# On the recursion operators for the integrable equations 

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## Outline

- factorized representation $R=L_{1}^{-1} L_{2}$ of the recursion operators with weak non-localities
- method for constructing the operators $L_{1}$ and $L_{2}$
- operators $L_{1}$ and $L_{2}$ and the Lax pairs

The problem of constructing the recursion operators for the integrable equations has been investigated by many authors. Several methods are worked out to study the task. Some of them use the Lax representation. This way is very effective when the Lax pair is known. If it is not the case then it is reasonable to study directly the defining equation $\frac{d}{d t} R=\left[F^{*}, R\right]$, where $R$ is the recursion operator and $F^{*}$ is the linearization operator. To solve the equation the most authors use the multi-Hamiltonian approach. Their basic goal is to find two Hamiltonian operators $H_{1}$ and $H_{2}$ to the given equation. Then the recursion operator is given by the following formula $R=H_{2} H_{1}^{-1}$. In the present article we concentrate on the alternative method for constructing the recursion operator which is based on the symmetries and the formula $R=L_{1}^{-1} L_{2}$

We begin with an integrable evolutionary type equation

$$
\begin{equation*}
u_{t}=f\left(u, u_{1}, u_{2}, \ldots, u_{k}\right), \quad u_{j}=D_{x}^{j} u \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

admitting a hierarchy of the symmetries

$$
\begin{equation*}
u_{\tau}=g\left(u, u_{1}, u_{2}, \ldots, u_{n}\right) \tag{2}
\end{equation*}
$$

Symmetry means that $\frac{d}{d \tau} f=\frac{d}{d t} g$. Assume that Eq. (1) admits a weakly non-local recursion operator of the form (Maltsev A Ya and Novikov S P 2001 Phys. D 156(1-2) 53-80 )

$$
\begin{equation*}
R=R_{0}+\sum_{i=1}^{m} g^{\left(k_{i}\right)} D_{x}^{-1} h^{(i)} \tag{3}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $R_{0}$ is a differential operator. The non-local part consists of the combinations of the generators of the symmetries $u_{\tau_{j}}=g^{(j)}$ and the variational derivatives $h^{(j)}$ of the conserved densities.

Recall that operator $R$ converts a symmetry into another symmetry. Theorem. Recursion operator

$$
R=R_{0}+\sum_{i=1}^{m} g^{\left(k_{i}\right)} D_{x}^{-1} h^{(i)}
$$

is represented as a ratio

$$
R=L_{1}^{-1} L_{2}
$$

of two differential operators $L_{1}$ and $L_{2}$.
As $L_{1}$ we take a differential operator such that the fundamental set of solutions to the equation $L_{1} g=0$ coincides with $g^{\left(k_{1}\right)}, g^{\left(k_{2}\right)}, \ldots, g^{\left(k_{m}\right)}$ Then it is easily proved that $L_{2}:=L_{1} R$ is a differential operator.

We call the symmetries $g^{\left(k_{1}\right)}, g^{\left(k_{2}\right)}, \ldots, g^{\left(k_{m}\right)}$ defining the non-local part of the recursion operator

$$
R=R_{0}+\sum_{i=1}^{m} g^{\left(k_{i}\right)} D_{x}^{-1} h^{(i)}
$$

the seed symmetries.
Below we give the set of seed symmetries for some equations

1) KdV equation $S=\left\{g^{(1)}=u_{x}\right\}$
2) Kaup-Kupershmidt type equations $S=\left\{g^{(1)}=u_{x}, g^{(2)}=u_{t}\right\}$
3) Krichever-Novikov Eq. for $R_{1}, S=\left\{g^{(1)}=u_{x}, g^{(2)}=u_{t}\right\}$
4) Krichever-Novikov Eq. $R_{2}, S=\left\{g^{(1)}=u_{x}, g^{(2)}=u_{t}, g^{(3)}=u_{\tau}\right\}$
5) Harry Dym equation $S=\left\{g^{(2)}=u_{t}\right\}$

Thus we have only four different possible choices for $S$. And therefore four choices for the operator $L_{1}$.

Having $S$ we can easily find the operator $L_{1}$ up to some additional factor. It is given by the following determinant

$$
L_{1} U=\rho\left|\begin{array}{cccc}
D_{x}^{m} g^{\left(k_{1}\right)} & D_{x}^{m-1} g^{\left(k_{1}\right)} & \ldots & g^{\left(k_{1}\right)}  \tag{4}\\
\ldots & \ldots & \ldots & \ldots \\
D_{x}^{m} g^{\left(k_{m}\right)} & D_{x}^{m-1} g^{\left(k_{m}\right)} & \ldots & g^{\left(k_{m}\right)} \\
D_{x}^{m} U & D_{x}^{m-1} U & \ldots & U
\end{array}\right|
$$

where $\rho$ is a function of the dynamical variables $u, u_{1}, \ldots$. As soon as $L_{1}$ is found we can start to search $L_{2}$. It can be verified that the order of the operator $L_{2}$ is determined as follows

$$
\begin{equation*}
m_{2}=m+o r d g^{\left(k_{m+1}\right)}-\text { ord } g^{\left(k_{1}\right)} \tag{5}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $m$ is the order of the operator $L_{1}$.

Recursion operator $R$ for the equation

$$
u_{t}=f\left(u, u_{1}, u_{2}, \ldots, u_{k}\right)
$$

satisfies the equation

$$
\frac{d}{d t} R=\left[F^{*}, R\right]
$$

where $F^{*}$ is the linearization operator

$$
F^{*}=\frac{\partial f}{\partial u}+\frac{\partial f}{\partial u_{1}} D_{x}+\frac{\partial f}{\partial u_{2}} D_{x}^{2}+\ldots+\frac{\partial f}{\partial u_{k}} D_{x}^{k}
$$

Therefore by using $R=L_{1}^{-1} L_{2}$ we derive the equation

$$
\frac{d}{d t} L_{1}^{-1} L_{2}=\left[F^{*}, L_{1}^{-1} L_{2}\right]
$$

which implies

$$
\frac{d}{d t}\left(L_{2}\right) L_{2}^{-1}+L_{2} F^{*} L_{2}^{-1}=\frac{d}{d t}\left(L_{1}\right) L_{1}^{-1}+L_{1} F^{*} L_{1}^{-1}=: A
$$

Lemma. Operator $A$ defined due to the formula

$$
A=\frac{d}{d t}\left(L_{1}\right) L_{1}^{-1}+L_{1} F^{*} L_{1}^{-1}
$$

is a differential operator.
Actually the operators $L_{1}$ and $L_{2}$ satisfy one and the same equation

$$
\frac{d}{d t}\left(L_{j}\right)=A L_{j}-L_{j} F^{*}, \quad j=1,2
$$

From this equation we find $L_{2}$. Its order $m_{2}$ is given by the formula $m_{2}=m+\operatorname{ord} g^{\left(k_{m+1}\right)}-$ ord $g^{\left(k_{1}\right)}$.
Finally we obtain the recursion operator $R=L_{1}^{-1} L_{2}$.
Remark. For incorrect choice of the set of seed symmetries $S$ the appropriate $L_{2}$ does not exist.

## Examples

Note that the discussed method does not use the Lax representation. As an illustrative example we take the KdV equation

$$
\begin{equation*}
u_{t}=u_{3}+u u_{1} \tag{6}
\end{equation*}
$$

Among the potential values of the parameter $m$ we first choose $m=1$ and take $S=\left\{u_{x}\right\}$. Thus the first pretender for $L_{1}$ is as follows

$$
L_{1} U=\rho\left|\begin{array}{cc}
u_{2} & u_{1}  \tag{7}\\
U_{1} & U
\end{array}\right|
$$

For the sake of simplicity we put $\rho=-1$, thus

$$
\begin{equation*}
L_{1}=u_{1} D_{x}-u_{2} \tag{8}
\end{equation*}
$$

Find the linearization operator

$$
\begin{equation*}
F^{*}=D_{x}^{3}+u D_{x}+u_{1} \tag{9}
\end{equation*}
$$

Evaluate the operator $A$ due to formula $A=\frac{d}{d t}\left(L_{1}\right) L_{1}^{-1}+L_{1} F^{*} L_{1}^{-1}$ The answer is

$$
\begin{equation*}
A=D_{x}^{3}-\frac{3 u_{2}}{u_{1}} D_{x}^{2}+\left(u+\frac{3 u_{2}^{2}}{u_{1}^{2}}\right) D_{x}+3\left(\frac{u_{4}}{u_{1}}+u_{1}-\frac{u_{2} u_{3}}{u_{1}^{2}}\right) . \tag{10}
\end{equation*}
$$

According to the formula for the orders

$$
m_{2}=m+\operatorname{ord} g^{\left(k_{m+1}\right)}-\operatorname{ord}^{\left(k_{1}\right)}=1+3-1=3
$$

the corresponding operator $L_{2}$ should be of the third order

$$
\begin{equation*}
L_{2}=\beta^{(3)} D_{x}^{3}+\beta^{(2)} D_{x}^{2}+\beta^{(1)} D_{x}+\beta^{(0)} \tag{11}
\end{equation*}
$$

We find the unknown coefficients from the equation

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{d}{d t}\left(L_{2}\right)=A L_{2}-L_{2} F^{*} \tag{12}
\end{equation*}
$$

The answer is:

$$
\begin{equation*}
L_{2}=u_{1} D_{x}^{3}-u_{2} D_{x}^{2}+\frac{2}{3} u u_{1} D_{x}+u_{1}^{2}-\frac{2}{3} u u_{2} . \tag{13}
\end{equation*}
$$

Thus we get well-known (Gardner, Greene, Kruskal and Miura, 1974) $R=L_{1}^{-1} L_{2}=D_{x}^{2}+\frac{2}{3} u+\frac{1}{3} u_{1} D_{x}^{-1}$.
Recall that the usual representation of $R$ through the Hamiltonian operators $H_{1}=D_{x}, H_{2}=D_{x}^{3}+4 u D_{x}+2 u_{1}$ is as follows

$$
\begin{equation*}
R=H_{2} H_{1}^{-1} \tag{14}
\end{equation*}
$$

## Example 2

As the second illustrative example we consider the Kaup-Kupershmidt equation

$$
\begin{equation*}
u_{t}=u_{5}+10 u u_{3}+25 u_{1} u_{2}+20 u^{2} u_{1} . \tag{15}
\end{equation*}
$$

In what follows we will need in its linearization operator

$$
\begin{equation*}
F^{*}=D_{x}^{5}+10 u D_{x}^{3}+25 u_{1} D_{x}^{2}+\left(25 u_{2}+20 u^{2}\right) D_{x}+10 u_{3}+40 u u_{1} . \tag{16}
\end{equation*}
$$

In order to find the set $S$ of the seed symmetries for the equation (15) we have to examine the possible cases $S_{1}=\left\{u_{x}\right\}, S_{2}=\left\{u_{t}\right\}$, $S_{3}=\left\{u_{x}, u_{t}\right\}, S_{4}=\left\{u_{x}, u_{t}, u_{\tau}\right\}$, where $u_{\tau}=g^{(3)}$ is the next symmetry of the Kaup-Kupershmidt equation, it is of the seventh order.

Examine the possible cases $S_{1}=\left\{u_{x}\right\}, S_{2}=\left\{u_{t}\right\}, S_{3}=\left\{u_{x}, u_{t}\right\}$, $S_{4}=\left\{u_{x}, u_{t}, u_{\tau}\right\}$. We started with the case $S=S_{1}$. For the corresponding $L_{1}$ we found the operator $A$, then since $m_{2}=1+5-1=5$ we searched a fifth order differential operator $L_{2}$ satisfying the equation $\frac{d}{d t} L_{2}=A L_{2}-L_{2} F^{*}$ and observed that such operator does not exist. In a similar way we have verified that the case $S=S_{2}$ also does not fit.
Then we passed to the case $S=S_{3}$ and succeeded. Operator $L_{1}$ is found from the relation

$$
L_{1} U=\left|\begin{array}{ccc}
u_{3} & u_{2} & u_{1}  \tag{17}\\
u_{2 t} & u_{1 t} & u_{t} \\
U_{2} & U_{1} & U
\end{array}\right|
$$

and is of the form

$$
\begin{equation*}
L_{1}=\alpha D_{x}^{2}+\beta D_{x}+\gamma \tag{18}
\end{equation*}
$$

$$
L_{1}=\alpha D_{x}^{2}+\beta D_{x}+\gamma
$$

where

$$
\begin{aligned}
& 1 \alpha=u_{2} u_{5}+10 u u_{2} u_{3}-u_{1} u_{6}-35 u_{1}^{2} u_{3}-10 u u_{1} u_{4}-40 u u_{1}^{3}, \\
& 2 \beta=10 u u_{1} u_{5}-u_{3} u_{5}+45 u_{1}^{2} u_{4}-10 u u_{3}^{2}+120 u u_{1}^{2} u_{2}+40 u_{1}^{4}+ \\
& 60 u_{1} u_{2} u_{3}+u_{1} u_{7}, \\
& 3 \gamma=-120 u u_{1} u_{2}^{2}-10 u u_{2} u_{5}+u_{3} u_{6}+35 u_{1} u_{3}^{2}-60 u_{2}^{2} u_{3}- \\
& 40 u_{1}^{3} u_{2}-u_{2} u_{7}+10 u u_{3} u_{4}+40 u u_{1}^{2} u_{3}-45 u_{1} u_{2} u_{4} .
\end{aligned}
$$

Then we look for the operator

$$
\begin{equation*}
A=\sum_{j=0}^{5} A^{(j)} D_{x}^{j} \tag{19}
\end{equation*}
$$

from the equation:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{d}{d t}\left(L_{1}\right)=A L_{1}-L_{1} F^{*} \tag{20}
\end{equation*}
$$

At the next step we look for the eighth order differential operator $L_{2}$, $m_{2}=m+$ ord $g^{\left(k_{m+1}\right)}-$ ord $g^{\left(k_{1}\right)}=2+$ ord $g^{(3)}-$ ord $g^{(1)}=2+7-1=8$

$$
\begin{equation*}
L_{2}=\sum_{k=0}^{8} b^{(k)} D_{x}^{k} \tag{21}
\end{equation*}
$$

from the equation $\frac{d}{d t}\left(L_{2}\right)=A L_{2}-L_{2} F^{*}$. It turned out that such operator does exist. Omitting the computations we give only the answer:

$$
L_{2}=\sum_{k=0}^{8} b^{(k)} D_{x}^{k}, \quad L_{1}=\alpha D_{x}^{2}+\beta D_{x}+\gamma
$$

$1 b^{(8)}=\alpha, \quad b^{(7)}=\beta, \quad b^{(6)}=12 u \alpha+\gamma, \quad b^{(5)}=60 u_{1} \alpha+12 u \beta$,
$2 b^{(4)}=\left(133 u_{2}+36 u^{2}\right) \alpha+48 u_{1} \beta+12 u \gamma$,
$3 b^{(3)}=\left(169 u_{3}+264 u u_{1}\right) \alpha+\left(85 u_{2}+36 u^{2}\right) \beta+36 u_{1} \gamma$,
$4 b^{(2)}=\left(132 u_{4}+394 u u_{2}+381 u_{1}^{2}+32 u^{3}\right) \alpha+\left(84 u_{3}+192 u u_{1}\right) \beta+$ $\left(49 u_{2}+36 u^{2}\right) \gamma$,
$5 b^{(1)}=\left(63 u_{5}+304 u u_{3}+852 u_{1} u_{2}+240 u^{2} u_{1}\right) \alpha+\left(48 u_{4}+\right.$ $\left.202 u u_{2}+189 u_{1}^{2}+32 u^{3}\right) \beta+\left(35 u_{3}+120 u u_{1}\right) \gamma$,
$6 b^{(0)}=\left(17 u_{6}+122 u u_{4}+444 u_{1} u_{3}+324 u_{2}^{2}+192 u^{2} u_{2}+\right.$ $\left.368 u u_{1}^{2}\right) \alpha+\left(15 u_{5}+102 u u_{3}+272 u_{1} u_{2}+144 u^{2} u_{1}\right) \beta+$ $\left(13 u_{4}+82 u u_{2}+69 u_{1}^{2}+32 u^{3}\right) \gamma$.

Let us find the required recursion operator $R$. We know that the order of its differential part is $6=m_{2}-m$ and it has two non-local terms, therefore it is of the form:

$$
\begin{equation*}
R=\sum_{j=0}^{6} r^{(j)} D_{x}^{j}+u_{1} D_{x}^{-1} h^{(1)}+u_{t} D_{x}^{-1} h^{(2)} \tag{22}
\end{equation*}
$$

The relation $L_{1} R=L_{2}$ allows us to find all of the functional parameters in (22):

$$
\begin{aligned}
& 1 r^{(6)}=1, \quad r^{(5)}=0, \quad r^{(4)}=12 u \text {, } \\
& 2 r^{(3)}=36 u_{1}, \quad r^{(2)}=49 u_{2}+36 u^{2} \text {, } \\
& 3 r^{(1)}=35 u_{3}+120 u u_{1}, \quad r^{(0)}=13 u_{4}+82 u u_{2}+69 u_{1}^{2}+32 u^{3} \text {, } \\
& 4 h^{(1)}=2 u_{2}+8 u^{2}, \quad h^{(2)}=2 \text {. }
\end{aligned}
$$

So we have the final form of $R$ coinciding with that found earlier by Gürses M, Karasu A and Sokolov V V (1999):

$$
\begin{array}{r}
R=D_{x}^{6}+12 u D_{x}^{4}+36 u_{1} D_{x}^{3}+\left(49 u_{2}+36 u^{2}\right) D_{x}^{2}+ \\
+\left(35 u_{3}+120 u u_{1}\right) D_{x}+13 u_{4}+82 u u_{2}+69 u_{1}^{2}+ \\
\\
+32 u^{3}+u_{1} D_{x}^{-1}\left(2 u_{2}+8 u^{2}\right)+2 u_{t} D_{x}^{-1} .
\end{array}
$$

## Example 3

The next example is connected with the Krichever-Novikov equation

$$
\begin{equation*}
u_{t}=u_{3}-\frac{3}{2} \frac{u_{2}^{2}}{u_{1}}+\frac{P(u)}{u_{1}} \quad \text { with } \quad P^{\prime \prime \prime \prime \prime}(u)=0 \tag{23}
\end{equation*}
$$

The set $S$ for the equation (23) consists of the generators of two classical symmetries $g^{(1)}=u_{x}$ and $g^{(2)}=u_{t}$. Hence $m=2$ and the operator $L_{1}$ is defined by

$$
\begin{align*}
L_{1} U=\mid & \left|\begin{array}{ccc}
u_{3} & u_{2} & u_{1} \\
u_{2 t} & u_{1 t} & u_{t} \\
U_{2} & U_{1} & U
\end{array}\right|  \tag{24}\\
& A=\sum_{j=0}^{3} A^{(j)} D_{x}^{j}, \quad L_{2}=\sum_{k=0}^{6} b^{(k)} D_{x}^{k}
\end{align*}
$$

The coefficients of the operators $A$ and $L_{2}$ are found from equations

$$
\frac{d}{d t}\left(L_{1}\right)=A L_{1}-L_{1} F^{*} \quad \frac{d}{d t}\left(L_{2}\right)=A L_{2}-L_{2} F^{*}
$$

Thus we obtain the final form of the operator $R$

$$
\begin{aligned}
R= & D_{x}^{4}-\frac{4 u_{2}}{u_{1}} D_{x}^{3}+\left(\frac{6 u_{2}^{2}}{u_{1}^{2}}-\frac{2 u_{3}}{u_{1}}-\frac{4 P(u)}{3 u_{1}^{2}}\right) D_{x}^{2} \\
& +\left(\frac{8 u_{2} u_{3}}{u_{1}^{2}}-\frac{2 u_{4}}{u_{1}}-\frac{6 u_{2}^{3}}{u_{1}^{3}}+\frac{4 P(u) u_{2}}{u_{1}^{3}}-\frac{2 P^{\prime}(u)}{3 u_{1}}\right) D_{x}+\frac{u_{5}}{u_{1}}-\frac{4 u_{2} u_{4}}{u_{1}^{2}} \\
& -\frac{2 u_{3}^{2}}{u_{1}^{2}}+\frac{8 u_{2}^{2} u_{3}}{u_{1}^{3}}-\frac{3 u_{2}^{4}}{u_{1}^{4}}+\frac{4 P(u) u_{2}^{2}}{3 u_{1}^{4}}+\frac{4 P(u)^{2}}{9 u_{1}^{4}}-\frac{8 P^{\prime}(u) u_{2}}{3 u_{1}^{2}}+\frac{10}{9} P^{\prime \prime}(u) \\
& +u_{1} D_{x}^{-1} K \\
& +u_{t} D_{x}^{-1}\left(\frac{4 u_{2} u_{3}}{u_{1}^{3}}-\frac{u_{4}}{u_{1}^{2}}-\frac{3 u_{2}^{3}}{u_{1}^{4}}-\frac{P^{\prime}(u)}{u_{1}^{2}}+\frac{2 P(u) u_{2}}{u_{1}^{4}}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

where $K=\frac{6 u_{2} u_{5}}{u_{1}^{3}}-\frac{u_{6}}{u_{1}^{2}}-\frac{5}{9} P^{\prime \prime \prime}(u)+\frac{5 P^{\prime \prime}(u) u_{2}}{3 u_{1}^{2}}-\frac{10 P(u)^{2} u_{2}}{9 u_{1}^{6}}$
$-\frac{10 u_{2}\left(4 u_{1} u_{3}-5 u_{2}^{2}\right) P(u)}{3 u_{1}^{6}}-\frac{15 u_{2}\left(2 u_{1} u_{3}-u_{2}^{2}\right)\left(2 u_{1} u_{3}-3 u_{2}^{2}\right)}{2 u_{1}^{6}}$
$+\frac{5\left(2 P(u)+12 u_{1} u_{3}-27 u_{2}^{2}\right)\left(3 u_{4}+P^{\prime}(u)\right)}{18 u_{1}^{4}}$. It coincides with $R$ found earlier in
Sokolov V V 1984 On the Hamiltonian property of the Krichever-Novikov equation Sov. Math. Dokl. 30:1 44-46.

## Semi-discrete equations

For integrable lattices

$$
u_{n, t}=f\left(u_{n+k}, u_{n+k-1}, \ldots, u_{n-k}\right), \quad \frac{\partial f}{\partial u_{n+k}} \frac{\partial f}{\partial u_{n-k}} \neq 0
$$

weakly non-local recursion operators are of the form

$$
\begin{equation*}
R=R_{0}+\sum_{j=1}^{m} g^{\left(k_{j}\right)}\left(D_{n}-1\right)^{-1} h^{(j)} \tag{25}
\end{equation*}
$$

Theorem 2. Let $R$ be a weakly nonlocal difference operator of the form (25). Then there exist difference operators $L_{1}$ and $L_{2}$

$$
\begin{align*}
& L_{1}=\alpha^{(0)} D_{n}^{m}+\alpha^{(1)} D_{n}^{m-1}+\cdots+\alpha^{(m)}  \tag{26}\\
& L_{2}=\beta^{(p)} D_{n}^{p}+\beta^{(p-1)} D_{n}^{p-1}+\cdots+\beta^{(-q)} D_{n}^{-q}, p>m, q>0 \tag{27}
\end{align*}
$$

such that the following condition is satisfied $L_{1} R=L_{2}$.

The natural numbers $m, p$ and $q$ in the formulas

$$
\begin{aligned}
& R=R_{0}+\sum_{j=1}^{m} g^{\left(k_{j}\right)}\left(D_{n}-1\right)^{-1} h^{(j)} \\
& L_{1}=\alpha^{(0)} D_{n}^{m}+\alpha^{(1)} D_{n}^{m-1}+\cdots+\alpha^{(m)} \\
& L_{2}=\beta^{(p)} D_{n}^{p}+\beta^{(p-1)} D_{n}^{p-1}+\cdots+\beta^{(-q)} D_{n}^{-q}, p>m, q>0
\end{aligned}
$$

are related to each other by the formulas

$$
\begin{equation*}
p=m+q, \quad q=\operatorname{ord} g^{\left(k_{m+1}\right)}-\operatorname{ord} g^{\left(k_{1}\right)} . \tag{28}
\end{equation*}
$$

Therefore if $m$ is given then $p$ and $q$ are uniquely determined.

By using this representation $L_{1} R=L_{2}$ we can construct recursion operator $R$ for integrable lattices as well. For instance, for the Volterra lattice

$$
\frac{d}{d t} u_{n}=u_{n}\left(u_{n+1}-u_{n-1}\right)
$$

we have

$$
L_{1} U_{n}=-\frac{1}{u_{n, t} u_{n+1, t}}\left|\begin{array}{cc}
u_{n+1, t} & u_{n, t}  \tag{29}\\
U_{n+1} & U_{n}
\end{array}\right|
$$

or, the same $L_{1}=\left(D_{n}-1\right) \frac{1}{u_{n, t}}$. We find $L_{2}$

$$
\begin{aligned}
L_{2}= & \frac{1}{u_{n+2}-u_{n}} D_{n}^{2}+\left(\frac{u_{n+2}+u_{n+1}}{u_{n+1}\left(u_{n+2}-u_{n}\right)}-\frac{1}{u_{n+1}-u_{n-1}}\right) D_{n}+ \\
& \frac{1}{u_{n+2}-u_{n}}-\frac{u_{n}+u_{n-1}}{u_{n}\left(u_{n+1}-u_{n-1}\right)}-\frac{1}{u_{n+1}-u_{n-1}} D_{n}^{-1} .
\end{aligned}
$$

## A non-autonomous example

Here we consider the following non-autonomous lattice of the relativistic Toda type

$$
\begin{equation*}
u_{n, t}=h_{n} h_{n-1}\left(a_{n} u_{n+2}-a_{n-1} u_{n-2}\right) \tag{30}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $h_{n}=u_{n+1} u_{n}-1$ and the coefficient $a_{n}$ is an arbitrary periodic function of the period $2, a_{n+2}=a_{n}$. This lattice has been found by (Garifullin and Yamilov, 2012, JPA). In (Garifullin R N, Mikhailov A V and Yamilov $R$ I 2014, $T M P h$ ) the recursion operator for the non-autonomous lattice (30) is constructed by reducing it to an autonomous system found by Tsuchida, for which the recursion operator has already been found earlier. Actually the known recursion operator for the Tsuchida system was recalculated to the scalar form in an appropriate way.
Here we derive the recursion operator directly using the symmetry algorithm discussed above.

As it has been observed in (Garifullin $R$, Mikhailov $A V$ and Yamilov $R$ I 2014, $T M P h$ ) the lattice (30) possesses a rather large hierarchy of the symmetries. Since the lattice is not autonomous then the set S of the seed symmetries obviously might also contain non-autonomous symmetries. The first two members of the symmetry hierarchy are as follows

1. $u_{n, \tau_{1}}=(-1)^{n} u_{n}$,
2. $u_{n, \tau_{2}}=h_{n} h_{n-1}\left(c_{n} u_{n+2}-c_{n-1} u_{n-2}\right), \quad c_{n+2}=c_{n}$,
where $c_{n}$ is an arbitrary periodic function of $n$ with period equal to two.
As potential sets of seed symmetries, consider the following three sets:

$$
\begin{equation*}
S_{1}=\left\{u_{n, \tau_{1}}\right\}, \quad S_{2}=\left\{u_{n, \tau_{2}}\right\}, \quad S_{3}=\left\{u_{n, \tau_{1}} ; u_{n, \tau_{2}}\right\} . \tag{31}
\end{equation*}
$$

We checked that the first two sets do not fit, but the latest is surely the required set of seed symmetries.

The operator $L_{1}$ corresponding to $S_{3}$ is given by

$$
L_{1} U_{n}=\left|\begin{array}{ccc}
D_{n}^{2}\left(u_{n, \tau_{1}}\right) & D_{n}\left(u_{n, \tau_{1}}\right) & u_{n, \tau_{1}}  \tag{32}\\
D_{n}^{2}\left(u_{n, \tau_{2}}\right) & D_{n}\left(u_{n, \tau_{2}}\right) & u_{n, \tau_{2}} \\
U_{n+2} & U_{n+1} & U_{n}
\end{array}\right|
$$

As a result we have

$$
\begin{equation*}
L_{1}=\alpha D_{n}^{2}+\beta D_{n}+\gamma, \tag{33}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
\begin{aligned}
& 1 \alpha=(-1)^{n+1} h_{n} u_{n+1} h_{n-1}\left(c_{n} u_{n+2}-c_{n-1} u_{n-2}\right)+ \\
& \quad+(-1)^{n+1} h_{n} u_{n} h_{n+1}\left(c_{n-1} u_{n+3}-c_{n} u_{n-1}\right), \\
& 2 \beta=(-1)^{n+1} u_{n+2} h_{n} h_{n-1}\left(c_{n} u_{n+2}-c_{n-1} u_{n-2}\right)- \\
& \quad-(-1)^{n+1} u_{n} h_{n+1} h_{n+2}\left(c_{n} u_{n+4}-c_{n-1} u_{n}\right), \\
& 3 \gamma=(-1)^{n} h_{n+1} u_{n+1} h_{n+2}\left(c_{n} u_{n+4}-c_{n-1} u_{n}\right)+ \\
& \quad+(-1)^{n} h_{n+1} u_{n+2} h_{n}\left(c_{n-1} u_{n+3}-c_{n} u_{n-1}\right) .
\end{aligned}
$$

Find the linearization of the lattice (30)

$$
\begin{equation*}
U_{n, t}=F^{*} U_{n} \tag{34}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
\begin{aligned}
& F^{*}=a_{n} h_{n} h_{n-1} D_{n}^{2}+u_{n} h_{n-1}\left(a_{n} u_{n+2}-a_{n-1} u_{n-2}\right) D_{n}+ \\
& \quad\left(u_{n+1} h_{n-1}+u_{n-1} h_{n}\right)\left(a_{n} u_{n+2}-a_{n-1} u_{n-2}\right)+ \\
& \quad u_{n} h_{n}\left(a_{n} u_{n+2}-a_{n-1} u_{n-2}\right) D_{n}^{-1}-a_{n-1} h_{n} h_{n-1} D_{n}^{-2}
\end{aligned}
$$

In order to find the operator

$$
\begin{equation*}
A=A^{(2)} D_{n}^{2}+A^{(1)} D_{n}+A^{(0)}+A^{(-1)} D_{n}^{-1}+A^{(-2)} D_{n}^{-2} \tag{35}
\end{equation*}
$$

We use the equation

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{d}{d t} L_{1}=A L_{1}-L_{1} F^{*} \tag{36}
\end{equation*}
$$

When $A$ is found we can look for the operator $L_{2}$ which has to be of the form
$L_{2}=b^{(4)} D_{n}^{4}+b^{(3)} D_{n}^{3}+b^{(2)} D_{n}^{2}+b^{(1)} D_{n}+b^{(0)}+b^{(-1)} D_{n}^{-1}+b^{(-2)} D_{n}^{-2}$.
Indeed due to the formulas for the orders we have $p=m+l, q=l$ where $m=2, l=2$.
We substitute the ansatz into the defining equation

$$
\frac{d}{d t} L_{2}=A L_{2}-L_{2} F^{*}
$$

and find consecutively the unknown coefficients $b^{(j)}$.

Finally we find the recursion operator

$$
\begin{gathered}
R=c_{n} h_{n} h_{n-1} D_{n}^{2}+\frac{u_{n} g_{n}}{h_{n}} D_{n}+\frac{u_{n-1} g_{n}-u_{n} g_{n-1}}{h_{n-1}}+c_{n} h_{n-1} h_{n+1}+ \\
+c_{n-1} h_{n} h_{n-2}+s_{n}-\frac{u_{n} g_{n}}{h_{n-1}} D_{n}^{-1}+c_{n-1} h_{n} h_{n-1} D_{n}^{-2}+ \\
+u_{n, \tau_{1}}\left(D_{n}-1\right)^{-1}(-1)^{n+1}\left(\frac{g_{n-1}}{h_{n-1}}+\frac{g_{n+1}}{h_{n}}\right)+ \\
+u_{n, \tau_{2}}\left(D_{n}-1\right)^{-1}\left(\frac{u_{n-1}}{h_{n-1}}+\frac{u_{n+1}}{h_{n}}\right) .
\end{gathered}
$$

where $g_{n}=h_{n} h_{n-1}\left(c_{n} u_{n+2}-c_{n-1} u_{n-2}\right)$, the factors $u_{n, \tau_{1}}$ and $u_{n, \tau_{2}}$ are generators of the symmetries. We denoted $s_{n}=(-1)^{n+1} s_{n}^{(1)}-s_{n}^{(2)}$. Obviously in the formula for $R$ function $s_{n}$ is considered as an arbitrary function satisfying the periodicity condition $s_{n}=s_{n+2}$. Recursion operator found in (Garifullin $R$, Mikhailov $A V$ and Yamilov $R$ I 2014, $T M P h$ ) can be reduced to this one with $s_{n}=0$.

## Operators $L_{1}, L_{2}$ and the Lax pairs

The operators $L_{1}$ and $L_{2}$ from the representation $R=L_{1}^{-1} L_{2}$ are connected with the Lax pairs. A pair of the equations

$$
L_{2} U=\lambda L_{1} U, \quad U_{t}=F^{*} U
$$

defines the Lax pair for the equation

$$
u_{t}=f\left(u, u_{1}, u_{2}, \ldots, u_{k}\right)
$$

This Lax pair does not coincide with the usual one, since it is of higher order, but by appropriate transformation reduces to the usual form.

## Examples

For the KdV equation operators $L_{1}$ and $L_{2}$ given above

$$
\begin{gathered}
L_{1}=u_{1} D_{x}-u_{2} \\
L_{2}=u_{1} D_{x}^{3}-u_{2} D_{x}^{2}+\frac{2}{3} u u_{1} D_{x}+u_{1}^{2}-\frac{2}{3} u u_{2}
\end{gathered}
$$

Equation

$$
\left(L_{2}-\lambda L_{1}\right) U=0
$$

is a third order ODE for $U$. Its order is reduced by one

$$
U_{x x}=\frac{u_{x} U_{x}}{2(u+\lambda)}-\frac{2}{3}(u+\lambda) U+\frac{u_{x} \sqrt{9 U_{x}^{2}+6(u+\lambda)\left(U^{2}+c\right)}}{6(u+\lambda)}
$$

where $c$ is the constant of integration, set $c=0$. Linearized Eq. $U_{t}=F^{*} U$ turns into

$$
U_{t}=\frac{u_{x x} \sqrt{9 U_{x}^{2}+6(u+\lambda) U^{2}}}{6(u+\lambda)}+\left(\frac{u_{x x}}{2(u+\lambda)}+\frac{u-2 \lambda}{3}\right) U_{x}
$$

Thus we obtain a nonlinear Lax pair, containing a square root. To get rid the root we change the variables in such a way that $U$ and $U_{x}$ are some quadratic forms of the new variables $\varphi$ and $\psi$

$$
U=\frac{2}{\sqrt{6}} \varphi \psi, \quad U_{x}=\frac{1}{3} \sqrt{u+\lambda}\left(\varphi^{2}-\psi^{2}\right) .
$$

Then we arrive at a linear system for the new variables

$$
\left\{\begin{align*}
\varphi_{x} & =\frac{u_{x}}{4(u+\lambda)} \varphi-\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \sqrt{u+\lambda} \psi  \tag{37}\\
\psi_{x} & =\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \sqrt{u+\lambda} \varphi-\frac{u_{x}}{4(u+\lambda)} \psi
\end{align*}\right.
$$

Time evolution is linear as well

$$
\left\{\begin{align*}
\varphi_{t} & =K \varphi-\frac{\sqrt{6}}{18}(u-2 \lambda) \sqrt{u+\lambda} \psi  \tag{38}\\
\psi_{t} & =\left(\frac{u_{x x}}{\sqrt{6} \sqrt{u+\lambda}}+\frac{\sqrt{6}}{18}(u-2 \lambda) \sqrt{u+\lambda}\right) \varphi-K \psi
\end{align*}\right.
$$

where $K=\frac{3 u_{x x x}+u_{x}(u-2 \lambda)}{12(u+\lambda)}$
Changing the variables $\varphi=\alpha p, \phi=\alpha^{-1} q$ where $\alpha=(u+\lambda)^{1 / 4}$ we get

$$
\left\{\begin{array}{l}
p_{x}=-\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} q  \tag{39}\\
q_{x}=\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}(u+\lambda) p
\end{array}\right.
$$

and finally we obtain the well-known Lax pair

$$
p_{x x}=-\frac{1}{6}(u+\lambda) p, \quad p_{t}=\frac{1}{3}(u-2 \lambda) p_{x}-\frac{1}{6} u_{x} p .
$$

We applied the algorithm above to the following two KdV type equations found by Svinolupov and Sokolov in 1982

$$
\begin{align*}
& u_{t}=u_{x x x}+\frac{1}{2} u_{x}^{3}-\frac{3}{2} u_{x} \sin ^{2} u  \tag{40}\\
& u_{\tau}=u_{y y y}-\frac{3 u_{y} u_{y y}^{2}}{2\left(1+u_{y}^{2}\right)}+\frac{1}{2} u_{y}^{3} \tag{41}
\end{align*}
$$

Consider the first one. We constructed the operators

$$
\begin{gathered}
L_{1}=D_{x}-\frac{u_{x x}}{u_{x}} \\
L_{2}=D_{x}^{3}-\frac{u_{x x}}{u_{x}} D_{x}^{2}+\left(u_{x}^{2}-\sin ^{2} u\right) D_{x}+\frac{u_{x x} \sin ^{2} u-3 u_{x}^{2} \sin u \cos u}{u_{x}}
\end{gathered}
$$

by using the scheme.

Now we can find the recursion operator

$$
R:=L_{1}^{-1} L_{2}=D_{x}^{2}+u_{x}^{2}-\sin ^{2} u-u_{x} D_{x}^{-1}\left(\sin u \cos u+u_{x x}\right)
$$

Thus we have the Lax pair of the form

$$
\begin{gathered}
L_{2} U=\lambda L_{1} U, \quad U_{t}=F^{*} U \\
U_{x x x}-\frac{u_{x x}}{u_{x}} U_{x x}+\left(u_{x}^{2}-\sin ^{2} u\right) U_{x}+\frac{u_{x x} \sin ^{2} u-3 u_{x}^{2} \sin u \cos u}{u_{x}} U=
\end{gathered}
$$

$$
\lambda\left(U_{x}-\frac{u_{x x}}{u_{x}} U\right) . \text { The Lax pair admits a reduction in the order }
$$

$$
\begin{gathered}
U_{x x}=\frac{u_{x} \sin u \cos u}{\sin ^{2} u+k} U_{x}+\left(\sin ^{2} u+k\right) U+\frac{u_{x} \sqrt{k(k+1)} K}{\sin ^{2} u+k}, \\
U_{t}=\left(\frac{u_{x x} \sin 2 u}{2\left(\sin ^{2} u+k\right)}-\frac{\sin ^{2} u-u_{x}^{2}}{2}+k\right) U_{x}+\frac{u_{x x} \sqrt{k(k+1)} K}{\left(\sin ^{2} u+k\right)} .
\end{gathered}
$$

Here $K=\sqrt{\left(\sin ^{2} u+k\right) U^{2}-U_{x}^{2}}$.

To get a linear Lax pair we change the variables by appropriate quadratic forms chosen in such a way that the root in $K$ is precisely extracted

$$
U=2 \tilde{\varphi} \tilde{\psi}, \quad U_{x}=\sqrt{\sin ^{2} u+\lambda}\left(\tilde{\varphi}^{2}+\tilde{\psi}^{2}\right)
$$

After some transformation we obtain the Lax pair

$$
\begin{gathered}
\varphi_{x x}=\frac{\left(\sin u \cos u-\sqrt{\xi-\xi^{2}}\right) u_{x}}{\sin ^{2} u-\xi} \varphi_{x}+\frac{1}{4}\left(\sin ^{2} u-\xi\right) \varphi, \quad \xi=-\lambda \\
\varphi_{t}=\left(\frac{\left(\sin u \cos u-\sqrt{\xi-\xi^{2}}\right) u_{x x}}{\sin ^{2} u-\xi}-\frac{1}{2} \sin ^{2} u+\frac{1}{2} u_{x}^{2}-\xi\right) \varphi_{x}+ \\
+\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\xi-\xi^{2}} u_{x} \varphi
\end{gathered}
$$

Consider now the other equation from Svinolupov-Sokolov list

$$
u_{\tau}=u_{y y y}-\frac{3 u_{y} u_{y y}^{2}}{2\left(1+u_{y}^{2}\right)}+\frac{1}{2} u_{y}^{3}
$$

Find the operators $L_{1}$ and $L_{2}$

$$
\begin{gathered}
L_{1}=D_{y}-\frac{u_{y y}}{u_{y}} \\
L_{2}=D_{y}^{3}-\frac{\left(3 u_{y}^{2}+1\right) u_{y y}}{u_{y}\left(1+u_{y}^{2}\right)} D_{y}^{2}-\left(\frac{u_{y} u_{y y y}}{1+u_{y}^{2}}-\frac{3 u_{y}^{2} u_{y y}^{2}}{\left(1+u_{y}^{2}\right)^{2}}-u_{y}^{2}\right) D_{y}
\end{gathered}
$$

Therefore we have the recursion operator $R=L_{1}^{-1} L_{2}$

$$
R=D_{y}^{2}-\frac{2 u_{y} u_{y y}}{1+u_{y}^{2}} D_{y}+u_{y} D_{y}^{-1}\left(\frac{u_{y y y}}{1+u_{y}^{2}}-\frac{u_{y} u_{y y}^{2}}{\left(1+u_{y}^{2}\right)^{2}}+u_{y}\right) D_{y}
$$

Thus we have a third order Lax pair

$$
\begin{align*}
& U_{\tau}=U_{y y y}-\frac{3 u_{y} u_{y y}}{1+u_{y}^{2}} U_{y y}+\frac{3}{2}\left(u_{y}^{2}+\frac{\left(u_{y}^{2}-1\right) u_{y y}^{2}}{\left(u_{y}^{2}+1\right)^{2}}\right) U_{y} .  \tag{42}\\
& U_{y y y}-\frac{\left(3 u_{y}^{2}+1\right) u_{y y}}{u_{y}\left(1+u_{y}^{2}\right)} U_{y y} \\
& -\left(\frac{u_{y} u_{y y y}}{1+u_{y}^{2}}-\frac{3 u_{y}^{2} u_{y y}^{2}}{\left(1+u_{y}^{2}\right)^{2}}-u_{y}^{2}+\frac{1}{k}\right) U_{y}+\frac{u_{y y}}{k u_{y}} U=0, \tag{43}
\end{align*}
$$

where $k$ is a parameter.

We reduce the order of the equation (43)

$$
\begin{equation*}
U_{y y}=\frac{u_{y} u_{y y}}{1+u_{y}^{2}} U_{y}+\frac{1+u_{y}^{2}}{k} U-\frac{u_{y} K}{k} \tag{44}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $K=\sqrt{(k+1)\left(\left(1+u_{y}^{2}\right) U^{2}-k U_{y}^{2}\right)+\frac{l}{k}\left(1+u_{y}^{2}\right)}$. Thus we have a nonlinear Lax pair

$$
U_{\tau}=U_{y y y}-\frac{3 u_{y} u_{y y}}{1+u_{y}^{2}} U_{y y}+\frac{3}{2}\left(u_{y}^{2}+\frac{\left(u_{y}^{2}-1\right) u_{y y}^{2}}{\left(u_{y}^{2}+1\right)^{2}}\right) U_{y}
$$

We reduce it to a linear one by the following change of the variables

$$
U=2 \sqrt{k} \tilde{\varphi} \tilde{\psi}, \quad U_{y}=\sqrt{1+u_{y}^{2}}\left(\tilde{\varphi}^{2}+\tilde{\psi}^{2}\right)
$$

Finally we get

$$
\begin{aligned}
\varphi_{y y} & =\left(\frac{u_{y} u_{y y}}{1+u_{y}^{2}}-\frac{\sqrt{1-\xi} u_{y}}{\sqrt{\xi}}\right) \varphi_{y}-\frac{1+u_{y}^{2}}{4 \xi} \varphi, \quad \xi=-k \\
\varphi_{t} & =\left(\frac{u_{y} u_{y y y}}{1+u_{y}^{2}}-\frac{\left(3 u_{y}^{2}+1\right) u_{y y}^{2}}{2\left(1+u_{y}^{2}\right)^{2}}+\frac{\sqrt{1-\xi} u_{y y}}{\sqrt{\xi}\left(1+u_{y}^{2}\right)}+\frac{\xi u_{y}^{2}-2}{2 \xi}\right) \varphi_{y}- \\
& -\frac{\sqrt{1-\xi} u_{y}}{2 \xi^{3 / 2}} \varphi
\end{aligned}
$$

## Publications

1. Habibullin I T, Khakimova A R and Poptsova M N 2016 On a method for constructing the Lax pairs for nonlinear integrable equations Journal of Physics A: Mathematical and Theoretical 49 035202
2. Habibullin I T and Khakimova A R 2017 Invariant manifolds and Lax pairs for integrable nonlinear chains Theoret. and Math. Phys. 191:3 793-810
3. Habibullin I T and Khakimova A R 2017 On a method for constructing the Lax pairs for integrable models via a quadratic ansatz Journal of Physics A: Mathematical and Theoretical 50 305206
4. Habibullin I T and Khakimova A R On a direct algorithm for constructing recursion operators and Lax pairs for integrable models Theoret. and Math. Phys. 196:2 (2018), 1200-1216
5. Habibullin I T and Khakimova A R On the recursion operators for integrable equations arXiv:1805.01114
