

## Part II Integrable Systems, Sheet Three

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1. **Gauge invariance of zero curvature equations.** Let  $g = g(\tau, \rho)$  be an arbitrary invertible matrix. Show that the transformation

$$\tilde{U} = gUg^{-1} + \frac{\partial g}{\partial \rho}g^{-1}, \quad \tilde{V} = gVg^{-1} + \frac{\partial g}{\partial \tau}g^{-1}$$

maps solutions to the zero curvature equation into new solutions: if the matrices  $(U, V)$  satisfy

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \tau}U(\lambda) - \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho}V(\lambda) + [U(\lambda), V(\lambda)] = 0$$

then so do  $\tilde{U}(\lambda), \tilde{V}(\lambda)$ . What is the relationship between the solutions of the associated linear problems?

2. Let  $I_n, n = 0, 1, \dots$  be the first integrals of KdV such that

$$\{I_n, I_m\} = 0.$$

Show that all equations in the KdV hierarchy

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t_n} = (-1)^n \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \frac{\delta I_n[u]}{\delta u(x)}$$

are compatible (in the sense that the partial ‘time’ derivatives commute). You may assume that the Poisson bracket of functionals satisfies the Jacobi identity.

3. **Finite gap integration.** Consider solutions to the KdV hierarchy which are stationary with respect to

$$c_0 \frac{\partial}{\partial t_0} + c_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial t_1}$$

where the  $k$ th KdV flow is generated by the Hamiltonian  $(-1)^k I_k[u]$  and  $I_k[u]$  are the first integrals constructed in lectures.

Show that the resulting solution to KdV is

$$F(u) = c_1 x - c_0 t,$$

where  $F(u)$  is given by an integral which should be determined and  $t_0 = x, t_1 = t$ .

Find the zero curvature representation for the ODE characterising the stationary solutions.

4. **Nonlinear Schrödinger equation.** Consider the zero curvature representation with

$$\begin{aligned} U &= i\lambda \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} + i \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \bar{\phi} \\ \phi & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \\ V &= 2i\lambda^2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} + 2i\lambda \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \bar{\phi} \\ \phi & 0 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \bar{\phi}_\rho \\ -\phi_\rho & 0 \end{pmatrix} - i \begin{pmatrix} |\phi|^2 & 0 \\ 0 & -|\phi|^2 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

and show that complex valued function  $\phi = \phi(\tau, \rho)$  satisfies the non-linear Schrödinger equation

$$i\phi_\tau + \phi_{\rho\rho} + 2|\phi|^2\phi = 0.$$

[This is another famous soliton equation which can be solved by inverse scattering transform.]

5. **From group action to vector fields.** Consider three one-parameter groups of transformations of  $\mathbb{R}$

$$x \rightarrow x + \varepsilon_1, \quad x \rightarrow e^{\varepsilon_2}x, \quad x \rightarrow \frac{x}{1 - \varepsilon_3x},$$

and find the vector fields  $V_1, V_2, V_3$  generating these groups. Deduce that these vector fields generate a three-parameter group of transformations

$$x \rightarrow \frac{ax + b}{cx + d}, \quad ad - bc = 1.$$

Show that

$$[V_\alpha, V_\beta] = \sum_{\gamma=1}^3 f_{\alpha\beta}^\gamma V_\gamma, \quad \alpha, \beta = 1, 2, 3$$

for some constants  $f_{\alpha\beta}^\gamma$  which should be determined.

6. **ODE with symmetry.** Consider a vector field

$$V = x \frac{\partial}{\partial x} - u \frac{\partial}{\partial u}$$

and find the corresponding one parameter group of transformations of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . Sketch the integral curves of this vector field.

Find the invariant coordinates, i.e. functions  $s(x, u), g(x, u)$  such that

$$V(s) = 1, \quad V(g) = 0$$

[These are not unique. Make sure that  $s, g$  are functionally independent in a domain of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  which you should specify.]

Use your results to integrate the ODE

$$x^2 \frac{du}{dx} = F(xu)$$

where  $F$  is arbitrary function of one variable.

7. **Lie point symmetries of KdV.** Consider the vector fields

$$V_1 = \frac{\partial}{\partial x}, \quad V_2 = \frac{\partial}{\partial t}, \quad V_3 = \frac{\partial}{\partial u} + \alpha t \frac{\partial}{\partial x}, \quad V_4 = \beta x \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \gamma t \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \delta u \frac{\partial}{\partial u}$$

where  $(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta)$  are constants and find the corresponding one parameter groups of transformations of  $\mathbb{R}^3$  with coordinates  $(x, t, u)$ .

Find  $(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta)$  such that these are symmetry groups of KdV and deduce the existence of a four-parameter symmetry group.

Determine the structure constants of the corresponding Lie algebra of vector fields.

8. **Painlevé II from modified KdV.** Consider the modified KdV equation

$$v_t - 6v^2v_x + v_{xxx} = 0.$$

Find a Lie point symmetry of this equation of the form

$$(\tilde{v}, \tilde{x}, \tilde{t}) = (c^\alpha v, c^\beta x, c^\gamma t), \quad c \neq 0$$

for some  $(\alpha, \beta, \gamma)$  which should be found, and find the corresponding vector field generating this group.

Consider the group invariant solution of the form

$$v(x, t) = (3t)^{-1/3} w(z), \quad \text{where } z = x(3t)^{-1/3}$$

and obtain a third order ODE for  $w(z)$ . Integrate this ODE once to show that  $w(z)$  satisfies the second Painlevé equation.

9. **Symmetry reduction of Sine–Gordon.** Show that the transformation

$$(\tilde{\rho}, \tilde{\tau}) = (c\rho, \frac{1}{c}\tau), \quad c \neq 0$$

is a one–parameter symmetry of the Sine–Gordon equation and find its generating vector field.

Consider the group invariant solutions of the form  $\phi(\rho, \tau) = F(z)$  where  $z = \rho\tau$ . Substitute  $w(z) = \exp(iF(z))$  and demonstrate that the ODE arising from a symmetry reduction is one of the Painlevé equations.