

BRST CHARGES FOR FINITE NONLINEAR ALGEBRAS

A. P. Isaev^{a, 1}, *S. O. Krivonos*^{a, 2}, *O. V. Ogievetsky*^{b, 3}

^a Joint Institute for Nuclear Research, Dubna

^b Center of Theoretical Physics⁴, Marseille, France

Some ingredients of the BRST construction for quantum Lie algebras are applied to a wider class of quadratic algebras of constraints. We build the BRST charge for a quantum Lie algebra with three generators and ghost–anti-ghosts commuting with constraints. We consider a one-parametric family of quadratic algebras with three generators and show that the BRST charge acquires the conventional form after a redefinition of ghosts. The modified ghosts form a quadratic algebra. The family possesses a nonlinear involution, which implies the existence of two independent BRST charges for each algebra in the family. These BRST charges anticommute and form a double BRST complex.

Некоторые ингредиенты БРСТ-конструкции для квантовых алгебр Ли применены к более широкому классу квадратичных алгебр связей. Мы строим БРСТ-заряд для квантовой алгебры Ли с тремя генераторами и духовыми-антидуховыми переменными, коммутирующими со связями. Мы рассматриваем однопараметрическое семейство квадратичных алгебр с тремя образующими и показываем, что БРСТ-заряд приобретает стандартную форму после переопределения духовых переменных. Модифицированные духовые переменные образуют квадратичную алгебру. Семейство рассматриваемых алгебр обладает нелинейной инволюцией, которая предполагает существование двух независимых БРСТ-зарядов для каждой алгебры из семейства. Эти БРСТ-заряды антикоммутируют и формируют двойной БРСТ-комплекс.

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INTRODUCTION

The construction of BRST charges Q for linear (Lie) algebras of constraints is well known. In the case of nonlinear algebras, despite the existence of quite general results concerning the structure of the BRST charges (see, e.g., [1, 2, 7] and references therein), the general construction is far from being fully understood. The main reason is the appearance of nonstandard terms in Q . Another issue is a possible existence of nonlinear invertible transformation which preserves a certain form of relations (say, leaves the relations quadratic). The BRST charge might have a simple form in one basis, while in other bases it becomes cumbersome.

¹E-mail: isaevap@theor.jinr.ru

²E-mail: krivonos@theor.jinr.ru

³E-mail: oleg@cpt.univ-mrs.fr

⁴Unité Mixte de Recherche (UMR 6207) du CNRS et des Universités Aix-Marseille I, Aix-Marseille II et du Sud Toulon-Var; laboratoire affilié à la FRUMAM (FR 2291).

Among the quadratically nonlinear algebras there is a special class of so-called quantum Lie algebras (QLA) (see [5–8] and references therein). The additional QLA restrictions help to construct explicitly the BRST charges [7–9]. The main ingredient of the construction in [7–9] is the modified ghost–anti-ghost algebra which is also quadratically nonlinear. Moreover, in general, the ghost–anti-ghosts do not commute with the generators of the algebra. Unfortunately, the class of QLAs is not wide enough to include many interesting algebras. Therefore, it seems desirable to extend at least some elements of the construction of the BRST charge for QLA to broader classes of quadratic algebras. Here we report on some preliminary results in this direction. In Secs. 1 and 2 we relax one of the restrictions to make the algebra of constraints commute with the ghost–anti-ghosts. The BRST charges Q can be built explicitly in this case. In Sec. 3 we discuss an example of QLA with three generators and present its BRST charge. In the next Section we construct BRST charges for a one-parametric family of quadratic algebras. Two nontrivial features arise. First, the BRST charge Q takes a conventional form after a redefinition of the canonical ghost–anti-ghost system. The algebra of modified ghosts is quadratic as for QLAs. Second, the family admits a nonlinear involution; it follows that any algebra of the family has two different bases with quadratic defining relations (two «quadratic faces») and therefore two different BRST charges. It turns out that these BRST charges anticommute and form thus a double BRST complex.

1. QUANTUM SPACE FORMALISM

Let V_{N+1} be a $(N + 1)$ -dimensional vector space. Let $R \in \text{End}(V_{N+1} \otimes V_{N+1})$ be a Yang–Baxter R matrix, that is, a solution of the Yang–Baxter equation

$$R_{\underline{23}} R_{\underline{12}} R_{\underline{23}} = R_{\underline{12}} R_{\underline{23}} R_{\underline{12}} \in \text{End}(V_{N+1} \otimes V_{N+1} \otimes V_{N+1}) \quad (1.1)$$

(here $\underline{1}, \underline{2}$ or $\underline{2}, \underline{3}$ denote copies of the vector spaces V_{N+1} on which the R matrix acts nontrivially) or, in components R_{CD}^{AB} ($A, B, C, D = 0, 1, \dots, N$),

$$R_{A_2 A_3}^{C_2 C_3} R_{A_1 C_2}^{B_1 D_2} R_{D_2 C_3}^{B_2 B_3} = R_{A_1 A_2}^{C_1 C_2} R_{C_2 A_3}^{D_2 B_3} R_{C_1 D_2}^{B_1 B_2}. \quad (1.2)$$

Consider an algebra with generators $\chi_A = \{\chi_0, \chi_i\}$ ($i = 1, \dots, N$) and quadratic relations

$$R_{AB}^{CD} \chi_C \chi_D = \chi_A \chi_B \quad \text{or} \quad (1 - R_{\underline{12}}) \chi_{\underline{1}} \chi_{\underline{2}} = 0. \quad (1.3)$$

This algebra is usually called «quantum space» algebra.

We extend the algebra (1.3) by ghosts c^A with the following commutation relations with χ_A

$$\chi_A c^D = c^B F_{BA}^{CD} \chi_C. \quad (1.4)$$

Here F is another Yang–Baxter matrix,

$$F_{\underline{23}} F_{\underline{12}} F_{\underline{23}} = F_{\underline{12}} F_{\underline{23}} F_{\underline{12}}, \quad (1.5)$$

which is compatible with the matrix R in the sense that

$$R_{\underline{23}} F_{\underline{12}} F_{\underline{23}} = F_{\underline{12}} F_{\underline{23}} R_{\underline{12}}, \quad F_{\underline{23}} F_{\underline{12}} R_{\underline{23}} = R_{\underline{12}} F_{\underline{23}} F_{\underline{12}}. \quad (1.6)$$

The matrix F is called «twisting» matrix for the Yang–Baxter matrix R (Eqs.(1.1), (1.5) and (1.6) imply that the twisted matrix $\tilde{R} = FRF^{-1}$ satisfies the Yang–Baxter equation as well).

The multiplication of ghosts is «wedge» with respect to the matrix \tilde{R} ; for quadratic combinations it reads

$$c^J c^I := c^D \otimes c^B (1_{BD}^{IJ} - \tilde{R}_{BD}^{IJ}), \quad 1_{BD}^{IJ} := \delta_B^I \delta_D^J. \quad (1.7)$$

The algebra (1.3), (1.4) and (1.7) is graded by the ghost number: $\text{gh}(\chi_A) = 0$, $\text{gh}(c^A) = +1$.

The element

$$Q := c^A \chi_A \equiv c^i \chi_i + c^0 \chi_0 \quad (1.8)$$

can be interpreted as a BRST operator for the quantum space algebra (1.3). Indeed, using (1.3), (1.4) and (1.7) one checks that $Q^2 = 0$,

$$\begin{aligned} Q^2 &= c^{\langle 2 \rangle} \chi_{\langle 2 \rangle} c^{\langle 2 \rangle} \chi_{\langle 2 \rangle} = c^{\langle 2 \rangle} c^{\langle 1 \rangle} F_{12} \chi_{\langle 1 \rangle} \chi_{\langle 2 \rangle} = \\ &= c^{\langle 2 \rangle} \otimes c^{\langle 1 \rangle} (1 - \tilde{R}_{12}) F_{12} \chi_{\langle 1 \rangle} \chi_{\langle 2 \rangle} = c^{\langle 2 \rangle} \otimes c^{\langle 1 \rangle} F_{12} (1 - R_{12}) \chi_{\langle 1 \rangle} \chi_{\langle 2 \rangle} = 0. \end{aligned}$$

In the next Section we will consider the special choice of Yang–Baxter matrices R and F for which the generator χ_0 is a central element for the algebra (1.3) and (1.4). In this case, one can fix $\chi_0 = 1$ and then represent the ghost variable c^0 as a series

$$c^0 = \sum_{k=1}^N \sum_{i_\alpha, j_\beta=1} c^{i_{k+1}} \otimes \dots \otimes c^{i_1} X_{i_1 \dots i_{k+1}}^{j_1 \dots j_k} b_{j_1} \dots b_{j_k} \quad (\text{gh}(c^0) = +1), \quad (1.9)$$

where $X_{i_1 \dots i_{k+1}}^{j_1 \dots j_k}$ are constants and $b_A = \{b_0, b_i\}$ are anti-ghost generators with the ghost number $\text{gh}(b_A) = -1$. The anti-ghosts b_A satisfy

$$b_A \chi_B = F_{AB}^{CD} \chi_C b_D, \quad (1.10)$$

$$b_A b_B = (1_{AB}^{IJ} - \tilde{R}_{AB}^{IJ}) b_I \otimes b_J, \quad (1.11)$$

$$b_A c^B = -c^D (\tilde{R}^{-1})_{DA}^{CB} b_C + D_A^B, \quad (1.12)$$

where D_A^B is a constant matrix such that $D_0^B = 0$, $D_j^i = \delta_j^i$. The compatibility of c^0 (1.9) with (1.4), (1.7) and (1.12) yields the unique solution for tensors $X_{i_1 \dots i_{k+1}}^{j_1 \dots j_k}$ in terms of the matrix components F_{AB}^{CD} and R_{AB}^{CD} . In papers [7, 8] we analyzed the case $F = R$ with a particular R matrix (see Eq.(2.1) below) and found in this case the unique solution

$$X_{i_1 \dots i_{r+1}}^{j_1 \dots j_r} = (-1)^{r+1} \left((1 - R_{\underline{r}}^2) (1 + R_{\underline{r-1}} R_{\underline{r}}^2) \dots (1 + (-1)^r R_{\underline{1}} \dots R_{\underline{r-1}} R_{\underline{r}}^2) \right)_{i_1 \dots i_r, i_{r+1}}^{j_1 \dots j_r, 0} \quad (1.13)$$

where $R_{\underline{k}} := R_{k, k+1}$ and $i_k, j_m = 1, 2, \dots, N$. In the next Sections we will investigate examples of quadratic algebras (1.3), (1.4) and (1.7) with $F \neq R$.

2. BRST OPERATOR FOR FINITELY GENERATED QUADRATIC ALGEBRAS

Consider a $(N + 1)^2 \times (N + 1)^2$ Yang–Baxter matrix with the following restrictions on the components R_{AB}^{CD} [3]:

$$R_{kl}^{ij} = \sigma_{kl}^{ij}, \quad R_{kl}^{0j} = C_{kl}^j, \quad R_{B0}^{0A} = R_{0B}^{A0} = \delta_B^A \quad (2.1)$$

(other components of R vanish). Small letters $i, j, k, \dots = 1, \dots, N$ denote indices of the N -dimensional subspace $V_N \subset V_{N+1}$.

For the R matrix of the special form (2.1), relations (1.3) are equivalent to

$$[\chi_0, \chi_i] = 0 \text{ and } (1 - \sigma_{12}) \chi_1 \chi_2 = C_{12}^{(1)} \chi_0 \chi_1.$$

The generator χ_0 is central and one can rescale the remaining generators, $\chi_i \rightarrow \chi_0 \chi_i$. The rescaled generators (still denoted by $\chi_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, N$) satisfy relations

$$\chi_{i_1} \chi_{i_2} - \sigma_{i_1 i_2}^{k_1 k_2} \chi_{k_1} \chi_{k_2} = C_{i_1 i_2}^{k_1} \chi_{k_1} \text{ or } \chi_1 \chi_2 - \sigma_{12} \chi_1 \chi_2 = C_{12}^{(1)} \chi_1. \quad (2.2)$$

For the R matrix (2.1) the Yang–Baxter equation (1.1) imposes certain conditions for the structure constants σ_{kl}^{ij} and C_{ij}^k which can be written in the concise matrix notation [4, 6] as

$$\sigma_{12} \sigma_{23} \sigma_{12} = \sigma_{23} \sigma_{12} \sigma_{23}, \quad (2.3)$$

$$C_{12}^{(1)} C_{13}^{(4)} = \sigma_{23} C_{12}^{(1)} C_{13}^{(4)} + C_{23}^{(3)} C_{13}^{(4)}, \quad (2.4)$$

$$C_{12}^{(1)} \sigma_{13} = \sigma_{23} \sigma_{12} C_{23}^{(3)}, \quad (2.5)$$

$$(\sigma_{23} C_{12}^{(1)} + C_{23}^{(3)}) \sigma_{13} = \sigma_{12} (\sigma_{23} C_{12}^{(1)} + C_{23}^{(3)}). \quad (2.6)$$

The condition (2.3) says that σ is the braid (Yang–Baxter) matrix, condition (2.4) is a version of the Jacobi identity. The quadratic algebra (2.2) with conditions (2.3)–(2.6) is called *quantum Lie algebra* (QLA). The usual Lie algebras form a subclass of the QLA corresponding to $\sigma_{km}^{ij} = \delta_m^i \delta_k^j$ (i.e., σ is the permutation).

Below we consider the simplest, unitary, braid matrices σ , that is,

$$\sigma_{nm}^{pj} \sigma_{pj}^{ki} = \delta_n^k \delta_m^i \text{ or } \sigma^2 = 1. \quad (2.7)$$

Then (2.6) follows from (2.5) and symmetries of (2.2) imply that

$$(1 + \sigma_{12}) C_{12}^{(1)} = 0. \quad (2.8)$$

The generators $c^i, b_i (i = 1, \dots, N)$ of the ghost–anti-ghost algebra satisfy quadratic relations

$$b_1 \rangle b_2 \rangle = -\tilde{\sigma}_{12} b_1 \rangle b_2 \rangle, \quad c^{(2)} c^{(1)} = -c^{(2)} c^{(1)} \tilde{\sigma}_{12}, \quad (2.9)$$

$$b_2 \rangle c^{(2)} = -c^{(1)} \tilde{\sigma}_{12}^{-1} b_1 \rangle + I_2, \quad (2.10)$$

where $\tilde{\sigma}_{12} = \phi_{12} \sigma_{12} \phi_{12}^{-1}$. These relations are obtained from Eqs. (1.7), (1.11) and (1.12) for the special choice of the matrix F :

$$F_{kl}^{ij} = \phi_{kl}^{ij}, \quad F_{B0}^{0A} = F_{0B}^{A0} = \delta_B^A \quad (2.11)$$

(other components vanish).

A cross-product of the QLA (2.2) and the ghost algebra (2.9), (2.10) is defined by the commutation relations (1.4) and (1.10),

$$b_1 \chi_2 = \phi_{12} \chi_1 b_2, \quad \chi_2 c'^2 = c'^1 \phi_{12} \chi_1. \quad (2.12)$$

We denote this cross-product algebra by Ω . For consistency of the algebra Ω we require that the matrix ϕ satisfies relations

$$\sigma_{12} \phi_{23} \phi_{12} = \phi_{23} \phi_{12} \sigma_{23}, \quad (2.13)$$

$$\phi_{12} \phi_{23} \sigma_{12} = \sigma_{23} \phi_{12} \phi_{23},$$

$$\phi_{12} \phi_{23} \phi_{12} = \phi_{23} \phi_{12} \phi_{23},$$

$$\phi_{12} \phi_{23} C_{12}^{(1)} \delta_3^{(2)} = C_{23}^{(2)} \phi_{12}, \quad (2.14)$$

which follow from relations (1.6) and (1.5) with the Yang–Baxter matrices R and F given by (2.1) and (2.11).

Now the construction (1.8) of the BRST operator for the QLA (2.2) and the ghost algebra (2.9), (2.10), (2.12) gives the following result [10]:

Proposition. Let $c^0 = -\frac{1}{2} c^j c^i \phi_{ij}^{km} C_{km}^r b_r$. Then the element $Q \in \Omega$,

$$Q = c^j \chi_j + c^0 \in \Omega \quad (2.15)$$

satisfies

$$Q^2 = 0. \quad (2.16)$$

For a general braid matrix σ , there are always two possibilities for the twisting matrix ϕ . The first possibility is $\phi = \sigma$; it was investigated in [5–9]. The second one is $\phi_{nm}^{kl} = \delta_m^k \delta_n^l$ which leads to the tensor product of the algebra (2.2) and the ghost–anti-ghost algebra (2.9), (2.10). In other words, with this choice, the ghosts commute with the generators of the QLA,

$$b_i \chi_j = \chi_j b_i, \quad c^i \chi_j = \chi_j c^i. \quad (2.17)$$

This possibility will be considered in the next Sections on examples of 3-dimensional nonlinear algebras.

3. EXAMPLE OF A 3-DIMENSIONAL QLA

In this Section we present an explicit example of a finite-dimensional QLA (2.2)–(2.7) and construct the BRST charge for this algebra.

The algebra we start with has four generators $\{\chi_0, \chi_1, \chi_2, \chi_3\}$ which obey the following quadratic relations:

$$\begin{aligned} [\chi_1, \chi_2] &= 0, \quad [\chi_1, \chi_3] = \alpha \chi_1^2 + \chi_0 \chi_2, \quad [\chi_2, \chi_3] = \alpha \chi_1 \chi_2, \\ [\chi_0, \chi_i] &= 0, \quad i = 1, 2, 3, \end{aligned} \tag{3.1}$$

where $\alpha \neq 0$ is a parameter. This parameter can be set to one, $\alpha = 1$ by rescaling of the generators χ_A . One can write (3.1) in the form (1.3) with the R matrix

$$\begin{aligned} R_{CD}^{AB} &= \delta_D^A \delta_C^B + (\delta_0^A \delta_2^B + \alpha \delta_1^A \delta_1^B) (\delta_C^1 \delta_D^3 - \delta_C^3 \delta_D^1) + \\ &+ \alpha (\delta_1^A \delta_2^B \delta_C^2 \delta_D^3 - \delta_2^A \delta_1^B \delta_C^3 \delta_D^2). \end{aligned} \tag{3.2}$$

The matrix (3.2) satisfies the Yang–Baxter equation; it is of the form (2.1) with

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{kl}^{ij} &= \delta_l^i \delta_k^j + \alpha \delta_1^i \delta_1^j (\delta_k^1 \delta_l^3 - \delta_k^3 \delta_l^1) + \alpha (\delta_1^i \delta_2^j \delta_k^2 \delta_l^3 - \delta_2^i \delta_1^j \delta_k^3 \delta_l^2), \\ C_{kl}^j &= \delta_0^i \delta_2^j (\delta_k^1 \delta_l^3 - \delta_k^3 \delta_l^1), \quad i, j, k, l = 1, 2, 3. \end{aligned} \tag{3.3}$$

The matrix σ has the form $\sigma_{12} = P_{12} + u_{12}$, where $u_{12} = -u_{21}$ and $u_{12}^2 = 0$, so $\sigma^2 = 1$ (σ belongs to the family F in the classification of $GL(3)$ R matrices in [11]). Thus, for $\chi_0 = C = \text{const}$, the algebra (3.1) is an example of the QLA (2.2)–(2.7).

According to the choice of the structure constants, the noncanonical ghost–anti-ghost algebra (2.9), (2.10) and (2.17) reads

$$\begin{aligned} (c^1)^2 &= \alpha c^3 c^1, \quad (c^2)^2 = (c^3)^2 = 0, \quad \{c^1, c^3\} = \{c^2, c^3\} = 0, \quad \{c^1, c^2\} = \alpha c^3 c^2, \\ (b_1)^2 &= (b_2)^2 = (b_3)^2 = 0, \quad \{b_1, b_2\} = \{b_1, b_3\} = 0, \quad \{b_2, b_3\} = \alpha b_1 b_2, \\ \{b_1, c^1\} &= -\alpha c^3 b_1 + 1, \quad \{b_2, c^2\} = \{b_3, c^3\} = 1, \quad \{b_3, c^2\} = \alpha c^2 b_1, \\ \{b_2, c^1\} &= -\alpha c^3 b_2, \quad \{b_3, c^1\} = \alpha c^1 b_1, \quad \{b_1, c^2\} = \{b_1, c^3\} = \{b_2, c^3\} = 0, \\ [\chi_i, c^j] &= 0 = [\chi_i, b_j], \end{aligned} \tag{3.4}$$

where $\{.,.\}$ stands for the anti-commutator. Then the BRST operator (2.15) for the ghost–anti-ghost algebra (3.4) has the standard form

$$Q = \sum_{i=1}^3 c^i \chi_i - c^1 c^3 C b_2, \tag{3.5}$$

and one can recheck directly that $Q^2 = 0$.

We note that under the following nonlinear invertible transformation of the generators,

$$\chi_2 \mapsto \chi_2 + \gamma \chi_1^2,$$

where $\alpha = 2\gamma \chi_0$, relations (3.1) have a different, but still quadratic, form

$$[\chi_1, \chi_2] = 0, \quad [\chi_1, \chi_3] = \frac{\alpha}{2} \chi_1^2 + \chi_0 \chi_2, \quad [\chi_2, \chi_3] = 2\alpha \chi_1 \chi_2. \tag{3.6}$$

These relations cannot be presented in the form (1.3) with an R matrix (2.1) and any $GL(3)$ matrix σ .

For the ghost algebra (3.4) the Fock space F is constructed in the standard way. Let V be a left module over the algebra (3.1). For any vector $|\psi\rangle \in V$ we require

$$b_i|\psi\rangle = 0, \quad (3.7)$$

i.e., the anti-ghosts $\{b_i\}$ are annihilation operators for all vectors in V . Then the Fock space F is generated from V by the ghost operators $\{c^i\}$ (creation operators) and in view of (3.4) any vector $|\Phi\rangle \in F$ has the form

$$|\Phi\rangle = |\psi_0\rangle + \sum_{i=1}^3 c^i |\psi_i\rangle + \sum_{i<j} c^i c^j |\psi_{ij}\rangle + c^1 c^2 c^3 |\psi_{123}\rangle, \quad (3.8)$$

where $|\psi_{\dots}\rangle \in V$. The «physical subspace» in F is extracted by the condition

$$Q|\Phi\rangle = 0, \quad (3.9)$$

which gives

$$\chi_i|\psi_0\rangle = 0, \quad i = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

Since the vector $|\psi_0\rangle$ is annihilated by the first class constraints χ_i , this vector belongs to the physical subspace in V .

In the next Section we will show that the quadratic ghost algebra (3.4) can be realized in terms of the canonical ghosts and anti-ghosts $\{c^i, b_j\}$ (cf. the standard deformation of the algebra of the bosonic creation and annihilation operators [12]).

4. BRST OPERATOR FOR A 3-DIMENSIONAL NONLINEAR ALGEBRA

We construct the BRST operator for the algebra, which generalizes the QLAs (3.1) and (3.6):

$$[J, W] = a_1 T + a_2 J^2, \quad [J, T] = 0, \quad [T, W] = a_3 J T, \quad (4.1)$$

with $a_1, a_2, a_3 \neq 0$. By rescaling of the generators, two of three coefficients $\{a_1, a_2\}$ or $\{a_1, a_3\}$ may be arbitrarily fixed. In what follows we prefer to leave all these coefficients free and fix them at the end of calculations, if needed.

The values $a_3/a_2 = 1$ (respectively, $a_3/a_2 = 4$) correspond to the algebra (3.1) (respectively, (3.6)), where we should identify

$$\chi_1 = J, \quad \chi_2 = T, \quad \chi_3 = W.$$

For $a_3/a_2 = -16$ or $a_3/a_2 = -1/4$ this algebra is a finite-dimensional «cut» of the bosonic part of the $N = 2$ super W_3 algebra [13] $\{J = J_{-1}, T = \tilde{L}_1, W = W_2\}$.

The algebra (4.1) is quadratic and we may construct the BRST charge using quadratic ghosts along the lines discussed at the beginning of this paper (see [5–10] also). Nevertheless, to make steps more transparent we first construct the BRST charge with the canonical ghost–anti-ghost generators and then define the nonlinear ghosts systems in which the BRST

charge drastically simplifies. So we introduce the fermionic ghost–anti-ghost generators $\{\mathbf{b}_J, \mathbf{c}^J, \mathbf{b}_T, \mathbf{c}^T, \mathbf{b}_W, \mathbf{c}^W\}$ with the standard relations

$$\{\mathbf{b}_J, \mathbf{c}^J\} = 1, \quad \{\mathbf{b}_T, \mathbf{c}^T\} = 1, \quad \{\mathbf{b}_W, \mathbf{c}^W\} = 1 \quad (4.2)$$

(other anti-commutators are zero).

By virtue of a rather simple structure of the algebra (4.1) the BRST charge can be easily found to be

$$Q = \mathbf{c}^J J + \mathbf{c}^T T + \mathbf{c}^W W - a_1 \mathbf{c}^J \mathbf{c}^W \mathbf{b}_T - a_3 T \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{c}^W \mathbf{b}_J + a_2 J \mathbf{c}^W \mathbf{c}^J \mathbf{b}_J, \quad (4.3)$$

where we assumed the «initial condition»

$$Q = \mathbf{c}^J J + \mathbf{c}^T T + \mathbf{c}^W W + \text{higher order terms} \quad (4.4)$$

and used the ordering with the annihilation operators $\{\mathbf{b}_i\}$ on the right. If we relax the «initial condition», then the BRST charge is not unique. For example, the operator $Q' = Q + \mu J \mathbf{c}^W$ (μ is a constant) satisfies $(Q')^2 = 0$ as well.

The last two terms in the BRST charge (4.3) are unconventional. Let us now rewrite the BRST charge as follows:

$$Q = (\mathbf{c}^J + a_2 \mathbf{c}^W \mathbf{c}^J \mathbf{b}_J) J + \mathbf{c}^W W - a_1 (\mathbf{c}^J + a_2 \mathbf{c}^W \mathbf{c}^J \mathbf{b}_J) \mathbf{c}^W \mathbf{b}_T + (\mathbf{c}^T - a_3 \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{c}^W \mathbf{b}_J) T. \quad (4.5)$$

It is now clear that the BRST charge (4.5) acquires the conventional form (of the type (2.15)) after introducing «new» ghosts $\{c^J, c^T, c^W\}$:

$$c^J = \mathbf{c}^J + a_2 \mathbf{c}^W \mathbf{c}^J \mathbf{b}_J, \quad c^T = \mathbf{c}^T - a_3 \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{c}^W \mathbf{b}_J, \quad c^W = \mathbf{c}^W. \quad (4.6)$$

In terms of new ghosts the BRST charge (4.5) reads

$$Q = c^J J + c^T T + c^W W - a_1 c^J c^W \mathbf{b}_T, \quad (4.7)$$

in agreement with the ideas discussed above and in [5–10]. It is straightforward to write the relations for the new ghost–anti-ghost generators (4.6); they form a quadratic algebra

$$\begin{aligned} \{c^J, c^J\} &= -2a_2 c^J c^W, & \{c^J, c^T\} &= -a_3 c^T c^W, & \{c^J, \mathbf{b}_J\} &= 1 - a_2 c^W \mathbf{b}_J, \\ \{c^J, \mathbf{b}_W\} &= a_2 c^J \mathbf{b}_J, & \{c^T, \mathbf{b}_T\} &= 1 - a_3 c^W \mathbf{b}_J, & \{c^T, \mathbf{b}_W\} &= a_3 c^T \mathbf{b}_J, \\ \{c^W, \mathbf{b}_W\} &= 1, \end{aligned} \quad (4.8)$$

other anti-commutators are zero. To relate this ghost–anti-ghost algebra and the BRST charge (4.7) with the algebra (3.4) and the BRST charge (3.5) we need also to redefine the anti-ghost variables

$$b_J = \mathbf{b}_J, \quad b_T = \mathbf{b}_T + a_3 c^W \mathbf{b}_J \mathbf{b}_T, \quad b_W = \mathbf{b}_W,$$

and fix $a_2 = a_3 = \alpha$, $a_1 = C$.

Thus, we see that the price we have to pay for the conventional form of the BRST charge is the quadratically nonlinear ghost–anti-ghost algebra, as it has been claimed in [5–8, 10].

4.1. Double BRST Complex. An interesting peculiarity of the family (4.1) of nonlinear algebras is an existence of nonlinear redefinitions of the generators. Redefine the generator $T \mapsto \mathcal{T}$,

$$\mathcal{T} = T + \beta J J \quad (4.9)$$

(β is a constant). In terms of generators $\{J, \mathcal{T}, W\}$ the algebra (4.1) becomes cubic for general β . However, it is amusing that for

$$\beta = \frac{2a_2 - a_3}{2a_1} \quad (4.10)$$

the commutators of the generators $\{J, \mathcal{T}, W\}$ are again quadratic,

$$[J, W] = \tilde{a}_1 \mathcal{T} + \tilde{a}_2 J^2, \quad [J, \mathcal{T}] = 0, \quad [\mathcal{T}, W] = \tilde{a}_3 J \mathcal{T}, \quad (4.11)$$

where

$$\tilde{a}_1 = a_1, \quad \tilde{a}_2 = \frac{a_3}{2}, \quad \tilde{a}_3 = 2a_2. \quad (4.12)$$

By rescalings, one can set a_1 to 1 and leave $t = 2a_2/a_3$ as the essential parameter of the family. The transformation (4.12) is the involution $\tilde{t} = 1/t$.

Therefore, our (in general, cubic) algebra has two «quadratic faces». Now we immediately conclude that for the second «face» another BRST charge \tilde{Q} exists,

$$\tilde{Q} = \mathbf{c}^J J + \mathbf{c}^T \mathcal{T} + \mathbf{c}^W W - \tilde{a}_1 \mathbf{c}^J \mathbf{c}^W \mathbf{b}_T - \tilde{a}_3 \mathcal{T} \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{c}^W \mathbf{b}_J + \tilde{a}_2 J \mathbf{c}^W \mathbf{c}^J \mathbf{b}_J \quad (4.13)$$

(it is constructed in the same way as (4.3)). Moreover, one checks that

$$\tilde{Q}^2 = 0, \quad \text{and} \quad \{Q, \tilde{Q}\} = 0. \quad (4.14)$$

Thus, for our algebra (4.1) we have two nontrivial BRST operators Q, \tilde{Q} forming a double complex. Both operators are linear in the generators of the algebra and satisfy the initial condition (4.4) but in different bases: Q in the basis $\{J, T, W\}$ and \tilde{Q} in the new basis $\{J, \mathcal{T}, W\}$. In the basis $\{J, \mathcal{T}, W\}$, the BRST operator Q does not satisfy initial condition (4.4), it contains nonlinear in J terms. The same is true for \tilde{Q} in the basis $\{J, T, W\}$. For an algebra, having several quadratic faces, related by nonlinear transformations, one can impose standard initial condition in any of them and build — in general, nonequivalent — BRST charges (cf. the Lie algebra $[x, y] = y$ and transformations $x \mapsto x + f(y)$, f is a polynomial).

CONCLUSION

We extended some elements of the construction of BRST charge for quantum Lie algebras to more general quadratic algebras. We explicitly found the BRST charges in the examples when the constraints commute with the ghost–anti-ghosts. We discussed an example of a QLA with three generators and presented the BRST charge for this algebra. As another interesting example we considered, as an analogue of a QLA, a one-parametric family of quadratic algebras with three generators. On this simple example we have shown that one can redefine

the ghost–anti-ghost system in such a way that the BRST operator takes the conventional form $Q = c^i \chi_i + \text{«ghost terms»}$ (2.15). The modified ghosts form a quadratically nonlinear algebra as for QLAs. In addition, the members of this family admit two different presentations with quadratic defining relations. In agreement with general considerations in each presentation there is a conventional BRST charge. Being written in one basis they give rise to two inequivalent BRST charges Q, \tilde{Q} which anticommute and form a double BRST complex. We think that any algebra possessing several quadratic faces should have inequivalent BRST charges.

As immediate applications of our results one may try to construct the modified ghost–anti-ghost system for some known nonlinear (super)algebras to simplify their BRST charges. Being extremely interesting (for us), this task seems to be less important than an analysis of situations with several BRST charges.

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