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“*Tressages des groupes de Poisson formels à dual quasitriangulaire*”

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## BRAIDINGS OF POISSON GROUPS WITH QUASITRIANGULAR DUAL

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ABSTRACT. Let  $\mathfrak{g}$  be a quasitriangular Lie bialgebra over a field  $k$  of characteristic zero, and let  $\mathfrak{g}^*$  be its dual Lie bialgebra. We prove that the formal Poisson group  $F[[\mathfrak{g}^*]]$  is a braided Hopf algebra. More generally, we prove that if  $(U_h, R)$  is any quasitriangular QUEA, then  $(U_{h'}, Ad(R)|_{U_{h'} \otimes U_{h'}})$  — where  $U_{h'}$  is defined by Drinfeld — is a braided QFSHA. The first result is then just a consequence of the existence of a quasitriangular quantization  $(U_h, R)$  of  $U(\mathfrak{g})$  and of the fact that  $U_{h'}$  is a quantization of  $F[[\mathfrak{g}^*]]$ .

### Introduction

Let  $\mathfrak{g}$  be a Lie Lie bialgebra over a field  $k$  of characteristic zero; let  $\mathfrak{g}^*$  be the dual Lie bialgebra of  $\mathfrak{g}$ ; finally denote  $F[[\mathfrak{g}^*]]$  the algebra of functions on the formal Poisson group associated to  $\mathfrak{g}^*$ . If  $\mathfrak{g}$  is quasitriangular, endowed with the  $r$ -matrix  $r$ , this gives  $\mathfrak{g}$  some additional properties. A question then rises: what new structure one obtains on the dual bialgebra  $\mathfrak{g}^*$ ? In this work we shall show that the topological Poisson Hopf algebra  $F[[\mathfrak{g}^*]]$  is a braided Poisson algebra (we'll give the definition later on). This was already proved for  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{sl}(2, k)$  by Reshetikhin (cf. [Re]), and generalised to the case where  $\mathfrak{g}$  is Kac-Moody of finite (cf. [G1]) or affine (cf. [G2]) type by the first author.

In order to prove the result, we shall use quantization of universal enveloping algebras. After Etingof-Kazhdan (cf. [EK]), each Lie bialgebra admits a quantization  $U_h(\mathfrak{g})$ , namely a topological Hopf algebra over  $k[[h]]$  whose specialisation at  $h = 0$  is isomorphic to  $U(\mathfrak{g})$  as a co-Poisson Hopf algebra; in addition, if  $\mathfrak{g}$  is quasitriangular and  $r$  is its  $r$ -matrix, then such a  $U_h(\mathfrak{g})$  exists which is quasitriangular too, as a Hopf algebra, with an  $R$ -matrix  $R_h (\in U_h(\mathfrak{g}) \otimes U_h(\mathfrak{g}))$  such that  $R_h \equiv 1 + r h \pmod{h^2}$  (where we have identified, as vector spaces,  $U_h(\mathfrak{g}) \cong U(\mathfrak{g})[[h]]$ ).

Now, after Drinfel'd (cf. [Dr]), for any quantised universal enveloping algebra  $U$  one can define also a certain Hopf subalgebra  $U'$  such that, if the semiclassical limit of  $U$  is

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$U(\mathfrak{g})$  (with  $\mathfrak{g}$  a Lie bialgebra), then the semiclassical limit of  $U'$  is  $F[[\mathfrak{g}^*]]$ . In our case, when considering  $U_h(\mathfrak{g})'$  one can observe that the  $R$ -matrix does not belong, *a priori*, to  $U_h(\mathfrak{g})' \otimes U_h(\mathfrak{g})'$ ; nevertheless, we prove that its adjoint action  $\mathfrak{R}_h := \text{Ad}(R_h) : U_h(\mathfrak{g}) \otimes U_h(\mathfrak{g}) \longrightarrow U_h(\mathfrak{g}) \otimes U_h(\mathfrak{g})$ ,  $x \otimes y \mapsto R_h \cdot (x \otimes y) \cdot R_h^{-1}$ , stabilises  $U_h(\mathfrak{g})' \otimes U_h(\mathfrak{g})'$ , hence it induces by specialisation an operator  $\mathfrak{R}_0$  on  $F[[\mathfrak{g}^*]] \otimes F[[\mathfrak{g}^*]]$ . Finally, the properties which make  $R_h$  an  $R$ -matrix imply that  $\mathfrak{R}_h$  is a braiding operator, whence the same holds for  $\mathfrak{R}_0$ : thus the pair  $(F[[\mathfrak{g}^*]], \mathfrak{R}_0)$  is braided Poisson algebra.

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## § 1. Recallings and definitions

**1.1 The classical objects.** Let  $k$  be a fixed field of characteristic zero. In the following  $k$  will be the ground field of all the objects — Lie algebras and bialgebras, Hopf algebras, etc. — which we'll introduce.

Following [CP], §1.3, we call Lie bialgebra a pair  $(\mathfrak{g}, \delta_{\mathfrak{g}})$  where  $\mathfrak{g}$  is a Lie algebra and  $\delta_{\mathfrak{g}} : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{g} \otimes \mathfrak{g}$  is a antisymmetric linear map — called Lie cobracket — such that its dual  $\delta_{\mathfrak{g}}^* : \mathfrak{g}^* \otimes \mathfrak{g}^* \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}^*$  be Lie bracket and that  $\delta_{\mathfrak{g}}$  itself be a 1-cocycle of  $\mathfrak{g}$  with values in  $\mathfrak{g} \otimes \mathfrak{g}$ . Then it happens that also  $\mathfrak{g}^*$ , the linear dual of  $\mathfrak{g}$ , is a Lie bialgebra on its own. Following [CP], §2.1.B, we call quasitriangular Lie bialgebra a pair  $(\mathfrak{g}, r)$  such that  $r \in \mathfrak{g} \otimes \mathfrak{g}$  be a solution of the classical Yang-Baxter equation (CYBE)  $[r_{12}, r_{13}] + [r_{12}, r_{23}] + [r_{13}, r_{23}] = 0$  in  $\mathfrak{g} \otimes \mathfrak{g} \otimes \mathfrak{g}$  and  $\mathfrak{g}$  be a Lie bialgebra with respect to the cobracket  $\delta = \delta_{\mathfrak{g}}$  defined by  $\delta(x) = [x, r]$ ; the element  $r$  is then called  $r$ -matrix of  $\mathfrak{g}$ .

If  $\mathfrak{g}$  is a Lie algebra, its universal enveloping algebra  $U(\mathfrak{g})$  is a Hopf algebra; if, in addition,  $\mathfrak{g}$  is a Lie bialgebra, then  $U(\mathfrak{g})$  is in fact a co-Poisson Hopf algebra (cf. [CP], §6.2.A).

Let  $\mathfrak{g}$  be any Lie algebra: then we call function algebra on the formal group associated to  $\mathfrak{g}$ , or simply formal group associated to  $\mathfrak{g}$ , the space  $F[[\mathfrak{g}]] := U(\mathfrak{g})^*$  linear dual of  $U(\mathfrak{g})$ . As  $U(\mathfrak{g})$  is a Hopf algebra, its dual  $F[[\mathfrak{g}]]$  is on its own a formal Hopf algebra (following [Di], Ch. 1). Note that, if  $G$  is a connected algebraic group whose tangent Lie algebra is  $\mathfrak{g}$ , letting  $F[G]$  be the Hopf algebra of regular functions on  $G$  and letting  $\mathfrak{m}_e$  be the maximal ideal of  $F[G]$  of functions vanishing at the unit point  $e \in G$ , the formal Hopf algebra  $F[[\mathfrak{g}]]$  is nothing but the  $\mathfrak{m}_e$ -adic completion of  $F[G]$  (cf. [On], Ch. I). When, in addition,  $\mathfrak{g}$  is a Lie bialgebra,  $F[[\mathfrak{g}]]$  is in fact a formal Poisson Hopf algebra (cf. [CP], §6.2.A).

**1.2 Braidings and quasitriangularity.** Let  $H$  be a Hopf algebra in a tensor category  $(\mathcal{A}, \otimes)$  (cf. [CP], §5):  $H$  is called braided (cf. [Re], Définition 2) if there exists an algebra automorphism  $\mathfrak{R}$  of  $H \otimes H$ , called braiding operator of  $H$ , different from the flip  $\sigma : H^{\otimes 2} \rightarrow H^{\otimes 2}$ ,  $a \otimes b \mapsto b \otimes a$ , and such that

$$\mathfrak{R} \circ \Delta = \Delta^{\text{op}} \\ (\Delta \otimes id) \circ \mathfrak{R} = \mathfrak{R}_{13} \circ \mathfrak{R}_{23} \circ (\Delta \otimes id), \quad (id \otimes \Delta) \circ \mathfrak{R} = \mathfrak{R}_{13} \circ \mathfrak{R}_{12} \circ (id \otimes \Delta)$$

where  $\Delta^{\text{op}}$  is the opposite comultiplication, i. e.  $\Delta^{\text{op}}(a) = \sigma \circ \Delta(a)$ , and  $\mathfrak{R}_{12}$ ,  $\mathfrak{R}_{13}$ , and  $\mathfrak{R}_{23}$  are the automorphisms of  $H \otimes H \otimes H$  defined by  $\mathfrak{R}_{12} = \mathfrak{R} \otimes id$ ,  $\mathfrak{R}_{23} = id \otimes \mathfrak{R}$ ,  $\mathfrak{R}_{13} = (\sigma \otimes id) \circ (id \otimes \mathfrak{R}) \circ (\sigma \otimes id)$ .

Finally, when  $H$  is, in addition, a Poisson Hopf algebra, we'll say that it is braided — as a Poisson Hopf algebra — if it is braided — as a Hopf algebra — by a braiding which is also an automorphism of Poisson algebra.

If the pair  $(H, \mathfrak{R})$  is a braided algebra, it follows from the definition that  $\mathfrak{R}$  satisfies the quantum Yang-Baxter equation — QYBE in the sequel — in  $End(H^{\otimes 3})$ , that is

$$\mathfrak{R}_{12} \circ \mathfrak{R}_{13} \circ \mathfrak{R}_{23} = \mathfrak{R}_{23} \circ \mathfrak{R}_{13} \circ \mathfrak{R}_{12}$$

which implies that, for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  the braid group  $\mathcal{B}_n$  acts on  $H^{\otimes n}$ , from which one can also obtain some knot invariants, according to the recipe given in [CP], §15.12.

A Hopf algebra  $H$  (in a tensor category) is said to be quasitriangular (cf. [Dr], [CP]) if there exists an invertible element  $R \in H \otimes H$ , called the  $R$ -matrix of  $H$ , such that

$$\begin{aligned} R \cdot \Delta(a) \cdot R^{-1} &= \text{Ad}(R)(\Delta(a)) = \Delta^{\text{op}}(a) \\ (\Delta \otimes id)(R) &= R_{13}R_{23}, \quad (id \otimes \Delta)(R) = R_{13}R_{12} \end{aligned}$$

where  $R_{12}, R_{13}, R_{23} \in H^{\otimes 3}$ ,  $R_{12} = R \otimes 1$ ,  $R_{23} = 1 \otimes R$ ,  $R_{13} = (\sigma \otimes id)(R_{23}) = (id \otimes \sigma)(R_{12})$ . Then it follows from the identities above that  $R$  satisfies the QYBE in  $H^{\otimes 3}$

$$R_{12}R_{13}R_{23} = R_{23}R_{13}R_{12}.$$

Thus, the tensor products of  $H$ -modules are endowed with an action of the braid group. Moreover, it is clear that if  $(H, R)$  is quasitriangular, then  $(H, \text{Ad}(R))$  is braided.

**1.3 The quantum objects.** Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be the category whose objects are the  $k[[h]]$ -modules which are topologically free and complete in  $h$ -adic sense, and the morphisms are the  $k[[h]]$ -linear continuous maps. For all  $V, W$  in  $\mathcal{A}$ , we define  $V \otimes W$  to be the projective limit of the  $k[[h]]/(h^n)$ -modules  $(V/h^n V) \otimes_{k[[h]]/(h^n)} (W/h^n W)$ : this makes  $\mathcal{A}$  into a tensor category (see [CP] for further details). After Drinfel'd (cf. [Dr]), we call quantised universal enveloping algebra — QUEA in the sequel — any Hopf algebra in the category  $\mathcal{A}$  whose semiclassical limit (= specialisation at  $h = 0$ ) is the universal enveloping algebra of a Lie bialgebra. Similarly, we call quantised formal series Hopf algebra — QFSHA in the sequel — any Hopf algebra in the category  $\mathcal{A}$  whose semiclassical limit is the function algebra of a formal group.

In the sequel, we shall need the following result:

**Theorem 1.4.** (cf. [EK]) *Let  $\mathfrak{g}$  be a Lie bialgebra. Then there exists a QUEA  $U_h(\mathfrak{g})$  whose semiclassical limit is isomorphic to  $U(\mathfrak{g})$ ; furthermore, there exists an isomorphism of  $k[[h]]$ -modules  $U_h(\mathfrak{g}) \cong U(\mathfrak{g})[[h]]$ .*

*In addition, if  $\mathfrak{g}$  is quasitriangular, with  $r$ -matrix  $r$ , then there exists a QUEA  $U_h(\mathfrak{g})$  as above and an element  $R_h \in U_h(\mathfrak{g}) \otimes U_h(\mathfrak{g})$  such that  $(U_h(\mathfrak{g}), R_h)$  be a quasitriangular Hopf algebra and  $R_h = 1 + r h + O(h^2)$  (with  $O(h^2) \in h^2 \cdot H \otimes H$ ).  $\square$*

**1.5 The Drinfeld's functor.** Let  $H$  be a Hopf algebra over  $k[[h]]$ . For all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , define  $\Delta^n: H \rightarrow H^{\otimes n}$  by  $\Delta^0 := \epsilon$ ,  $\Delta^1 := id_H$ , and  $\Delta^n := (\Delta \otimes id_H^{\otimes(n-2)}) \circ \Delta^{n-1}$  if  $n > 2$ . For all ordered subset  $\Sigma = \{i_1, \dots, i_k\} \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}$  with  $i_1 < \dots < i_k$ , define the homomorphism  $j_\Sigma: H^{\otimes k} \rightarrow H^{\otimes n}$  by  $j_\Sigma(a_1 \otimes \dots \otimes a_k) := b_1 \otimes \dots \otimes b_n$  with  $b_i := 1$  if  $i \notin \Sigma$  and  $b_{i_m} := a_m$  for  $1 \leq m \leq k$ ; then set  $\Delta_\Sigma := j_\Sigma \circ \Delta^k$ . Finally, define

$\delta_n: H \rightarrow H^{\otimes n}$  by  $\delta_n := \sum_{\Sigma \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}} (-1)^{n-|\Sigma|} \Delta_\Sigma$ , for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}_+$ . More in general, for all  $\Sigma = \{i_1, \dots, i_k\} \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}$ , with  $i_1 < \dots < i_k$ , define

$$\delta_\Sigma := \sum_{\Sigma' \subseteq \Sigma} (-1)^{|\Sigma|-|\Sigma'|} \Delta_{\Sigma'}; \quad (1.1)$$

(in particular,  $\delta_{\{1, \dots, n\}} = \delta_n$ ). Thanks to the inclusion-exclusion principle, this is equivalent to

$$\Delta_\Sigma = \sum_{\Sigma' \subseteq \Sigma} \delta_{\Sigma'} \quad (1.2)$$

for all  $\Sigma = \{i_1, \dots, i_k\} \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}$  with  $i_1 < \dots < i_k$ . Finally, define

$$H' := \{ a \in H \mid \delta_n(a) \in h^n H^{\otimes n} \},$$

a subspace of  $H$  which we consider endowed with the induced topology. Then we have

**Theorem 1.6.** (cf. [Dr], §7, ou [G3]) *Let  $H$  be a Hopf algebra in the category  $\mathcal{A}$ . Then  $H'$  is a QFSHA. Moreover, if  $H = U_h(\mathfrak{g})$  is a QUEA, with  $U(\mathfrak{g})$  as semiclassical limit, then the semiclassical limit of  $U_h(\mathfrak{g})'$  is  $F[[\mathfrak{g}^*]]$ .  $\square$*

## § 2. The main results

From the technical point of view, the main result of this paper concerns the general framework of quasitriangular Hopf algebras:

**Theorem 2.1.** *Let  $H$  be a quasitriangular Hopf algebra in the category  $\mathcal{A}$ , and let  $R$  be its  $R$ -matrix. Then, the inner automorphism  $\text{Ad}(R): H \otimes H \rightarrow H \otimes H$  restricts to an automorphism of  $H' \otimes H'$ , and the pair  $(H', \text{Ad}(R)|_{H' \otimes H'})$  is a braided Hopf algebra in the category  $\mathcal{A}$ .  $\square$*

The proof of this theorem will be given in section 3. Nevertheless, we can already get out of it as a consequence the main result announced by the title and in the introduction, which gives us a geometrical interpretation of the classical  $r$ -matrix:

**Theorem 2.2.** *Let  $\mathfrak{g}$  be a quasitriangular Lie bialgebra. Then the topological Poisson Hopf algebra  $F[[\mathfrak{g}^*]]$  is braided. Moreover, there exists a quantisation of  $F[[\mathfrak{g}^*]]$  which is a braided Hopf algebra whose braiding operator specialises into that of  $F[[\mathfrak{g}^*]]$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $r$  be the  $r$ -matrix of  $\mathfrak{g}$ . By Theorem 1.4, there exists a quasitriangular QUEA  $(U_h(\mathfrak{g}), R_h)$  whose semiclassical limit is exactly  $(U(\mathfrak{g}), r)$ : that is,  $U_h(\mathfrak{g})/hU_h(\mathfrak{g}) \cong U(\mathfrak{g})$  and  $(R-1)/h \equiv r \pmod{hU_h(\mathfrak{g})^{\otimes 2}}$ ; and by Theorem 1.6, the semiclassical limit of  $U_h(\mathfrak{g})'$  is  $F[[\mathfrak{g}^*]]$ . Let  $\mathfrak{R}_h := \text{Ad}(R_h)$ : then Theorem 2.1 ensures that  $(U_h(\mathfrak{g})', \mathfrak{R}_h|_{U_h(\mathfrak{g})' \otimes U_h(\mathfrak{g})'})$  is a braided Hopf algebra, hence its semiclassical limit  $(F[[\mathfrak{g}^*]], (\mathfrak{R}_h|_{U_h(\mathfrak{g})' \otimes U_h(\mathfrak{g})'})|_{h=0})$

is braided as well. Furthermore, as  $\mathfrak{R}_h$  is an algebra automorphism and the Poisson bracket of  $F[[\mathfrak{g}^*]]$  is given by  $\{a, b\} = ([\alpha, \beta]/h)|_{h=0}$  for all  $a, b \in F[[\mathfrak{g}^*]]$  and  $\alpha, \beta \in U_h(\mathfrak{g})'$  such that  $\alpha|_{h=0} = a, \beta|_{h=0} = b$ , we have that  $\left(\mathfrak{R}_h|_{U_h(\mathfrak{g})' \otimes U_h(\mathfrak{g})'}\right)|_{h=0}$  is also an automorphism of Poisson algebra.  $\square$

The theorem above gives a geometrical interpretation of the  $r$ -matrix of a quasitriangular Lie bialgebra. This very result had been proved for  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{sl}(2, k)$  by Reshetikhin (cf. [Re]), and generalised to the case when  $\mathfrak{g}$  is Kac-Moody of finite type (cf. [G1], where a more precise analysis is carried on) or affine type (cf. [G2]) by the first author.

Theorem 2.2 has also an important consequence. Let  $\mathfrak{g}$  and  $\mathfrak{g}^*$  be as above, let  $\mathfrak{R}$  be the braiding of  $F[[\mathfrak{g}^*]]$ , and let  $\mathfrak{e}$  be the (unique) maximal ideal of  $F[[\mathfrak{g}^* \oplus \mathfrak{g}^*]] = F[[\mathfrak{g}^*]] \otimes F[[\mathfrak{g}^*]]$  (topological tensor product, following [Di], Ch. 1). Now,  $\mathfrak{R}$  is an algebra automorphism, hence  $\mathfrak{R}(\mathfrak{e}) = \mathfrak{e}$ , and  $\mathfrak{R}$  induces an automorphism of vector space  $\overline{\mathfrak{R}}: \mathfrak{e}/\mathfrak{e}^2 \rightarrow \mathfrak{e}/\mathfrak{e}^2$ ; in addition,  $\mathfrak{e}/\mathfrak{e}^2 \cong \mathfrak{g} \oplus \mathfrak{g}$ , and since  $\mathfrak{R}$  is also an automorphism of Poisson algebra, one has that  $\overline{\mathfrak{R}}$  is a Lie algebra automorphism of  $\mathfrak{g} \oplus \mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{e}/\mathfrak{e}^2$ ; the other properties of the braiding  $\mathfrak{R}$  make so that  $\overline{\mathfrak{R}}$  have other corresponding properties. Finally, the dual  $\overline{\mathfrak{R}}^*: \mathfrak{g}^* \oplus \mathfrak{g}^* \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}^* \oplus \mathfrak{g}^*$  is a Lie coalgebra automorphism of  $\mathfrak{g}^* \oplus \mathfrak{g}^*$ , enjoying many other properties dual of those of  $\overline{\mathfrak{R}}$ . In particular,  $\mathfrak{R}, \overline{\mathfrak{R}}$  and  $\overline{\mathfrak{R}}^*$  are solutions of the QYBE, whence there is an action of the braid group  $\mathcal{B}_n$  on  $F[[\mathfrak{g}^* \oplus \mathfrak{g}^*]]^{\otimes n}$ , on  $(\mathfrak{g} \oplus \mathfrak{g})^{\otimes n}$ , and on  $(\mathfrak{g}^* \oplus \mathfrak{g}^*)^{\otimes n}$  ( $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ), and from that one can obtain knot invariants (following [CP], §15.12). Now, such automorphisms of  $\mathfrak{g} \oplus \mathfrak{g}$  and of  $\mathfrak{g}^* \oplus \mathfrak{g}^*$  have been introduced in [WX], §9, related to the so-called "global  $R$ -matrix", which also yields a geometrical interpretation of the classical  $r$ -matrix: comparing our results with those of [WX], as well as the functoriality properties of our construction, will be the matter of a forthcoming article.

### § 3. Proof of theorem 2.1

In this section  $(H, R)$  will be a quasitriangular Hopf algebra as in the statement of Theorem 2.1. We want to study the adjoint action of  $R$  on  $H \otimes H$ , where the latter is endowed with its natural structure of Hopf algebra; we denote by  $\tilde{\Delta}$  its coproduct, defined by  $\tilde{\Delta} := s_{23} \circ (\Delta \otimes id_H \otimes id_H) \circ (id_H \otimes \Delta)$  where  $s_{23}$  denotes the flip in the positions 2 and 3. We'll denote also  $I := 1 \otimes 1$  the unit in  $H \otimes H$ . After our definition of tensor product in  $\mathcal{A}$ , we have  $(H \otimes H)' = H' \otimes H'$ . Our goal is to show that, although  $R$  do not necessarily belong to  $(H \otimes H)'$ , its adjoint action  $a \mapsto R \cdot a \cdot R^{-1}$  leaves stable  $(H \otimes H)' = H' \otimes H'$ .

First of all set, for  $\Sigma = \{i_1, \dots, i_k\} \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}$ , always with  $i_1 < \dots < i_k$ ,

$R_\Sigma := R_{2i_1-1, 2i_k} R_{2i_1-1, 2i_{k-1}} \cdots R_{2i_1-1, 2i_1} R_{2i_2-1, 2i_k} \cdots R_{2i_{k-1}-1, 2i_k} R_{2i_k-1, 2i_1} \cdots R_{2i_k-1, 2i_1}$  (product of  $k^2$  terms) where  $R_{i,j} := j_{\{i,j\}}(R)$ , defining  $j_{\{r,s\}}: H \otimes H \rightarrow H^{\otimes 2n}$  as before. We shall always write  $|\Sigma|$  for the cardinality of  $\Sigma$  (here  $|\Sigma| = k$ ).

**Lemma 3.1.** *In  $(H \otimes H)^{\otimes n}$ , for all  $\Sigma \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}$ , we have:  $\tilde{\Delta}_\Sigma(R) = R_\Sigma$ .*

*Proof.* With no loss of generality, we'll prove the result for  $\Sigma = \{1, \dots, n\}$ , i.e.

$$\tilde{\Delta}_{\{1, \dots, n\}}(R) = R_{\{1, \dots, n\}} = R_{1, 2n} \cdot R_{1, 2n-2} \cdots R_{1, 2} \cdot R_{3, 2n} \cdots R_{2n-3, 2} \cdot R_{2n-1, 2n} \cdots R_{2n-1, 2} \cdot$$

The result is evident at rank  $n = 1$ . Assume it be true at rank  $n$ , and prove it at rank  $n + 1$ ; by definition of  $\tilde{\Delta}$  and by the properties of the  $R$ -matrix we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\tilde{\Delta}_{\{1, \dots, n+1\}}(R) &= \left( \tilde{\Delta} \otimes id_{H \otimes H}^{\otimes n-1} \right) \left( \tilde{\Delta}_{\{1, \dots, n\}}(R) \right) = \left( \tilde{\Delta} \otimes id_{H \otimes H}^{\otimes n-1} \right) (R_{\{1, \dots, n\}}) \\
&= s_{23} \left( \Delta \otimes id_H^{\otimes 2n} \right) \left( id_H \otimes \Delta \otimes id_H^{\otimes (2n-2)} \right) (R_{1,2n} \cdots R_{1,2} \cdots R_{3,2} \cdots R_{2n-1,2}) \\
&= s_{23} \left( \Delta \otimes id_H^{\otimes 2n} \right) (R_{1,2n+1} \cdots R_{1,3} R_{1,2} \cdots R_{4,3} R_{4,2} \cdots R_{2n,3} R_{2n,2}) = \\
&= s_{23} (R_{1,2n+2} R_{2,2n+2} \cdots R_{1,4} R_{2,4} R_{1,3} R_{2,3} \cdots R_{5,4} R_{5,3} \cdots R_{2n+1,4} R_{2n+1,3}) \\
&= R_{1,2n+2} R_{3,2n+2} \cdots R_{1,4} R_{3,4} \cdot R_{1,2} R_{3,2} \cdots R_{5,4} \cdot R_{5,2} \cdots R_{2n+1,4} R_{2n+1,2} \\
&= R_{1,2n+2} \cdots R_{1,4} R_{1,2} R_{3,2n+2} \cdots R_{3,4} R_{3,2} \cdots R_{5,4} R_{5,2} \cdots R_{2n+1,4} R_{2n+1,2} \\
&= R_{\{1, \dots, n+1\}}, \quad \text{q.e.d.} \quad \square
\end{aligned}$$

From now on we shall use the notation  $C_b^a := \binom{b}{a}$  for all  $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$ .

**Lemma 3.2.** *For all  $a \in (H \otimes H)'$ , and for all set  $\Sigma$  such that  $|\Sigma| > i$ , we have*

$$\tilde{\Delta}_{\Sigma}(a) = \sum_{\Sigma' \subseteq \Sigma, |\Sigma'| \leq i} (-1)^{i-|\Sigma'|} C_{|\Sigma|-1-|\Sigma'|}^{i-|\Sigma'|} \tilde{\Delta}_{\Sigma'}(a) + O(h^{i+1}).$$

*Proof.* It is enough to prove the claim for  $\Sigma = \{1, \dots, n\}$ , with  $n > i$ . Due to (1.2), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\tilde{\Delta}_{\{1, \dots, n\}}(a) &= \sum_{\bar{\Sigma} \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}} \delta_{\bar{\Sigma}}(a) = \sum_{\bar{\Sigma} \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}, |\bar{\Sigma}| \leq i} \delta_{\bar{\Sigma}}(a) + O(h^{i+1}) \\
&= \sum_{\bar{\Sigma} \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}, |\bar{\Sigma}| \leq i} \sum_{\Sigma' \subseteq \bar{\Sigma}} (-1)^{|\bar{\Sigma}|-|\Sigma'|} \tilde{\Delta}_{\Sigma'}(a) + O(h^{i+1}) \\
&= \sum_{\Sigma' \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}, |\Sigma'| \leq i} \tilde{\Delta}_{\Sigma'}(a) \sum_{\Sigma' \subseteq \bar{\Sigma}, |\bar{\Sigma}| \leq i} (-1)^{|\bar{\Sigma}|-|\Sigma'|} + O(h^{i+1}) \\
&= \sum_{\Sigma' \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}, |\Sigma'| \leq i} \tilde{\Delta}_{\Sigma'}(a) (-1)^{i-|\Sigma'|} C_{n-1-|\Sigma'|}^{i-|\Sigma'|} + O(h^{i+1}), \quad \text{q.e.d.} \quad \square
\end{aligned}$$

Before going on with the main result, we need still another minor technical fact about the binomial coefficients: one can easily prove it using the formal series expansion of  $(1 - X)^{-(r+1)}$ , namely  $(1 - X)^{-(r+1)} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} C_{k+r}^r X^k$ .

**Lemma 3.3.** *Let  $r, s, t \in \mathbb{N}$  be such that  $r < t$ . Then we have the following relations (where we set  $C_u^v := 0$  if  $v > u$ ):*

$$(a) \quad \sum_{d=0}^t (-1)^d C_{d-1}^r C_t^d = -(-1)^r, \quad (b) \quad \sum_{d=0}^t (-1)^d C_{d+s}^r C_t^d = 0. \quad \square$$

Finally, here is the main result of this section:

**Proposition 3.4.** *For all  $a \in (H \otimes H)'$ , we have  $R a R^{-1} \in (H \otimes H)'$ .*

*Proof.* As we have to show that  $R a R^{-1}$  belongs to  $(H \otimes H)'$ , we have to consider the terms  $\delta_n(R a R^{-1})$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . For this we go and re-write  $\delta_{\{1, \dots, n\}}(R a R^{-1})$  by using Lemma 3.1 and the fact that  $\tilde{\Delta}$  and more in general  $\tilde{\Delta}_{\{i_1, \dots, i_k\}}$ , for  $k \leq n$ , are algebra morphisms; then  $\delta_{\{1, \dots, n\}}(R a R^{-1}) = \sum_{\Sigma \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}} (-1)^{n-|\Sigma|} R_\Sigma \tilde{\Delta}_\Sigma(a) R_\Sigma^{-1}$ .

We shall prove by induction on  $i$  that

$$\delta_{\{1, \dots, n\}}(R a R^{-1}) = O(h^{i+1}) \quad \text{for all } 0 \leq i \leq n-1. \quad (\star)$$

In other words, we'll see that all the terms of the expansion truncated at the order  $n-1$  are zero, hence  $\delta_n(R a R^{-1}) = O(h^n)$ , whence our claim.

For  $i = 0$ , we have, for each  $\Sigma$ :  $\tilde{\Delta}_\Sigma(a) = \epsilon(a)I^{\otimes n} + O(h)$  and  $R_\Sigma = I^{\otimes n} + O(h)$ , and similarly  $R_\Sigma^{-1} = I^{\otimes n} + O(h)$ , whence  $\delta_{\{1, \dots, n\}}(R a R^{-1}) = \sum_{k=1}^n C_n^k (-1)^{n-k} \epsilon(a) I^{\otimes n} + O(h) = O(h)$ , thus the result  $(\star)$  is true for  $i = 0$ .

Let's assume the result  $(\star)$  proved for all  $i' < i$ . Write the  $h$ -adic expansions of  $R_\Sigma$  and  $R_\Sigma^{-1}$  in the form  $R_\Sigma = \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} R_\Sigma^{(\ell)} h^\ell$  and  $R_\Sigma^{-1} = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} R_\Sigma^{(-m)} h^m$ . By the previous proposition, we have an approximation of  $\tilde{\Delta}_\Sigma(a)$  at the order  $j$

$$\tilde{\Delta}_\Sigma(a) = \sum_{\Sigma' \subseteq \Sigma, |\Sigma'| \leq j} (-1)^{j-|\Sigma'|} C_{|\Sigma|-1-|\Sigma'|}^{j-|\Sigma'|} \tilde{\Delta}_{\Sigma'}(a) + O(h^{j+1}).$$

Then we have the following approximation of  $\delta_{\{1, \dots, n\}}(R a R^{-1})$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_{\{1, \dots, n\}}(R a R^{-1}) &= \sum_{\Sigma \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}} \sum_{\ell+m \leq i} (-1)^{n-|\Sigma|} R_\Sigma^{(\ell)} \tilde{\Delta}_\Sigma(a) R_\Sigma^{(-m)} h^{\ell+m} + O(h^{i+1}) = \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^i \sum_{\ell+m=i-j} \left( \sum_{\substack{\Sigma \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\} \\ |\Sigma| > j}} \sum_{\substack{\Sigma' \subseteq \Sigma \\ |\Sigma'| \leq j}} (-1)^{n-|\Sigma|} (-1)^{j-|\Sigma'|} C_{|\Sigma|-1-|\Sigma'|}^{j-|\Sigma'|} R_\Sigma^{(\ell)} \tilde{\Delta}_{\Sigma'}(a) R_\Sigma^{(-m)} + \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \sum_{\substack{\Sigma \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\} \\ |\Sigma| \leq j}} (-1)^{n-|\Sigma|} R_\Sigma^{(\ell)} \tilde{\Delta}_\Sigma(a) R_\Sigma^{(-m)} \right) h^{\ell+m} + O(h^{i+1}) = \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^i \sum_{\ell+m+j=i} \sum_{\substack{\Sigma' \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\} \\ |\Sigma'| \leq j}} \left( \sum_{\substack{\Sigma \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\} \\ \Sigma' \subseteq \Sigma, |\Sigma| > j}} (-1)^{n-|\Sigma|} (-1)^{j-|\Sigma'|} C_{|\Sigma|-1-|\Sigma'|}^{j-|\Sigma'|} R_\Sigma^{(\ell)} \tilde{\Delta}_{\Sigma'}(a) R_\Sigma^{(-m)} + \right. \\ &\quad \left. + (-1)^{n-|\Sigma'|} R_{\Sigma'}^{(\ell)} \tilde{\Delta}_{\Sigma'}(a) R_{\Sigma'}^{(-m)} \right) h^{\ell+m} + O(h^{i+1}). \end{aligned}$$

We denote (E) the last expression in brackets, and we'll show that this expression is zero, whence  $\delta_n(R a R^{-1}) = O(h^{i+1})$ .

Let's look first at the terms corresponding to  $\ell + m = 0$ , that is  $j = i$ . Then we find back  $\delta_{\{1, \dots, n\}}(a)$ , which is in  $O(h^{i+1})$  by assumption. Therefore, by now on in the sequel of the computation we assume  $\ell + m > 0$ .

Consider first how the terms  $R_\Sigma^{(\ell)}$  and  $R_\Sigma^{(-m)}$  act on  $(H \otimes H)'^{\otimes n}$  (respectively on the left and on the right) for  $\ell + m$  fixed (and positive), say  $\ell + m = S$ .

Taking the truncated expansion of each  $R_{i,j}$  which occurs in  $R_\Sigma$ , we see that  $R_\Sigma^{(\ell)}$  and  $R_\Sigma^{(-m)}$  are sums of products of at most  $\ell$  and  $m$  terms respectively, each one acting on at most two tensor of  $(H \otimes H)'^{\otimes n}$ . We re-write  $\sum_{\ell+m=S} R_\Sigma^{(\ell)} \tilde{\Delta}_{\Sigma'}(a) R_\Sigma^{(-m)}$  by gathering

together the terms of the sum which act on the same factors of  $(H \otimes H)'^{\otimes n}$ : we'll denote the set of positions of this factors by  $\Sigma''$ .

Now, if  $i$  belongs to  $\Sigma''$ , in the identification  $(H \otimes H)^{\otimes n} = H^{\otimes 2n}$  (such as we chose it to define  $R_\Sigma$ ) the index  $i$  corresponds to the pair  $(2i-1, 2i)$ ; but then  $R_\Sigma$  and  $R_\Sigma^{-1}$ , and then also each  $R_\Sigma^{(\ell)}$  and each  $R_\Sigma^{(-m)}$ , may act non-trivially on the  $i$ -th factor of  $\tilde{\Delta}_{\Sigma'}(a)$  only if one of  $2i-1$  and  $2i$  (or even both of them) occurs in the explicit written expression of  $R_\Sigma$  (in  $H^{\otimes 2n}$ ), hence only if  $i \in \Sigma$ : thus  $\Sigma'' \subseteq \Sigma$ . Then we set  $\sum_{\ell+m=S} R_\Sigma^{(\ell)} \tilde{\Delta}_{\Sigma'}(a) R_\Sigma^{(-m)} =$

$$\sum_{\Sigma'' \subseteq \Sigma} A_{\Sigma', \Sigma, \Sigma''}^{(S)}(a).$$

Now consider  $\bar{\Sigma} \supseteq \Sigma$ . From the very definition we have  $R_{\bar{\Sigma}} = R_\Sigma + \mathcal{A}$ , where  $\mathcal{A}$  is a sum of terms which contain factors  $R_{2i-1, 2j}^{(s)}$  with  $\{i, j\} \not\subseteq \Sigma$ : to see this, it is enough to expand every factor  $R_{a,b}$  in  $R_{\bar{\Sigma}}$  as  $R_{a,b} = 1^{\otimes 2n} + O(h)$ . Similarly, we have also  $R_{\bar{\Sigma}}^{(\ell)} = R_\Sigma^{(\ell)} + \mathcal{A}'$ , and similarly  $R_{\bar{\Sigma}}^{(-m)} = R_\Sigma^{(-m)} + \mathcal{A}''$ . This implies that  $A_{\Sigma'', \bar{\Sigma}, \Sigma'}^{(S)}(a) = A_{\Sigma'', \Sigma, \Sigma'}^{(S)}(a)$ , and so the  $A_{\Sigma'', \Sigma, \Sigma'}^{(S)}(a)$  do not depend on  $\Sigma$ ; then we write

$$\sum_{\ell+m=S} R_\Sigma^{(\ell)} \tilde{\Delta}_{\Sigma'}(a) R_\Sigma^{(-m)} = \sum_{\Sigma'' \subseteq \Sigma} A_{\Sigma', \Sigma''}^{(S)}(a).$$

In the sequel we re-write (E) using the  $A_{\Sigma', \Sigma''}^{(S)}(a)$ . In the following we'll denote by  $\delta_{\Sigma'' \subseteq \Sigma'}$  the function whose value is 1 if  $\Sigma'' \subseteq \Sigma'$  and 0 if not.

Then we obtain a new expression for  $\delta_{\{1, \dots, n\}}(R a R^{-1})$ , namely

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_{\{1, \dots, n\}}(R a R^{-1}) &= \sum_{j=0}^{i-1} \sum_{\substack{\Sigma' \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\} \\ |\Sigma'| \leq j}} \left( \sum_{\substack{\Sigma \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\} \\ \Sigma' \subseteq \Sigma, |\Sigma| > j}} (-1)^{n-|\Sigma|} (-1)^{j-|\Sigma'|} C_{|\Sigma|-1-|\Sigma'|}^{j-|\Sigma'|} \times \right. \\ &\quad \left. \times \sum_{\Sigma'' \subseteq \Sigma} A_{\Sigma', \Sigma''}^{(i-j)}(a) + (-1)^{n-|\Sigma'|} \sum_{\Sigma'' \subseteq \Sigma'} A_{\Sigma', \Sigma''}^{(i-j)}(a) \right) h^{i-j} + O(h^{i+1}) = \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^{i-1} \sum_{\substack{\Sigma' \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\} \\ |\Sigma'| \leq j}} h^{i-j} \sum_{\Sigma'' \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}} A_{\Sigma', \Sigma''}^{(i-j)}(a) \times \\ &\quad \times \left( \sum_{\substack{\Sigma \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\} \\ \Sigma' \subseteq \Sigma, \Sigma'' \subseteq \Sigma, |\Sigma| > j}} (-1)^{n-|\Sigma|} (-1)^{j-|\Sigma'|} C_{|\Sigma|-1-|\Sigma'|}^{j-|\Sigma'|} + (-1)^{n-|\Sigma'|} \delta_{\Sigma'' \subseteq \Sigma'} \right) + O(h^{i+1}). \end{aligned}$$



We denote  $(E')_{\Sigma', \Sigma''}$  the new expression in brackets; in other words, for fixed  $\Sigma'$  and  $\Sigma''$ , with  $|\Sigma'| \leq j$ , we set

$$(E')_{\Sigma', \Sigma''} := \sum_{\substack{\Sigma \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\} \\ \Sigma' \subseteq \Sigma, \Sigma'' \subseteq \Sigma, |\Sigma| > j}} (-1)^{n-|\Sigma|} (-1)^{j-|\Sigma'|} C_{|\Sigma|-1-|\Sigma'|}^{j-|\Sigma'|} + (-1)^{n-|\Sigma'|} \delta_{\Sigma'' \subseteq \Sigma'}$$

(by the way, we remark that this is a purely combinatorial expression); we shall show that this expression is zero when  $\Sigma'$  and  $\Sigma''$  are such that  $|\Sigma' \cup \Sigma''| \leq j - i + |\Sigma'|$  and  $|\Sigma'| \leq j$ . In force of the following lemma, this will be enough to prove Proposition 3.4.

**Lemma 3.5.**

(a) We have  $j < i$  and  $i \leq n - 1$ , hence  $j \leq n - 2$ .

(b) For all  $S > 0$ , in the expression  $\sum_{\ell+m=S} R_{\Sigma}^{(\ell)} \tilde{\Delta}_{\Sigma'}(a) R_{\Sigma}^{(-m)} = \sum_{\Sigma'' \subseteq \Sigma} A_{\Sigma', \Sigma''}^{(S)}(a)$

we have that  $A_{\Sigma', \Sigma''}^{(S)}(a) = 0$  for all  $\Sigma', \Sigma''$  such that  $|\Sigma' \cup \Sigma''| > S + |\Sigma'|$ .

*Proof.* The first part of the statement is trivial; to prove the second, we study the adjoint action of  $R_{\Sigma}$  on  $(H \otimes H)^{\otimes n}$ .

First of all, on  $k \cdot I^{\otimes n}$  the action of these elements gives a zero term because one gets the term at the order  $S$  of the  $h$ -adic expansion of  $R_{\Sigma} \cdot R_{\Sigma}^{-1} = 1$  (for  $S > 0$ ).

Second, let us consider  $\Sigma \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}$ , and let us study the action on  $(H \otimes H)_{\Sigma'} := j_{\Sigma'} \left( (H \otimes H)^{\otimes |\Sigma|} \right) (\subseteq (H \otimes H)^{\otimes n})$ . We know that  $R_{\Sigma}$  is a product of  $|\Sigma|^2$  terms of type  $R_{a,b}$ , with  $a, b \in \{2i - 1, 2j \mid i, j \in \Sigma\}$ ; so let's analyse what happens when one computes the product  $P := R_{\Sigma} \cdot x \cdot R_{\Sigma}^{-1}$  if  $x \in (H \otimes H)_{\Sigma}$ .

Consider the rightmost factor  $R_{a,b}$ : if  $a, b \notin \{2j - 1, 2j \mid j \in \Sigma'\}$ , then when computing  $P$  one gets  $P := R_{\Sigma} x R_{\Sigma}^{-1} = R_{\star} R_{a,b} x R_{a,b}^{-1} R_{\star}^{-1} = R_{\star} x R_{\star}^{-1}$  (where  $R_{\star} := R_{\Sigma} R_{a,b}^{-1}$ ). Similarly, moving further on from right to left along  $R_{\Sigma}$  one can discard all factors  $R_{c,d}$  of this type, namely those such that  $c, d \notin \{2j - 1, 2j \mid j \in \Sigma'\}$ . Thus the first factor whose adjoint action is non-trivial will be necessarily of type  $R_{\bar{a}, \bar{b}}$  with one of the two indices belonging to  $\{2j - 1, 2j \mid j \in \Sigma'\}$ , say for instance  $\bar{a}$ . Notice that the new index  $\bar{a} (\in \{1, 2, \dots, 2n - 1, 2n\})$  — which "marks" a tensor factor in  $H^{\otimes 2n}$  — corresponds to a new index  $j_{\bar{a}} (\in \{1, \dots, n\})$  — marking a tensor factor of  $(H \otimes H)^{\otimes n}$ . So for the following factors — i.e. on the left of  $R_{\bar{a}, \bar{b}}$  — one has to repeat the same analysis, but with the set  $\{2j - 1, 2j \mid j \in \Sigma' \cup \{j_{\bar{a}}\}\}$  instead of  $\{2j - 1, 2j \mid j \in \Sigma'\}$ ; therefore, as  $R_{\bar{a}, \bar{b}}$  might act in non-trivial way on at most  $|\Sigma'|$  factors of  $(H \otimes H)^{\otimes n}$ , similarly the factor which is the closest on its left may act in a non-trivial way on at most  $|\Sigma'| + 1$  factors. The upshot is that the adjoint action of  $R_{\Sigma}$  is non-trivial on at most  $|\Sigma'| + |\Sigma|$  factors of  $(H \otimes H)^{\otimes n}$ .

Now consider the different terms  $R_{\Sigma}^{(\ell)}$  and  $R_{\Sigma}^{(-m)}$ , with  $\ell + m = S$ , and study the products  $R_{\Sigma}^{(\ell)} \cdot x \cdot R_{\Sigma}^{(-m)}$ , with  $x \in (H \otimes H)_{\Sigma}$ . We already know that  $R_{\Sigma}^{(\ell)}$  and  $R_{\Sigma}^{(-m)}$  are sums of products, denoted  $P_+$  and  $P_-$ , of at most  $\ell$  and  $m$  terms respectively, of type  $R_{i,j}^{(\pm k)}$ ; the terms  $A_{\Sigma', \Sigma''}^{(S)}(a)$  then are nothing but sums of terms of type  $P_+ \tilde{\Delta}_{\Sigma'}(a) P_-$ ,

where in addition the products  $P_+$  and  $P_-$  have their "positions" in  $\Sigma''$ . Now, since each  $P_+$  and each  $P_-$  is a product of at most  $\ell$  and  $m$  factors  $R_{i,j}^{(\pm k)}$ , one can refine the previous argument. Consider only the term at the order  $S$  of the  $h$ -adic expansion of  $P := R_\Sigma x R_\Sigma^{-1} = R_\star R_{a,b} x R_{a,b}^{-1} R_\star^{-1} = R_\star x R_\star^{-1}$ : whenever there are factors of type  $R_{a,b}^{(k)}$  or  $R_{a,b}^{(t)}$ , for fixed  $a, b$  — not belonging to  $\{2j-1, 2j \mid j \in \Sigma'\}$  — which appear in  $R_\Sigma^{(\ell)}$  or  $R_\Sigma^{(-m)}$ , for some  $\ell$  or  $m$ , the total contribution of all these terms in the sum  $\sum_{\ell+m=S} R_\Sigma^{(\ell)} x R_\Sigma^{(-m)}$  will be zero (this follows from the fact that  $R_\star R_{a,b} x R_{a,b}^{-1} R_\star^{-1} = R_\star x R_\star^{-1}$ ). In addition, since now we are dealing only with  $S$  factors in total, we conclude that  $A_{\Sigma', \Sigma''}^{(S)}(a) = 0$  if  $|\Sigma' \cup \Sigma''| > S + |\Sigma'|$ .  $\square$

Now we shall compute  $(E')_{\Sigma', \Sigma''}$ . Thanks to the previous remark, we can limit ourselves to consider the pairs  $(\Sigma', \Sigma'')$  such that  $|\Sigma' \cup \Sigma''| \leq i - j + m + |\Sigma'| \leq i - j + j = i \leq n - 1$ . Then one can always find at least two  $\Sigma \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}$  such that  $|\Sigma| > j$  and  $\Sigma' \cup \Sigma'' \subseteq \Sigma$ , which make us sure that there will always be at least two terms in the calculation which is to follow (such a condition will guarantee the vanishing of the expression  $(E')_{\Sigma', \Sigma''}$ ). We distinguish three cases:

(I) If  $\Sigma'' \subseteq \Sigma'$ , then the expression  $(E')_{\Sigma', \Sigma''}$  becomes

$$(E' : 1)_{\Sigma', \Sigma''} = \sum_{\substack{\Sigma \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\} \\ \Sigma' \subseteq \Sigma, |\Sigma| > j}} (-1)^{n-|\Sigma|} (-1)^{j-|\Sigma'|} C_{|\Sigma|-1-|\Sigma'|}^{j-|\Sigma'|} + (-1)^{n-|\Sigma'|}.$$

Gathering together the  $\Sigma$ 's which share the same cardinality  $d$ , a simple computation gives

$$(E' : 1)_{\Sigma', \Sigma''} = \sum_{d=j+1}^n (-1)^{n-d} (-1)^{j-|\Sigma'|} C_{d-1-|\Sigma'|}^{j-|\Sigma'|} C_{n-|\Sigma'|}^{d-|\Sigma'|} + (-1)^{n-|\Sigma'|}.$$

Now, this last expression is zero by Lemma 3.3, for it corresponds to a sum of type  $\sum_{k=r+1}^t (-1)^{t+r-k} C_{k-1}^r C_t^k + (-1)^t = \sum_{k=0}^t (-1)^{t+r-k} C_{k-1}^r C_t^k + (-1)^t$  (where  $C_u^v := 0$  if  $v > u$ ) with  $r, t \in \mathbb{N}_+$  and  $r < t$ : in our case we set  $t = n - |\Sigma'|$ ,  $r = j - |\Sigma'|$  and  $k = d - |\Sigma'|$ ; one verifies that one has just  $j - |\Sigma'| < n - |\Sigma'|$  because  $j < n$ .

(II) If  $\Sigma'' \not\subseteq \Sigma'$  and  $|\Sigma' \cup \Sigma''| > j$ , then the expression  $(E')_{\Sigma', \Sigma''}$  becomes

$$(E' : 2)_{\Sigma', \Sigma''} = \sum_{\substack{\Sigma \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\} \\ \Sigma' \cup \Sigma'' \subseteq \Sigma}} (-1)^{n-|\Sigma|} (-1)^{j-|\Sigma'|} C_{|\Sigma|-1-|\Sigma'|}^{j-|\Sigma'|}.$$

Gathering together the  $\Sigma$ 's which share the same cardinality  $d$ , a simple computation gives

$$(E' : 2)_{\Sigma', \Sigma''} = \sum_{d=|\Sigma' \cup \Sigma''|}^n (-1)^{n-d} (-1)^{j-|\Sigma'|} C_{d-1-|\Sigma'|}^{j-|\Sigma'|} C_{n-|\Sigma' \cup \Sigma''|}^{d-|\Sigma' \cup \Sigma''|}.$$

Again, the last expression is zero thanks to Lemma 3.3, for it corresponds to a sum of type  $\sum_{k=0}^t (-1)^{t+r-k} C_{k+s}^r C_t^k$  with  $r, t, s \in \mathbb{N}_+$  and  $r < t$ : in our case we set

$t = n - |\Sigma' \cup \Sigma''|$ ,  $r = j - |\Sigma'|$ ,  $s = |\Sigma' \cup \Sigma''| - |\Sigma'| - 1$  and  $k = d - |\Sigma' \cup \Sigma''|$ ; then one verifies that  $j - |\Sigma'| < n - |\Sigma'|$  for  $j < n$  and  $|\Sigma' \cup \Sigma''| - |\Sigma'| - 1 \geq 0$  since  $\Sigma'' \not\subseteq \Sigma'$ .

(III) If  $\Sigma'' \not\subseteq \Sigma'$  and  $|\Sigma' \cup \Sigma''| \leq j$ , then the expression  $(E')_{\Sigma', \Sigma''}$  becomes

$$(E' : 3)_{\Sigma', \Sigma''} = \sum_{\substack{\Sigma \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\} \\ \Sigma' \cup \Sigma'' \subseteq \Sigma, |\Sigma| > j}} (-1)^{n-|\Sigma|} (-1)^{j-|\Sigma'|} C_{|\Sigma|-1-|\Sigma'|}^{j-|\Sigma'|}.$$

Gathering together the  $\Sigma$ 's which share the same cardinality  $d$ , a simple computation gives

$$(E' : 3)_{\Sigma', \Sigma''} = \sum_{d=j+1}^n (-1)^{n-d} (-1)^{j-|\Sigma'|} C_{d-1-|\Sigma'|}^{j-|\Sigma'|} C_{n-|\Sigma' \cup \Sigma''|}^{d-|\Sigma' \cup \Sigma''|}.$$

But again the last expression is zero because of Lemma 3.3, for it corresponds to a sum of type  $\sum_{k=j+1-|\Sigma' \cup \Sigma''|}^t (-1)^{t+r-k} C_{k+s}^r C_t^k = \sum_{k=0}^t (-1)^{t+r-k} C_{k+s}^r C_t^k$  (where  $C_u^v := 0$  if  $v > u$ ) with  $r, t, s \in \mathbb{N}_+$  and  $r < t$ : here again we set  $t = n - |\Sigma' \cup \Sigma''|$ ,  $r = j - |\Sigma'|$ ,  $s = |\Sigma' \cup \Sigma''| - |\Sigma'| - 1$  and  $k = d - |\Sigma' \cup \Sigma''|$ ; one has, always for the same reasons,  $j - |\Sigma'| < n - |\Sigma'|$  and  $|\Sigma' \cup \Sigma''| - |\Sigma'| - 1 \geq 0$ .

Therefore, one has always  $(E')_{\Sigma', \Sigma''} = 0$ , whence  $(E) = 0$ , which ends the proof.  $\square$

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