

σ is as defined.

Let A be a Lie element which is homogeneous of degree m . We use induction on m :

$$\begin{aligned} [\dots [x_1, x_2] \dots x_m] \sigma &= [\dots [x_1, x_2] \dots x_{m-1}] \sigma, x_m] \\ &+ [[\dots [x_1, x_2] \dots x_{m-1}] x_m \sigma] \\ &= (m-1) [\dots [x_1, x_2] \dots x_m] + [\dots [x_1, x_2] \dots x_m] \\ &= m [\dots [x_1, x_2] \dots x_m] \end{aligned}$$

And the hypothesis is true for $m=1$ from defn of σ .

We apply σ to $\log(1+z)$ to get

$$\log(1+z) = \sum_m \sum_{p_1, q_1, \dots, p_m, q_m} \frac{(-1)^{m-1}}{m(p_1+q_1)} [\dots [A A] \dots A B] B \dots B B]$$

When we expand this series we find

$$\log(1+z) = 1 + A + B + \frac{[A, B]}{2} + \frac{[A, [A, B]]}{12} + \dots$$

All the terms of degree three or higher are zero. $1+z = e^A e^B$

$$\log(e^A e^B) = 1 + A + B + \frac{[A, B]}{2}$$

Since \log and \exp are inverses and one-one near zero we have

$$e^A e^B = e^{A+B+[A, B]/2} \quad (*)$$

Let γ be the operator $\gamma(A) = -A$
 $\gamma(B) = -B$

Applying this to the formula $(*)$ we have

$$e^{-A} e^{-B} = e^{-A-B+[A, B]/2} \quad (2)$$

Multiplying (1) and (2) together gives
 $e^A e^B e^{-A} e^{-B} = e^{A+B+[A, B]/2} e^{-A-B+[A, B]/2}$