

THE CAMPBELL-BAKER-HAUSDORFF FORMULA FOR RELATIVELY FREE LIE ALGEBRAS

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Consider the algebra $K\langle\langle x, y \rangle\rangle$ of formal power series in two noncommuting variables x, y , over a field K of characteristic zero. The Hausdorff series $H(x, y)$ is the solution to the equation $z = \log(e^x e^y)$, which is given by the Campbell-Baker-Hausdorff formula

$$H(x, y) = x + y + \frac{1}{2}[x, y] + \frac{1}{12}([x, [x, y]] + [y, [y, x]]) + \frac{1}{24}[y, [x, [y, x]]] + \dots$$

This series belongs to the completion $\hat{L} \subset K\langle\langle x, y \rangle\rangle$ of the free Lie algebra L of rank 2 generated by x, y . We evaluate $H(x, y)$ on various relatively free Lie algebras in order to obtain closed-form expressions in the variables x, y .

This is a joint work with Vesselin Drensky* and Lothar Gerritzen**.

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