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The Lax pair for the sixth Painlevé equation arising from Drinfeld-Sokolov hierarchy

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Introduction

In a recent work [FS], we showed that the sixth Painlevé equation arises from a Drinfeld-Sokolov hierarchy of type $D_4^{(1)}$ by a similarity reduction. We actually discuss a derivation of the symmetric representation of P_{VI} given in [Kaw].

On the other hand, P_{VI} can be expressed as the Hamiltonian system; see [IKSY, O]. Also it is known that this Hamiltonian system is equivalent to the compatibility condition of the Lax pair associated with $\widehat{\mathfrak{so}}(8)$; see [NY].

In this article, we discuss the derivation of this Lax pair from the Drinfeld-Sokolov hierarchy.

1 Lax pair for P_{VI} associated with $\widehat{\mathfrak{so}}(8)$

The sixth Painlevé equation can be expressed as the following Hamiltonian system:

$$\frac{dq}{dt} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial p}, \quad \frac{dp}{dt} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial q}, \quad (1.1)$$

with the Hamiltonian

$$\begin{aligned} t(t-1)H = & q(q-1)(q-t)p^2 - \{(\alpha_0-1)q(q-1) \\ & + \alpha_3q(q-t) + \alpha_4(q-1)(q-t)\}p + \alpha_2(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2)q, \end{aligned} \quad (1.2)$$

satisfying the relation

$$\alpha_0 + \alpha_1 + 2\alpha_2 + \alpha_3 + \alpha_4 = 1.$$

Let $\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_4$ be complex constants defined by

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha_0 &= 1 - \varepsilon_1 - \varepsilon_2, & \alpha_1 &= \varepsilon_1 - \varepsilon_2, & \alpha_2 &= \varepsilon_2 - \varepsilon_3, \\ \alpha_3 &= \varepsilon_3 - \varepsilon_4, & \alpha_4 &= \varepsilon_3 + \varepsilon_4.\end{aligned}$$

Consider the system of linear differential equations

$$(z\partial_z + M)\boldsymbol{\psi} = 0, \quad \partial_t \boldsymbol{\psi} = B\boldsymbol{\psi}, \quad (1.3)$$

for a vector of unknown functions $\boldsymbol{\psi} = {}^t(\psi_1, \dots, \psi_8)$. Here we assume that the matrix M is defined as

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} \varepsilon_1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \varepsilon_2 & -p & -1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \varepsilon_3 & q-1 & q & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \varepsilon_4 & 0 & -q & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -\varepsilon_4 & 1-q & 1 & 0 \\ -z & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -\varepsilon_3 & p & 0 \\ (t-q)z & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -\varepsilon_2 & -1 \\ 0 & (q-t)z & z & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -\varepsilon_1 \end{bmatrix},$$

and the matrix B is defined as

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} u_1 & x_1 & y_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & u_2 & x_2 & -y_3 & -y_4 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & u_3 & x_3 & x_4 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & u_4 & 0 & -x_4 & y_4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -u_4 & -x_3 & y_3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -u_3 & -x_2 & -y_1 \\ -z & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -u_2 & -x_1 \\ 0 & z & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -u_1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Theorem 1.1 ([NY]). *Under the compatibility condition for (1.3), the variables x_i , y_i and u_i are determined as elements of $\mathbb{C}(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \alpha_4, q, p, t)$. The compatibility condition is then equivalent to the Hamiltonian system (1.1) with (1.2).*

Here we do not describe the explicit forms of u_i , x_i and y_i .

2 Affine Lie algebra

In the notation of [Kac], $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}(D_4^{(1)})$ is the affine Lie algebra generated by the Chevalley generators e_i, f_i, α_i^\vee ($i = 0, \dots, 4$) and the scaling element d

with the generalized Cartan matrix defined as

$$A = (a_{ij})_{i,j=0}^4 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & 2 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

We denote the Cartan subalgebra of \mathfrak{g} by \mathfrak{h} . The canonical central element of \mathfrak{g} is given by

$$K = \alpha_0^\vee + \alpha_1^\vee + 2\alpha_2^\vee + \alpha_3^\vee + \alpha_4^\vee.$$

We consider the \mathbb{Z} -gradation $\mathfrak{g} = \bigoplus_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \mathfrak{g}_k(s)$ of type $s = (1, 1, 0, 1, 1)$ by setting

$$\deg \mathfrak{h} = \deg e_2 = \deg f_2 = 0, \quad \deg e_i = 1, \quad \deg f_i = -1 \quad (i = 0, 1, 3, 4).$$

This gradation is defined by

$$\mathfrak{g}_k(s) = \{x \in \mathfrak{g} \mid [d_s, x] = kx\} \quad (k \in \mathbb{Z}),$$

where

$$d_s = 4d + 2\alpha_1^\vee + 3\alpha_2^\vee + 2\alpha_3^\vee + 2\alpha_4^\vee \in \mathfrak{h}.$$

Denoting by $e_{2i} = [e_2, e_i]$, we choose the graded Heisenberg subalgebra of \mathfrak{g}

$$\mathfrak{s} = \{x \in \mathfrak{g} \mid [x, \Lambda] = \mathbb{C}K\},$$

of type $s = (1, 1, 0, 1, 1)$ with

$$\Lambda = e_0 - e_1 + e_3 - e_{20} + e_{23} + e_{24}.$$

The positive part of \mathfrak{s} has a graded basis $\{\Lambda_{2k-1,1}, \Lambda_{2k-1,2}\}_{k=1}^\infty$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} \Lambda_{1,1} &= \Lambda, & \Lambda_{1,2} &= e_0 - e_3 + e_4 + e_{20} + e_{21} + e_{23}, \\ [d_s, \Lambda_{2k-1,i}] &= (2k-1)\Lambda_{2k-1,i}, & [\Lambda_{2k-1,i}, \Lambda_{2l-1,j}] &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Let \mathfrak{n}_+ be the subalgebra of \mathfrak{g} generated by e_j ($j = 0, \dots, 4$), and let \mathfrak{b}_+ be the borel subalgebra of \mathfrak{g} defined by $\mathfrak{b}_+ = \mathfrak{h} \oplus \mathfrak{n}_+$. Then the compatibility condition for (1.3) is equivalent to the system on \mathfrak{b}_+

$$\partial_t(M) = [B, d_s + M], \tag{2.1}$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} M &= h(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}) + (q-t)e_0 + e_1 - pe_2 + (q-1)e_3 + qe_4 - e_{20} - e_{23} - e_{24}, \\ B &= h(\mathbf{u}) + e_0 + x_1e_1 + x_2e_2 + x_3e_3 + x_4e_4 + y_1e_{21} + y_3e_{23} + y_4e_{24}, \end{aligned}$$

where $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon} = (\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2, \varepsilon_3, \varepsilon_4)$ and $\mathbf{u} = (u_1, u_2, u_3, u_4)$. Here we set

$$h(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}) = (1 - \varepsilon_1 - \varepsilon_2)\alpha_0^\vee + (\varepsilon_1 - \varepsilon_2)\alpha_1^\vee \\ + (\varepsilon_2 - \varepsilon_3)\alpha_2^\vee + (\varepsilon_3 - \varepsilon_4)\alpha_3^\vee + (\varepsilon_3 + \varepsilon_4)\alpha_4^\vee.$$

We derive the system (2.1) from the Drinfeld-Sokolov hierarchy associated with the Heisenberg subalgebra \mathfrak{s} by a similarity reduction.

3 Drinfeld-Sokolov hierarchy

In the following, we use the notation of infinite dimensional groups

$$G_{<0} = \exp(\widehat{\mathfrak{g}}_{<0}), \quad G_{\geq 0} = \exp(\widehat{\mathfrak{g}}_{\geq 0}),$$

where $\widehat{\mathfrak{g}}_{<0}$ and $\widehat{\mathfrak{g}}_{\geq 0}$ are completions of $\mathfrak{g}_{<0} = \bigoplus_{k<0} \mathfrak{g}_k(s)$ and $\mathfrak{g}_{\geq 0} = \bigoplus_{k\geq 0} \mathfrak{g}_k(s)$ respectively.

Introducing the time variables $t_{k,i}$ ($i = 1, 2; k = 1, 3, 5, \dots$), we consider the *Sato equation* for a $G_{<0}$ -valued function $W = W(t_{1,1}, t_{1,2}, \dots)$

$$\partial_{k,i}(W) = B_{k,i}W - W\Lambda_{k,i} \quad (i = 1, 2; k = 1, 3, 5, \dots), \quad (3.1)$$

where $\partial_{k,i} = \partial/\partial t_{k,i}$ and $B_{k,i}$ stand for the $\mathfrak{g}_{\geq 0}$ -component of $W\Lambda_{k,i}W^{-1} \in \widehat{\mathfrak{g}}_{<0} \oplus \mathfrak{g}_{\geq 0}$. The Zakharov-Shabat equation

$$[\partial_{k,i} - B_{k,i}, \partial_{l,j} - B_{l,j}] = 0 \quad (i, j = 1, 2; k, l = 1, 3, 5, \dots), \quad (3.2)$$

follows from the Sato equation (3.1). Let

$$\Psi = W \exp(\xi), \quad \xi = \sum_{i=1,2} \sum_{k=1,3,\dots} t_{k,i} \Lambda_{k,i}.$$

Then the Zakharov-Shabat equation (3.2) can be regarded as the compatibility condition of the Lax form

$$\partial_{k,i}(\Psi) = B_{k,i}\Psi \quad (i = 1, 2; k = 1, 3, 5, \dots). \quad (3.3)$$

Assuming that $t_{k,1} = t_{k,2} = 0$ for $k \geq 3$, we require that the following similarity condition is satisfied:

$$d_s(\Psi) = (t_{1,1}B_{1,1} + t_{1,2}B_{1,2})\Psi. \quad (3.4)$$

The compatibility condition for (3.3) and (3.4) is expressed as

$$[d_s - t_{1,1}B_{1,1} - t_{1,2}B_{1,2}, \partial_{1,i} - B_{1,i}] = 0 \quad (i = 1, 2). \quad (3.5)$$

We regard the systems (3.2) and (3.5) as a similarity reduction of the Drinfeld-Sokolov hierarchy of type $D_4^{(1)}$.

Let $S \subset \mathbb{C}^2$ be an open subset with coordinates $\mathbf{t} = (t_{1,1}, t_{1,2})$. Also let

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{M} &= d_s - t_{1,1}B_{1,1} - t_{1,2}B_{1,2} \in \mathcal{O}(S; \mathfrak{g}_{\geq 0}), \\ \mathcal{B} &= B_{1,1}dt_{1,1} + B_{1,2}dt_{1,2} \in \Omega^1(S; \mathfrak{g}_{\geq 0}).\end{aligned}$$

Then the similarity reduction is expressed as

$$d_{\mathbf{t}}\mathcal{M} = [\mathcal{B}, \mathcal{M}], \quad d_{\mathbf{t}}\mathcal{B} = \mathcal{B} \wedge \mathcal{B}. \quad (3.6)$$

4 Derivation of P_{VI}

The operator $\mathcal{M} \in \mathfrak{g}_{\geq 0}$ is expressed as

$$\mathcal{M} = (\text{terms of degree 0}) - t_{1,1}\Lambda_{1,1} - t_{1,2}\Lambda_{1,2}.$$

We consider the gauge transformation for the Lax form (3.4) such that $\mathcal{M} \rightarrow \widehat{\mathcal{M}} \in \mathcal{O}(S; \mathfrak{b}_+)$.

We first consider a gauge transformation $\widehat{\Psi} = \exp(\zeta) \exp(\xi e_2) \Psi$, where $\zeta = \sum_{j=0,1,3,4} \zeta_j \alpha_j^\vee$. This is lifted to the transformation on $\mathfrak{g}_{\geq 0}$:

$$\begin{aligned}\widehat{\mathcal{M}} &= \exp(\text{ad}(\zeta)) \exp(\text{ad}(\xi e_2)) \mathcal{M}, \\ d_{\mathbf{t}} - \widehat{\mathcal{B}} &= \exp(\text{ad}(\zeta)) \exp(\text{ad}(\xi e_2)) (d_{\mathbf{t}} - \mathcal{B}).\end{aligned}$$

We look for gauge parameters ζ and ξ such that

$$\widehat{\mathcal{M}} = (\text{terms of degree 0}) - c_0 e_0 - e_1 - c_3 e_3 - c_4 e_4 - e_{20} - e_{23} - e_{24}.$$

where $c_j \in \mathbb{C}(\mathbf{t})$ ($j = 0, 3, 4$). Such gauge parameters are determined uniquely as $\xi = t_{1,2}/t_{1,1}$ and

$$\begin{aligned}\zeta_0 &= \frac{1}{2} \log\{(t_{1,1}^2 + 2t_{1,1}t_{1,2} - t_{1,2}^2)(t_{1,1}^2 + t_{1,2}^2)t_{1,1}^{-2}\}, \\ \zeta_1 &= -\frac{1}{2} \log(-t_{1,1}), \\ \zeta_3 &= \frac{1}{2} \log\{(-t_{1,1}^2 + 2t_{1,1}t_{1,2} + t_{1,2}^2)(t_{1,1}^2 + t_{1,2}^2)t_{1,1}^{-2}\}, \\ \zeta_4 &= \frac{1}{2} \log\{(t_{1,1}^2 + 2t_{1,1}t_{1,2} - t_{1,2}^2)(-t_{1,1}^2 + 2t_{1,1}t_{1,2} + t_{1,2}^2)t_{1,1}^{-2}\}.\end{aligned}$$

Here each c_j is described explicitly as

$$\begin{aligned} c_0 &= -\frac{1}{t_{1,1}}(t_{1,1} + t_{1,2})(t_{1,1}^2 + 2t_{1,1}t_{1,2} - t_{1,2}^2)(t_{1,1}^2 + t_{1,2}^2), \\ c_3 &= -\frac{1}{t_{1,1}}(t_{1,1} - t_{1,2})(-t_{1,1}^2 + 2t_{1,1}t_{1,2} + t_{1,2}^2)(t_{1,1}^2 + t_{1,2}^2), \\ c_4 &= -\frac{1}{t_{1,1}}t_{1,2}(t_{1,1}^2 + 2t_{1,1}t_{1,2} - t_{1,2}^2)(-t_{1,1}^2 + 2t_{1,1}t_{1,2} + t_{1,2}^2). \end{aligned}$$

We next consider a gauge transformation $\tilde{\Psi} = \exp(-\lambda f_2)\widehat{\Psi}$. This is lifted to the transformation on $\mathfrak{g}_{\geq 0}$:

$$\widetilde{\mathcal{M}} = \exp(\text{ad}(-\lambda f_2))\widehat{\mathcal{M}}, \quad d_{\mathbf{t}} - \widetilde{\mathcal{B}} = \exp(\text{ad}(-\lambda f_2))(d_{\mathbf{t}} - \widehat{\mathcal{B}}).$$

Denoting by $\eta + \varphi e_2 + \psi f_2$ and $u + x e_2 + y f_2$ the terms of degree 0 of $\widehat{\mathcal{M}}$ and $\widehat{\mathcal{B}}$ respectively, we look for a gauge parameter λ such that $\widetilde{\mathcal{M}} \in \mathcal{O}(S; \mathfrak{b}_+)$ and $\widetilde{\mathcal{B}} \in \Omega^1(S; \mathfrak{b}_+)$, namely

$$\varphi \lambda^2 + (\eta | \alpha_2^\vee) \lambda - \psi = 0, \quad d_{\mathbf{t}} \lambda = x \lambda^2 + (u | \alpha_2^\vee) \lambda - y, \quad (4.1)$$

where $(|)$ stands for the normalized invariant form. We can verify that the second equation of (4.1) follows from the first equation. Hence the gauge parameter $\lambda = \lambda(\mathbf{t})$ can be determined and we obtain

$$\widetilde{\mathcal{M}} = \kappa + \mu e_2 + (\lambda - c_0)e_0 - e_1 + (\lambda - c_3)e_3 + (\lambda - c_4)e_4 - e_{20} - e_{23} - e_{24},$$

where $\kappa \in \mathfrak{h}$ and $\mu = \mu(\mathbf{t})$. Note that $d_{\mathbf{t}} \kappa = 0$. By definition, it is clear that the operators $\widetilde{\mathcal{M}}$ and $\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}$ satisfy

$$d_{\mathbf{t}} \widetilde{\mathcal{M}} = [\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}, \widetilde{\mathcal{M}}]. \quad (4.2)$$

Finally, we consider a transformation of time variables $(t_{1,1}, t_{1,2}) \rightarrow (t_1, t_2)$ such that

$$\partial_1(c_0 - c_4) = -4, \quad \partial_1(c_3 - c_4) = 0.$$

Then by setting

$$q = \frac{\lambda - c_4}{c_3 - c_4}, \quad p = \frac{1}{4}(c_3 - c_4)\mu, \quad \alpha_j = \frac{1}{4}(\kappa | \alpha_j^\vee), \quad t = \frac{c_0 - c_4}{c_3 - c_4},$$

we arrive at

Theorem 4.1. *Under the specialization $t_2 = 1$, the system (4.2) is equivalent to the compatibility condition of (1.3) that gives the sixth Painlevé equation.*

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