X)_{s,t}^u \text{Sig}(X)_{s,t}^v = \text{Sig}(X)_{s,t}^{u \sqcup v}$$

# Motivation: Magnus expansion

## Theorem (Hausdorff (1906))

Let  $\Omega_{s,t} := \log \text{Sig}_{s,t}(X) \in \mathfrak{g}$ . Then

$$\frac{d}{dt} \Omega_{s,t} = H(-\text{ad } \Omega_{s,t}) \dot{X}_t, \quad \Omega_{s,s} = 0$$

where

$$H(z) := \frac{z}{e^z - 1} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{B_n}{n!} z^n$$

## Theorem (Magnus (1954))

Expand  $\Omega_{s,t} = \sum_n \Omega_{s,t}^{(n)}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega_{s,t}^{(1)} &= \int_s^t \dot{X}_u \, du = X_t - X_s \\ \Omega_{s,t}^{(n+1)} &= \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{(-1)^k B_k}{k!} \sum_{\ell_1 + \dots + \ell_k = n} \int_s^t [\Omega_{s,u}^{(\ell_1)}, [\Omega_{s,u}^{(\ell_2)}, \dots, [\Omega_{s,u}^{(\ell_k)}, \dot{X}_u] \dots]] \, du \end{aligned}$$

# Tensor-valued semimartingales

## Definition

A real-valued process  $X$  is a semimartingale if it can be decomposed as  $X = X_0 + M + A$  with  $M$  a càdlàg local martingale,  $A$  a càdlàg adapted process of locally bounded variation. The continuous martingale part of  $X$  is denoted by  $X^c$ . The space of semimartingales is denoted by  $\mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R})$ .

## Definition (FHT (2020+))

A tensor-valued semimartingale is a series  $\mathbf{X}$  where  $X^w$  is a semimartingale for all  $w$ .

## Definition (see e.g. Protter's book)

Square bracket:

$$[X, Y] := XY - \int X_- dY - \int Y_- dX$$

Angle bracket:

$$\langle X^c, Y^c \rangle := [X, Y] - \sum_{s \leq \cdot} \Delta X_s \Delta Y_s$$

## Definition (FHT (2020+))

Outer bracket:

$$[[\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}]] := \sum_{u, v} [X^u, Y^v] u \otimes v$$

Inner bracket:

$$\langle \mathbf{X}^c, \mathbf{Y}^c \rangle := \sum_w \left( \sum_{uv=w} \langle X^{u,c}, Y^{v,c} \rangle \right)_w$$



# Generalized signatures

Definition (Friz–Shekhar (2017), FHT (2020+))

Let  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathcal{S}(t)$ . Its generalized signature  $\text{Sig}(\mathbf{X})_{s,t}$  is the unique solution to the Marcus equation

$$\mathbf{S}_{s,t} = 1 + \int_{(s,t]} \mathbf{S}_{s,u-} d\mathbf{X}_u + \frac{1}{2} \int_s^t \mathbf{S}_{u-} d\langle \mathbf{X}^c \rangle_u + \sum_{s < u \leq t} \mathbf{S}_{s,u-} (\exp(\Delta \mathbf{X}_u) - 1 - \Delta \mathbf{X}_u) =: 1 + \int_s^t \mathbf{S}_{s,u-} \circ d\mathbf{X}_u.$$

Proposition (Chen (1953), Lyons (1998), FHT (2020+))

Let  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathcal{S}(t)$  and  $s, u, t \in [0, T]$ .

$$\text{Sig}(\mathbf{X})_{s,u} \text{Sig}(\mathbf{X})_{u,t} = \text{Sig}(\mathbf{X})_{s,t}.$$

Definition (Hambly–Lyons (2010))

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_t(T) := \mathbb{E}_t \text{Sig}(\mathbf{X})_{t,T} \in T_1$$

$$\boldsymbol{\kappa}_t(T) := \log \boldsymbol{\mu}_t(T) \in \mathfrak{t}$$

Theorem (Bonnier–Oberhauser (2019))

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_{s,t}^w = \sum_{a \in \text{OP}(w)} \frac{1}{|a|!} \boldsymbol{\kappa}^a$$

Theorem (FHT (2020+))

Under suitable integrability conditions,

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_t(T) \in \mathcal{S}(T_1), \quad \boldsymbol{\kappa}_t(T) \in \mathcal{S}(\mathfrak{t}).$$

# Main result

## Theorem (FHT (2020+))

For a sufficiently integrable  $t$ -valued semimartingale  $\mathbf{X}$ ,  $\kappa_t(T)$  is the unique solution to the functional equation

$$\begin{aligned} \kappa_t = \mathbb{E}_t \left\{ \int_{(t,T]} H(\text{ad } \kappa_{u-}) (d\mathbf{X}_u) + \frac{1}{2} \int_t^T H(\text{ad } \kappa_{u-}) (d\langle \mathbf{X}^c \rangle_u) \right. \\ \left. + \frac{1}{2} \int_t^T H(\text{ad } \kappa_{u-}) Q(\text{ad } \kappa_{u-}) (d[[\kappa]]_u^c) + \int_t^T H(\text{ad } \kappa_{u-}) \circ (\text{id} \odot G(\text{ad } \kappa_{u-})) (d[[\mathbf{X}, \kappa]]_u^c) \right. \\ \left. + \sum_{t < u \leq T} (H(\text{ad } \kappa_{u-}) (\exp(\Delta \mathbf{X}_u) \exp(\kappa_u) \exp(-\kappa_{u-}) - 1 - \Delta \mathbf{X}_u) - \Delta \kappa_u) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

$$G(z) := \frac{e^z - 1}{z} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{z^k}{(k+1)!}, \quad Q(z, \tilde{z}) := \sum_{n,m=0}^{\infty} \frac{z^n \tilde{z}^m}{(n+1)! m! (n+m+2)}, \quad U \odot V(\mathbf{X} \otimes \mathbf{Y}) = U(\mathbf{X})V(\mathbf{Y}).$$

# Main result: Recursion

## Corollary (FHT (2020+))

The graded components  $\kappa_t^{(n)}(T)$  satisfy the recursion

$$\kappa_t^{(1)} = \mathbb{E}_t[\mathbf{X}_{t,T}^{(1)}]$$

$$\kappa_t^{(n)} = \mathbb{E}_t[\mathbf{X}_{t,T}^{(n)}] + \sum_{k=1}^n (\mathbf{X}^{(k)} \diamond \mathbf{X}^{(n-k)})_t(T) + \sum_{I \vdash n} \mathbb{E}_t[\Omega(I) + \mathbb{Q}(I) + \mathbb{C}(I) + \mathbb{J}(I)]$$

where

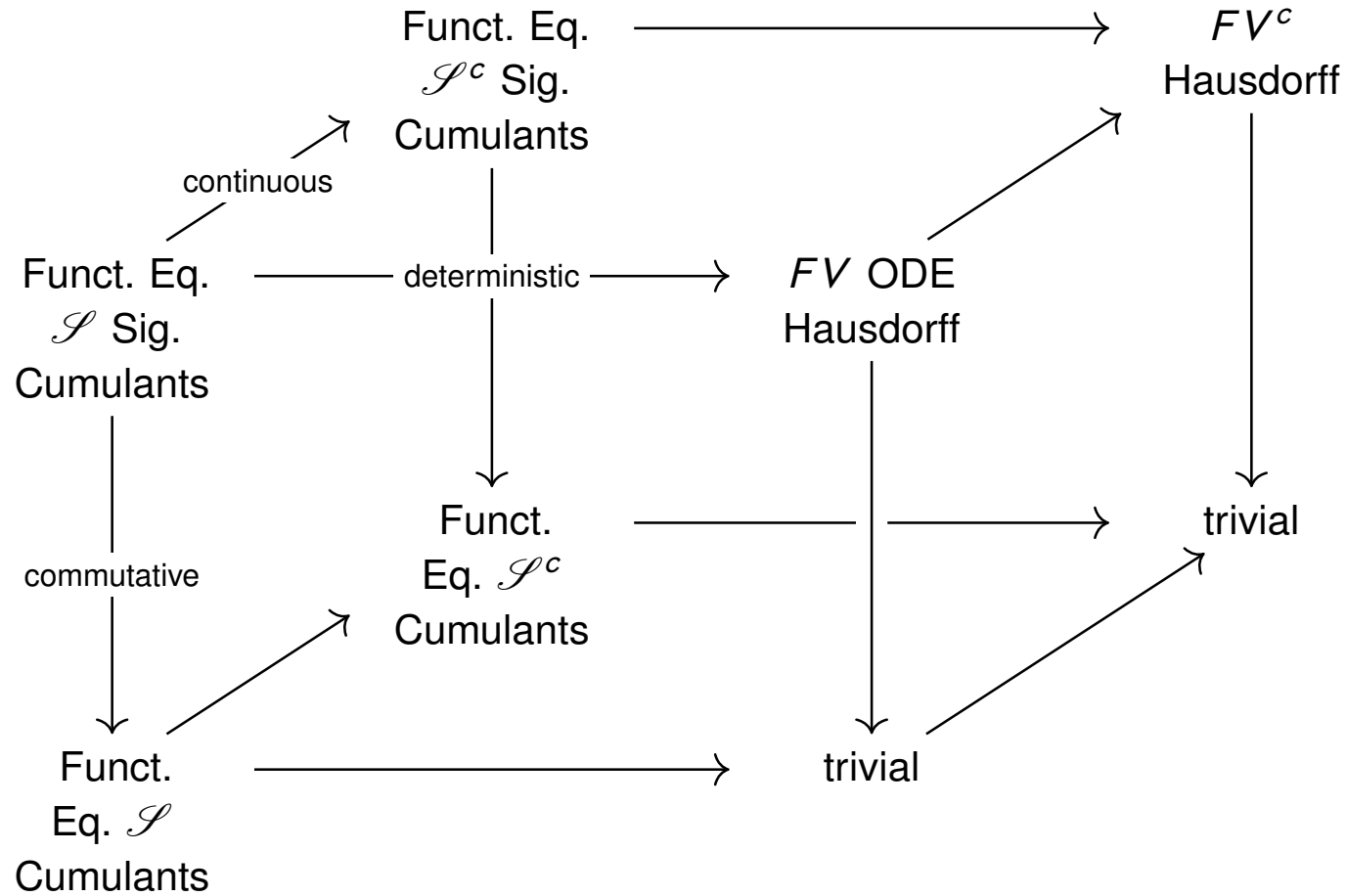
$$\Omega(I) = \frac{1}{k!} \int_{(t,T]} \text{ad } \kappa_{u^-}^{(i_2)} \cdots \text{ad } \kappa_{u^-}^{(i_k)} (d\mathbf{X}^{(i_1)})$$

$$\mathbb{Q}(I) = \frac{1}{k!} \sum_{m=2}^k \binom{n-1}{m-1} \int_t^T \text{ad } \kappa_{u^-}^{(i_3)} \cdots \text{ad } \kappa_{u^-}^{(i_m)} \odot \text{ad } \kappa_{u^-}^{(i_{m+1})} \cdots \text{ad } \kappa_{u^-}^{(i_k)} (d\llbracket \kappa^{(i_1)}, \kappa^{(i_2)} \rrbracket_u^c)$$

$$\mathbb{C}(I) = \frac{1}{(k-1)!} \int_t^T (\text{id} \odot \text{ad } \kappa_{u^-}^{(i_3)} \cdots \text{ad } \kappa_{u^-}^{(i_k)}) (d\llbracket \mathbf{X}^{(i_1)}, \kappa^{(i_2)} \rrbracket_u^c)$$

$$\mathbb{J}(I) = \sum_{t < u \leq T} \left( \sum_{1 \leq m \leq j \leq k} (-1)^{k-j} \frac{\Delta \mathbf{X}_u^{(i_1)} \cdots \Delta \mathbf{X}_u^{(i_m)} \kappa_u^{(i_{m+1})} \cdots \kappa_u^{(i_j)} \kappa_{u^-}^{(i_{j+1})} \cdots \kappa_{u^-}^{(i_k)}}{m!(m-j)!(k-j)!} - \frac{1}{k!} \text{ad } \kappa_{u^-}^{(i_2)} \cdots \text{ad } \kappa_{u^-}^{(i_k)} (\Delta \kappa_u^{(i_1)}) \right)$$

# Main result: Overview



# Consequences: Time-inhomogeneous Lévy processes

Suppose  $X \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  is an Itô semimartingale with independent increments. Then

$$X_t = \int_0^t b(u) du + \int_0^t \sigma(u) dB_u + \int_{(0,t]} \int_{|x| \leq 1} x(\mu^X - \nu)(du, dx) + \int_{(0,t]} \int_{|x| > 1} x \mu^X(du, dx).$$

where  $b \in L^1$ ,  $\sigma \in L^2$ ,  $\mu^X$  is an independent inhomogeneous Poisson random measure with intensity measure  $\nu$ , such that  $\nu(du, dx) = K_u(dx) du$  and  $K_u$  are Lévy measures with

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} (|x|^2 \wedge 1) K_u(dx) < \infty, \quad \int_0^T \int_{|x| > 1} |x|^n K_u(dx) du < \infty.$$

Corollary (FHT (2020+), Friz–Shekhar (2017))

The signature cumulants satisfy

$$\kappa_t = \int_t^T H(\text{ad } \kappa_u)(\mathfrak{h}(u)) du,$$

where

$$\mathfrak{h}(u) := b(u) + \frac{1}{2}a(u) + \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} (\exp(x) - 1 - x1_{|x| \leq 1}) K_u(dx), \quad a = \sigma \cdot \sigma^\top.$$

# Consequences: Brownian motion

Let  $B$  be a standard BM and let  $dX_t = \sigma(t) dB_t$ .

Corollary (Fawcett (2002), FHT (2020+))

The signature cumulants of  $X$  satisfy the functional equation

$$\kappa_t(T) = \frac{1}{2} \int_t^T H(\text{ad } \kappa_u)(a(u)) du.$$

In particular, if  $X = B$ , i.e.  $\sigma = I = \sum_{i=1}^d ii$  we recover Fawcett's formula

$$\kappa_t(T) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^d (T - t) ii, \quad \mathbb{E}_t \text{Sig}(B)_{t,T} = \exp\left(\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^d (T - t) ii\right)$$

Theorem (Lyons–Ni (2015), FHT (2020+))

Let  $\Gamma \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  bounded, regular domain and  $\tau_\Gamma$  the first exit time of a BM  $B$ .

The signature cumulants  $\kappa_t = \log \mathbb{E}_t[\text{Sig}(B)_{t \wedge \tau_\Gamma, \tau_\Gamma}]$  up to the first exit time from  $\Gamma$  have the form  $\kappa_t = 1_{\{t < \tau_\Gamma\}} \mathbf{F}(B_t)$  where

$$-\Delta \mathbf{F}(x) = \sum_{i=1}^d H(\text{ad } \mathbf{F}(x)) \left( ii + Q(\text{ad } \mathbf{F}(x)) (\partial_i \mathbf{F}(x))^2 + 2iG(\text{ad } \mathbf{F}(x)) (\partial_i \mathbf{F}(x)) \right)$$

with boundary condition  $\mathbf{F}|_{\partial\Gamma} = 0$ .

# Consequences: Symmetrization

Given  $\mathbf{S} \in T((d))$  denote by  $\hat{\mathbf{S}} \in S((d))$  its symmetrization.

## Theorem (FHT (2020+))

We have,

$$\widehat{\text{Sig}(\mathbf{X})}_{s,t} = \exp(\hat{\mathbf{X}}_{t,T})$$

Moreover, if  $\mathbf{X} = (0, X, 0, \dots)$ ,

$$\hat{\mu}_t(T) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} \mathbb{E}_t[(X_T - X_t)^n].$$

## Theorem (Friz–Gatheral–Radoičić (2019), FHT (2020+))

Let  $\tilde{\mathbf{X}} \in \mathcal{S}(\hat{\mathfrak{t}})$  and  $\mathbb{K}_t(T) := \log \mathbb{E}_t \exp(\tilde{\mathbf{X}}_T) = \tilde{\mathbf{X}}_t + \tilde{\mathbf{k}}_t(T)$ . Then

$$\mathbb{K}_t(T) = \frac{1}{2} (\mathbb{K} \diamond \mathbb{K})_t(T) + \sum_{t < u \leq T} \mathbb{E}_t[\exp(\Delta \mathbb{K}_u) - 1 - \Delta \mathbb{K}_u].$$

# Consequences: Hausdorff and Magnus

Theorem (Hausdorff (1906), FHT (2020+))

Assume  $\mathbf{X}$  is a deterministic càdlàg path of bounded variation. The log-signature  $\Omega_{t,T} := \log \text{Sig}(\mathbf{X})_{t,T}$  satisfies

$$\Omega_{t,T} = \int_{(t,T]} H(\text{ad } \Omega_{u-,T})(d\mathbf{X}_u) + \sum_{t < u \leq T} H(\text{ad } \Omega_{u-,T})(\exp(\Delta\mathbf{X}_u) - 1 - \Delta\mathbf{X}_u).$$

Corollary (Magnus (1954), FHT (2020+))

The graded components of  $\Omega$  satisfy

$$\begin{aligned}\Omega_{t,T}^{(1)} &= \mathbf{X}_T^{(1)} - \mathbf{X}_t^{(1)} \\ \Omega_{t,T}^{(n+1)} &= \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{B_k}{k!} \sum_{I \vdash n} \int_{(t,T]} \text{ad } \Omega_{t,T}^{(i_2)} \cdots \text{ad } \Omega_{t,T}^{(i_k)}(d\mathbf{X}_u^{(i_1)}) \\ &\quad + \sum_{2 \leq m \leq k \leq n} \frac{B_{k-m}}{(k-m)!m!} \sum_{I \vdash n} \text{ad } \Omega_{t,T}^{(i_{m+1})} \cdots \text{ad } \Omega_{t,T}^{(i_k)}(\Delta\mathbf{X}_u^{(i_1)} \cdots \Delta\mathbf{X}_u^{(i_m)}).\end{aligned}$$



# Remarks: pre- vs. post-Lie algebras

For  $\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y} \in \mathcal{S}(t)$  let

$$\mathbf{X} \geq \mathbf{Y} := \int \mathbf{X}_- \circ d\mathbf{Y}, \quad \mathbf{X} \leq \mathbf{Y} := \int \circ d\mathbf{X} \mathbf{Y}_-$$

Then  $\mathbf{X} * \mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{X} \geq \mathbf{Y} + \mathbf{X} \leq \mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{X}\mathbf{Y}$ .

The signature is a solution to the *fixed point equation*

$$\mathbf{S} = 1 + \mathbf{S} \geq \mathbf{X}$$

We write  $\mathbf{S} = \mathcal{E}_{\geq}(\mathbf{X})$ .

**Theorem (Manchon–Ebrahimi-Fard (2007))**

*There is a unique element  $\Omega_{\triangleright}(\mathbf{X})$  such that  $\mathbf{S} = \exp(\Omega_{\triangleright}(\mathbf{X}))$ , with  $a \triangleright b = a \geq b - b \leq a$ .*

Define also

$$\mathbf{X} > \mathbf{Y} := \int \mathbf{X}_- d\mathbf{Y}, \quad \mathbf{X} < \mathbf{Y} := \int d\mathbf{X} \mathbf{Y}_-, \\ \mathbf{X} \bullet \mathbf{Y} := [\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}].$$

Then  $\mathbf{X} \circledast \mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{X} > \mathbf{Y} + \mathbf{X} < \mathbf{Y} + \mathbf{X} \bullet \mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{X}\mathbf{Y}$ .

The signature is a solution to the *fixed point equation*

$$\mathbf{S} = 1 + \mathbf{S} > (\exp_{\bullet}(\mathbf{X}) - 1)$$

We write  $\mathbf{S} = \mathcal{E}_{>}(\mathbf{X})$ .

**Conjecture**

There is a unique element  $\Omega_{\blacktriangleright}(\mathbf{X})$  such that  $\mathcal{E}_{>}(\mathbf{X}) = \exp(\Omega_{\blacktriangleright}(\mathbf{X}))$ :

$$\Omega_{\blacktriangleright}(\mathbf{X}) := \Omega_{\triangleright}(\log_{\bullet}(1 + \mathbf{X}))$$