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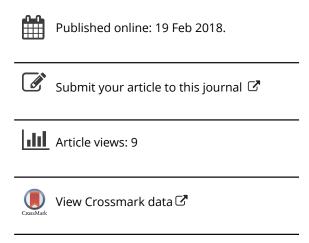
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On the discretization of Laine equations

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We consider the discretization of Darboux integrable equations. For each of the integrals of a Laine equation we constructed either a semi-discrete equation which has that integral as an *n*-integral, or we proved that such an equation does not exist. It is also shown that all constructed semi-discrete equations are Darboux integrable.

Keywords: Semi-discrete chain; Darboux integrability; x-integral, n-integral; discretization.

2000 Mathematics Subject Classification: 35Q51, 37K60

1. Introduction

When considering hyperbolic type equations

$$u_{xy} = g(x, y, u, u_x, u_y)$$
 (1.1)

one finds an important special subclass, so called Darboux integrable equations, that is described in terms of x- and y-integrals. Recall that a function $W(x,y,u,u_x,u_{xx},...)$ is called a y-integral of equation (1.1) if $D_yW(x,y,u,u_x,...)|_{(1.1)}=0$, where D_y represents the total derivative with respect to y (see [2] and [8]). An x-integral $\bar{W}=\bar{W}(x,y,u,u_y,u_{yy},...)$ for equation (1.1) is defined in a similar way. Equation (1.1) is said to be Darboux integrable if it admits a nontrivial x-integral and a nontrivial y-integral.

The classification problem for Darboux integrable equations was considered by Goursat, Zhiber and Sokolov (see [2] and [8]). In his paper Goursat obtained a supposedly complete list of Darboux integrable equations of the form (1.1). A detailed discussion of the subject and corresponding references can be found in the survey [9].

Later Laine [7] published two Darboux integrable hyperbolic equations, which were absent in Goursat's list. The first equation found by Laine is

$$u_{xy} = u_x \left(\frac{\sqrt{u_y} + u_y}{u - y} + \frac{u_y}{u - x} \right).$$
 (1.2)

It has a second order y-integral

$$W_1 = \frac{u_{xx}}{u_x} - \frac{1}{2}u_x \left(\frac{1}{u - y} + \frac{3}{u - x}\right) + \frac{1}{u - x}$$
 (1.3)

and a third order x-integral

$$\bar{W} = \left(u_{yyy} - \frac{u_{yy}^2}{2u_y} - u_{yy} \frac{1 + 5u_y^{\frac{1}{2}} + 4u_y}{u - y}\right) \left(u_{yy} - 2\frac{u_y + 2u_y^{\frac{3}{2}} + u_y^2}{u - y}\right)^{-1} - \left(\frac{2u_y + 2u_y^{\frac{3}{2}} - 6u_y^2 - 10u_y^{\frac{5}{2}} - 4u_y^3}{(u - y)^2}\right) \left(u_{yy} - 2\frac{u_y + 2u_y^{\frac{3}{2}} + u_y^2}{u - y}\right)^{-1}. \quad (1.4)$$

The second equation found by Laine is

$$u_{xy} = 2\left((u+X)^2 + u_x + (u+X)\sqrt{(u+X)^2 + u_x}\right)\left(\frac{\sqrt{u_y} + u_y}{u - y} - \frac{u_y}{\sqrt{(u+X)^2 + u_x}}\right). \tag{1.5}$$

It has a second order y-integral

$$W_{2} = \frac{u_{xx}}{2u_{x}} \left(1 - \frac{u + X}{\sqrt{(u + X)^{2} + u_{x}}} \right) + u + \frac{(u + X)^{2} + 2u_{x}}{\sqrt{(u + X)^{2} + u_{x}}} - \frac{(u + X)^{2} + u_{x} + (u + X)\sqrt{(u + X)^{2} + u_{x}}}{u - y}$$
(1.6)

and a third order x-integral (1.4). For the second equation Laine assumed X to be an arbitrary function of x. However Kaptsov (see [6]) has shown that X must be a constant function if equation (1.5) admits the integrals (1.6) and (1.4). Thus it can be assumed, without loss of generality, that X = 0.

One can also consider a semi-discrete analogue of Darboux integrable equations (see [1]). The notion of Darboux integrability for semi-discrete equations was developed by Habibullin (see [3]). For a function t = t(n,x) of the continuous variable x and discrete variable n we introduce notations

$$t_k = t(n+k,x), \quad k \in \mathbb{Z}, \qquad t_{[m]} = \frac{d^m}{dx^m}t(n,x), \quad m \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Then a hyperbolic type semi-discrete equation can be written as

$$t_{1x} = f(x, n, t, t_1, t_x). (1.7)$$

The interest in the continuous and discrete Darboux integrable models is stimulated by exponential type systems. Such systems are connected with semi-simple and affine Lie algebras which have applications in Liouville and conformal field theories.

The discretization of equations from Goursat's list was considered by Habibullin and Zheltukhina in [5]. In the present paper we find semi-discrete versions of Laine equations (1.2) and (1.5). In particular we find semi-discrete equations that admit functions (1.3) or (1.6) as n-integrals, and show that these equations are Darboux integrable. This is the main result of our paper given in Theorem 1.1 and Theorem 1.2 below.

Theorem 1.1. The semi-discrete chain (1.7), which admits a minimal order n-integral

$$I_{1} = \frac{t_{xx}}{t_{x}} - \frac{1}{2}t_{x}\left(\frac{1}{t - \varepsilon(n)} + \frac{3}{t - x}\right) + \frac{1}{t - x},\tag{1.8}$$

where $\varepsilon(n)$ is an arbitrary function of n, is

$$t_{1x} = t_x \frac{(t_1 - x)}{(t - x)} B(n, t, t_1), \qquad (1.9)$$

where B is a function of n, t, t_1 , satisfying the following equation

$$(t_1 - \varepsilon)(t_1 - \varepsilon_1) - 2(t - \varepsilon)(t_1 - \varepsilon_1)B + (t - \varepsilon)(t - \varepsilon_1)B^2 = 0.$$
(1.10)

Moreover, chain (1.9) admits an x-integral of minimal order 3.

Theorem 1.2. The semi-discrete chain (1.7), which admits a minimal order n-integral

$$I_2 = \frac{t_{xx}}{2t_x} \left(1 - \frac{t}{\sqrt{t^2 + t_x}} \right) + t + \frac{t^2 + 2t_x}{\sqrt{t^2 + t_x}} - \frac{t^2 + t_x + t\sqrt{t^2 + t_x}}{t - \varepsilon(n)},$$
(1.11)

where $\varepsilon(n)$ is an arbitrary function of n, is

$$t_{1x} = 2A(tA - t_1)\sqrt{t^2 + t_x} + A^2t_x + 2tA(tA - t_1), \qquad (1.12)$$

where A is a function of n, t, t_1 , satisfying the following system of equations

$$\begin{cases}
A_{t} = \frac{-2t_{1}(t_{1} - \varepsilon_{1})A + (-\varepsilon + 2t)(t_{1} - \varepsilon_{1})A^{2} - \varepsilon_{1}(t - 2\varepsilon)A^{3}}{2(t_{1} - \varepsilon_{1})(t - \varepsilon)(t_{1} - tA)}, \\
A_{t_{1}} = \frac{\varepsilon(t_{1} - \varepsilon_{1}) + (t - \varepsilon)(2t_{1} - \varepsilon_{1})A - 2t(t - 2\varepsilon)A^{2}}{2(t_{1} - \varepsilon_{1})(t - \varepsilon)(t_{1} - tA)}.
\end{cases} (1.13)$$

Moreover, chain (1.12) admits an x-integral of minimal order 2.

The paper is organized as follows. In Sections 2 and 3 we give proofs of Theorems 1.1 and 1.2 respectively. In Section 4 we show that function (1.4) can not be a minimal order n-integral for any equation (1.7).

2. Proof of Theorem 1.1

Discretization by *n***-integral**: Let us find $f(x, n, t, t_1, t_x)$ such that $DI_1 = I_1$, where I_1 is defined by (1.8). Equality $DI_1 = I_1$ implies

$$\frac{f_x + f_t t_x + f_{t_1} f + f_{t_x} t_{xx}}{f} - \frac{f}{2} \left(\frac{1}{t_1 - \varepsilon_1} + \frac{3}{t_1 - x} \right) + \frac{1}{t_1 - x}$$

$$= \frac{t_{xx}}{t_x} - \frac{t_x}{2} \left(\frac{1}{t - \varepsilon} + \frac{3}{t - x} \right) + \frac{1}{t - x}, \quad (2.1)$$

where $\varepsilon = \varepsilon(n)$ and $\varepsilon_1 = \varepsilon(n+1)$.

By comparing the coefficients before t_{xx} in (2.1), we get $\frac{f_{t_x}}{f} = \frac{1}{t_x}$, which implies that $f = A(x, n, t, t_1)t_x$. We substitute this expression for f in (2.1) and get

$$\frac{A_x + A_t t_x + A_{t_1} A t_x}{A} - \frac{A t_x}{2} \left(\frac{1}{t_1 - \varepsilon_1} + \frac{3}{t_1 - x} \right) + \frac{1}{t_1 - x}$$

$$= -\frac{t_x}{2} \left(\frac{1}{t - \varepsilon} + \frac{3}{t - x} \right) + \frac{1}{t - x}. \quad (2.2)$$

The above equation is equivalent to a system of two equations

$$\begin{cases}
\frac{A_x}{A} + \frac{1}{t_1 - x} = \frac{1}{t - x}, \\
\frac{A_t}{A} + A_{t_1} - \frac{A}{2} \left(\frac{1}{t_1 - \varepsilon_1} + \frac{3}{t_1 - x} \right) = \frac{-1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{t - \varepsilon} + \frac{3}{t - x} \right).
\end{cases} (2.3)$$

The first equation of system (2.3) can be written as $\frac{\partial}{\partial x}(\ln|A| - \ln|t_1 - x| + \ln|t - x|) = 0$ which implies that

$$A(x,n,t,t_1) = \frac{t_1 - x}{t - x} B(n,t,t_1)$$
(2.4)

for some function B of variables n, t, t_1 . Substituting expression (2.4) for A into the second equation of system (2.3), we get

$$-\frac{1}{t-x} + \frac{B_t}{B} + \frac{B}{t-x} + \frac{B_{t_1}(t_1-x)}{t-x} - \frac{B(t_1-x)}{2(t-x)} \left(\frac{1}{t_1-\varepsilon_1} + \frac{3}{t_1-x}\right) = -\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{t-\varepsilon} + \frac{3}{t-x}\right). \tag{2.5}$$

Thus

$$(t-x)\frac{B_t}{B} + (t_1 - x)B_{t_1} - \frac{B}{2}\left(1 + \frac{t_1 - x}{t_1 - \varepsilon_1}\right) = -\frac{1}{2}\left(1 + \frac{t - x}{t - \varepsilon}\right). \tag{2.6}$$

We compare the coefficients before x and x^0 in (2.6) and obtain

$$\begin{cases}
-\frac{B_t}{B} - B_{t_1} + \frac{B}{2(t_1 - \varepsilon_1)} = \frac{1}{2(t - \varepsilon)}, \\
\frac{tB_t}{B} + t_1 B_{t_1} - \frac{B}{2} - \frac{t_1 B}{2(t_1 - \varepsilon_1)} = \frac{-1}{2} - \frac{t}{2(t - \varepsilon)},
\end{cases} (2.7)$$

which is equivalent to

$$\begin{cases} B_{t} = \frac{B(\varepsilon - 2t + t_{1} - \varepsilon B + tB)}{2(t - \varepsilon)(t - t_{1})}, \\ B_{t_{1}} = \frac{-\varepsilon_{1} + t_{1} + \varepsilon_{1}B + tB - 2t_{1}B}{2(t_{1} - \varepsilon_{1})(t - t_{1})}. \end{cases}$$
(2.8)

The last system is compatible, that is $B_{tt_1} = B_{t_1t}$, if and only if equality (1.10) is satisfied.

Existence of an x-integral: Let us show that equation (1.9) where function B satisfies (1.10) has a finite dimensional x-ring. We have,

$$t_{1x} = \frac{t_1 - x}{t - x} B t_x, \quad t_{2x} = \frac{t_2 - x}{t - x} B B_1 t_x, \quad \text{and} \quad t_{3x} = \frac{t_3 - x}{t - x} B B_1 B_2 t_x,$$
 (2.9)

where $B = B(n,t,t_1)$, $B_1 = B(n+1,t_1,t_2)$ and $B_2 = B(n+2,t_2,t_3)$. We are looking for a function $F(x,n,t,t_1,t_2,t_3)$ such that $D_x F = 0$, that is

$$F_x + F_t t_x + F_{t_1} t_{1x} + F_{t_2} t_{2x} + F_{t_3} t_{3x} = 0. (2.10)$$

Thus

$$F_x + F_t t_x + F_{t_1} \frac{t_1 - x}{t - x} B t_x + F_{t_2} \frac{t_2 - x}{t - x} B B_1 t_x + F_{t_3} \frac{t_3 - x}{t - x} B B_1 B_2 t_x = 0,$$
 (2.11)

which is equivalent to

$$\begin{cases}
F_x = 0, \\
(t - x)F_t + (t_1 - x)BF_{t_1} + (t_2 - x)BB_1F_{t_2} + (t_3 - x)BB_1B_2F_{t_3} = 0.
\end{cases}$$
(2.12)

By comparing the coefficients of x^0 and x in the last equality we get the following system

$$\begin{cases}
tF_t + t_1BF_{t_1} + t_2BB_1F_{t_2} + t_3BB_1B_2F_{t_3} = 0, \\
-F_t - BF_{t_1} - BB_1F_{t_2} - BB_1B_2F_{t_3} = 0.
\end{cases}$$
(2.13)

After diagonalization this system becomes

$$\begin{cases}
F_t + \frac{BB_1(t_2 - t_1)}{t - t_1} F_{t_2} + \frac{BB_1B_2(t_3 - t_1)}{t - t_1} F_{t_3} = 0, \\
F_{t_1} + \frac{B_1(t - t_2)}{t - t_1} F_{t_2} + \frac{B_1B_2(t - t_3)}{t - t_1} F_{t_3} = 0.
\end{cases} (2.14)$$

We introduce vector fields

$$V_{1} = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \frac{BB_{1}(t_{2}-t_{1})}{t-t_{1}} \frac{\partial}{\partial t_{2}} + \frac{BB_{1}B_{2}(t_{3}-t_{1})}{t-t_{1}} \frac{\partial}{\partial t_{3}},$$

$$V_{2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial t_{1}} + \frac{B_{1}(t-t_{2})}{t-t_{1}} \frac{\partial}{\partial t_{2}} + \frac{B_{1}B_{2}(t-t_{3})}{t-t_{1}} \frac{\partial}{\partial t_{3}}.$$
(2.15)

and $V = [V_1, V_2]$. Then, we have

$$\frac{2(t-t_1)^2}{B_1}V = (t_1-t_2+B(t_2-t+(t-t_1)B_1)\frac{\partial}{\partial t_2}+B_2(t_1-t_3+B(t_3-t+(t-t_1)B_1B_2))\frac{\partial}{\partial t_3}.$$

Direct calculation show that

$$[V_1, V] = \frac{3\varepsilon - 4t + t_1}{2(\varepsilon - t)(t - t_1)}V \quad \text{and} \quad [V_2, V] = \frac{3\varepsilon_1 + t - 4t_1}{2(\varepsilon_1 - t_1)(t_1 - t)}V. \tag{2.16}$$

Hence vector fields V_1 , V_2 and V form a finite-dimensional ring. By the Jacobi Theorem the system of three equations $V_1(F) = 0$, $V_2(F) = 0$, V(F) = 0 has a nonzero solution $F(t, t_1, t_2, t_3)$. The function $F(t, t_1, t_2, t_3)$ is an x-integral of equation (1.9).

3. Proof of Theorem 1.2

Discretization by *n***-integral**: Let us find a function $f(x, n, t, t_1, t_x)$ such that $DI_2 = I_2$, where I_2 is given by (1.11). The equality $DI_2 = I_2$ implies that

$$\frac{f_x + f_t t_x + f_{t_1} f + f_{t_x} t_{xx}}{2f} \left(1 - \frac{t_1}{\sqrt{t_1^2 + f}} \right) - \frac{t_1^2 + f + t_1 \sqrt{t_1^2 + f}}{t_1 - \varepsilon_1} + t_1 + \frac{t_1^2 + 2f}{\sqrt{t_1^2 + f}}$$

$$= \frac{t_{xx}}{2t_x} \left(1 - \frac{t}{\sqrt{t^2 + t_x}} \right) - \frac{t^2 + t_x + t \sqrt{t^2 + t_x}}{t - \varepsilon} + t + \frac{t^2 + 2t_x}{\sqrt{t^2 + t_x}}, \quad (3.1)$$

where $\varepsilon = \varepsilon(n)$ and $\varepsilon_1 = \varepsilon(n+1)$. Comparing the coefficients before t_{xx} in equality (3.1), we get

$$\frac{f_{t_x}}{f} \left(1 - \frac{t_1}{\sqrt{t_1^2 + f}} \right) = \frac{1}{t_x} \left(1 - \frac{t}{\sqrt{t^2 + t_x}} \right). \tag{3.2}$$

This can be written as

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t_x} \ln \left(f \frac{\sqrt{f + t_1^2} + t_1}{\sqrt{f + t_1^2} - t_1} \right) = \frac{\partial}{\partial t_x} \ln \left(t_x \frac{\sqrt{t_x + t^2} + t}{\sqrt{t_x + t^2} - t} \right). \tag{3.3}$$

Thus

$$\sqrt{f+t_1^2} + t_1 = (\sqrt{t_x + t^2} + t)A(x, n, t, t_1), \qquad (3.4)$$

where A is some function of variables x, n, t and t_1 . The last equality is equivalent to

$$f = (2A^2t - 2At_1)\sqrt{t_x + t^2} + A^2t_x + t(2A^2t - 2At_1).$$
(3.5)

We substitute f given by (3.5) into equality (3.1), use (3.4) and equality

$$\sqrt{f + t_1^2} - t_1 = \frac{f(\sqrt{t_x + t^2} - t)}{At_x}$$

to get

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{t_x + t^2}} \left(\Lambda_1 t_x^2 + \Lambda_2 t_x \sqrt{t_x + t^2} + \Lambda_3 t_x + \Lambda_4 \sqrt{t_x + t^2} + + \Lambda_5 t^2 \right) = 0, \quad (3.6)$$

where

$$\Lambda_i = \alpha_{i1} A_x + \alpha_{i2} A_t + \alpha_{i3} A_{t_1} + \alpha_{i4}, \qquad 1 \le i \le 5$$

$$(3.7)$$

and

$$\alpha_{11} = 0, \, \alpha_{12} = 1, \, \alpha_{13} = A^2, \, \alpha_{14} = \frac{A}{t - \varepsilon} - \frac{A^3}{t_1 - \varepsilon_1},$$

$$\alpha_{21} = 0, \, \alpha_{22} = t - \frac{t_1}{A}, \, \alpha_{23} = -3t_1A + 3tA^2, \, \alpha_{24} = \frac{-t_1 + 2tA}{t - \varepsilon} + \frac{2t_1A^2 - 3tA^3}{t_1 - \varepsilon_1} + A^2 - A,$$

$$\alpha_{31} = 1, \ \alpha_{32} = t^2, \ \alpha_{33} = 2t_1^2 + 5t^2A^2 - 6t_1tA,$$

$$\alpha_{34} = \frac{-t_1t + t(t + 2\varepsilon)A}{t - \varepsilon} + \frac{-5t^2A^3 + 4t_1tA^2 - t_1^2A}{t_1 - \varepsilon_1} + t_1 + 2tA^2 - t_1A,$$

$$\alpha_{41} = t - \frac{t_1}{A}, \ \alpha_{42} = 0, \ \alpha_{43} = 4t^3A^2 - 6t_1t^2A + 2t_1^2t,$$

$$\alpha_{44} = \frac{2\varepsilon t^2A + \varepsilon tt_1}{t - \varepsilon} + \frac{-4t^3A^3 + 4t_1t^2A^2 - t_1^2tA}{t_1 - \varepsilon_1} + 2t^2A^2 - t_1tA,$$

$$\alpha_{51} = 1, \ \alpha_{52} = 0, \ \alpha_{53} = 2t_1^2 + 4t^2A^2 - 6t_1tA,$$

$$\alpha_{54} = \frac{-t_1t + 2\varepsilon t}{t - \varepsilon} + \frac{-4t^2A^3 + 4t_1tA^2 - t_1^2A}{t_1 - \varepsilon_1} + t_1 + 2tA^2 - t_1A.$$

We can solve the overdetermined system of linear equations $\Lambda_i = 0$, $i = 1, 2 \dots 5$, with respect to A_x , A_t , A_{t_1} and obtain

$$\begin{cases}
A_{x} = 0, \\
A_{t} = -\frac{A}{t - \varepsilon} + \frac{A^{2}}{2(t_{1} - tA)} \left(\frac{A\varepsilon_{1}}{t_{1} - \varepsilon_{1}} - \frac{\varepsilon}{t - \varepsilon} \right), \\
A_{t_{1}} = \frac{A}{t_{1} - \varepsilon_{1}} - \frac{1}{2(t_{1} - tA)} \left(\frac{A\varepsilon_{1}}{t_{1} - \varepsilon_{1}} - \frac{\varepsilon}{t - \varepsilon} \right).
\end{cases} (3.8)$$

By direct calculations one can check that $A_{tt_1} = A_{t_1t}$, so the above system has a solution. **Existence of an** *x***-integral**: We are looking for a function $F(t,t_1,t_2)$ such that $D_xF = 0$ that is

$$F_t t_x + F_{t_1} t_{1x} + F_{t_2} t_{2x} = 0, (3.9)$$

where t satisfies equation (1.7) with function f given by (3.5). We use

$$t_{1x} = A^2(t, t_1)t_x + 2A(t, t_1)(tA(t, t_1) - t_1)(\sqrt{t_x + t^2} + t)$$

and

$$\sqrt{f+t_1^2} = (\sqrt{t_x + t^2} + t)A - t_1,$$

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$$t_{2x} = A^{2}(t, t_{1})A^{2}(t_{1}, t_{2})t_{x} + 2(\sqrt{t_{x} + t^{2}} + t)(tA(t, t_{1}) - t_{1})A(t, t_{1})A^{2}(t_{1}, t_{2}) + 2(\sqrt{t_{x} + t^{2}} + t)(t_{1}A(t_{1}, t_{2}) - t_{2})A(t, t_{1})A(t_{1}, t_{2}).$$

By substituting these expressions for t_{1x} and t_{2x} into equality (3.9) and comparing the coefficients of $\sqrt{t_x + t^2}$, t_x and t_x^0 , we obtain the following system of equations

$$\begin{cases} 2A(t,t_1)(tA(t,t_1)-t_1)F_{t_1} + 2A(t,t_1)A(t_1,t_2)(tA(t,t_1)A(t_1,t_2)-t_2)F_{t_2} = 0, \\ F_t + A^2(t,t_1)F_{t_1} + A^2(t,t_1)A^2(t_1,t_2)F_{t_2} = 0, \\ 2tA(t,t_1)(tA(t,t_1)-t_1)F_{t_1} + 2tA(t,t_1)A(t_1,t_2)(tA(t,t_1)A(t_1,t_2)-t_2)F_{t_2} = 0. \end{cases}$$

To check for the existence of a solution we transform the above system to its row reduced form

$$\begin{cases}
F_{t} + \frac{A^{2}(t,t_{1})A(t_{1},t_{2})(t_{2}-t_{1}A(t_{1},t_{2}))}{tA(t,t_{1})-t_{1}}F_{t_{2}} = 0, \\
F_{t_{1}} + \frac{A(t_{1},t_{2})(t_{2}-tA(t,t_{1})A(t_{1},t_{2}))}{-tA(t,t_{1})+t_{1}}F_{t_{2}} = 0.
\end{cases} (3.10)$$

The corresponding vector fields

$$V_{1} = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \frac{A^{2}(t, t_{1})A(t_{1}, t_{2})(t_{2} - t_{1}A(t_{1}, t_{2}))}{tA(t, t_{1}) - t_{1}} \frac{\partial}{\partial t_{2}},$$

$$V_{2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial t_{1}} + \frac{A(t_{1}, t_{2})(t_{2} - tA(t, t_{1})A(t_{1}, t_{2}))}{-tA(t, t_{1}) + t_{1}} \frac{\partial}{\partial t_{2}},$$

commute, that is $[V_1, V_2] = 0$, provided A satisfies system (3.8). Thus by the Jacobi theorem, system (3.10) has a solution. To solve the system define a function $E(t, t_1, t_2)$ by

$$E_t = \frac{A^2}{tA - t_1}, E_{t_2} = \frac{1}{A_1(t_1A_1 - t_2)}, E_{t_1} = \frac{t_2 - tAA_1}{(tA - t_1)(t_1A_1 - t_2)} + \frac{1}{t_1 - \varepsilon_1}E,$$

where $A = A(t, t_1)$ and $A_1 = A(t_1, t_2)$.

One can check that $E_{tt_1} = E_{t_1t}$ and $E_{t_1t_2} = E_{t_2t_1}$, so such a function E exists. Function E is a first integral of the first equation of system (3.10). We write system (3.10) using new variables

$$\tilde{t} = t, \, \tilde{t}_1 = t_1, \, \tilde{t}_2 = E(t, t_1, t_2)$$

and obtain

$$\begin{cases} F_{\tilde{t}} = 0 \\ F_{\tilde{t}_1} + \frac{\tilde{t}_2}{\tilde{t}_1 - \varepsilon_1} F_{\tilde{t}_2} = 0. \end{cases}$$

$$(3.11)$$

Therefore one of the *x*-integrals is $F(t,t_1,t_2) = E(t,t_1,t_2)/(t_1 - \varepsilon(n+1))$ where function *E* defined above.

4. Nonexistence of a chain (1.7) admitting the minimal order *n*-integral (1.4)

Let us find a function $f(x, n, t, t_1, t_x)$ such that equation (1.7) has the *n*-integral

$$I = \frac{t_{xxx} - \frac{t_{xx}^2}{2t_x} - t_{xx} \frac{1 + 5\sqrt{t_x} + 4t_x}{t - x} - \frac{2t_x + 2t_x\sqrt{t_x} - 6t_x^2 - 10t_x^2\sqrt{t_x} - 4t_x^3}{(t - x)^2}}{t_{xx} - \frac{2t_x + 4t_x\sqrt{t_x} + 2t_x^2}{t - x}}.$$

We have,

$$t_{1x} = f(x, n, t, t_1, t_x),$$

$$t_{1xx} = f_x + f_t t_x + f_{t_1} f + f_{t_2} t_{xx}$$

$$t_{1xxx} = (f_{xx} + f_{xt}t_x + f_{xt_1}f + f_{xt_2}t_{xx}) + t_x(f_{xt} + f_{tt}t_x + f_{tt_1}f + f_{tt_2}t_{xx}) + f_tt_{xx}$$
$$+ f(f_{xt_1} + f_{tt_1}t_x + f_{t_1t_1}f + f_{t_1t_2}t_{xx}) + f_t(f_x + f_tt_x + f_{t_1}f + f_{t_2}t_{xx})$$

$$+t_{xx}(f_{xt_x}+f_{tt_x}t_x+f_{t_1t_x}f+f_{t_xt_x}t_{xx})+f_{t_x}t_{xxx}$$
.

Equality DI = I is equivalent to J := L(DL)(DI - I) = 0, where $L = \sqrt{2}t_x(t - x)\{t_{xx}(t - x) - 2t_x(\sqrt{t_x} + 1)^2\}$. We have,

$$J = \Lambda_1 t_{xxx} + \Lambda_2 t_{xx}^3 + \Lambda_3 t_{xx}^2 + \Lambda_4 t_{xx} + \Lambda_5 ,$$

where Λ_k , $1 \le k \le 5$, are some functions of variables x, n, t, t_1 , t_x . In particular,

$$\frac{\Lambda_1}{2(t-x)(t_1-x)t_xf} = 2(t-x)f(1+\sqrt{f})^2 - 2(t_1-x)t_xf_{t_x}(1+\sqrt{t_x})^2 - (t_1-x)(t-x)(f_x+f_tt_x+f_{t_1}f),$$

$$\Lambda_2 = (t - x)^2 (t_1 - x)^2 \{ f f_{t_x} - t_x f_{t_x}^2 + 2t_x f f_{t_x t_x} \},\,$$

$$\frac{\Lambda_3}{(t-x)(t_1-x)} = (t-x)f[4f^{3/2} + 2f^2 + (x-t_1)f_x + f(2+(x-t_1)f_{t_1})] + 10(x-t_1)t_x^{3/2}ff_{t_x}$$

$$+t_x[10(t-x)f^{3/2}f_{t_x}+2(t-x)(t_1-x)f_{t_x}f_x+4(t-x)f^2(2f_{t_x}+(x-t_1)f_{t_1t_x})]$$

$$+t_x f(2(t-t_1)f_{t_x}+(t-x)(x-t_1)(3f_t+4f_{xt_x}))$$

$$-2(t_1-x)t_x^2[2f(2f_{tx}-f_{txtx}+(t-x)f_{ttx})+f_{tx}(f_{tx}+(x-t)f_t)]$$

$$-4(f_{t_x}^2-2ff_{t_xt_x})(t_1-x)t_x^{5/2}-2(f_{t_x}^2-2ff_{t_xt_x})(t_1-x)t_x^3$$
.

Equality $\Lambda_2 = 0$ implies that $ff_{t_x} - t_x f_{t_x}^2 + 2t_x f f_{t_x t_x} = 0$, thus

$$\frac{f^2}{f_{t_x}}\frac{\partial}{\partial t_x}\left\{\frac{t_x f_{t_x}^2}{f}\right\} = 0.$$

Hence, $\frac{t_x f_{t_x}^2}{f} = A^2(x, n, t, t_1)$ for some function A depending on x, n, t, t_1 only. Therefore, $\frac{f_{t_x}}{\sqrt{f}} = \frac{A}{\sqrt{t_x}}$ and hence $\frac{\partial}{\partial t_x} \{ \sqrt{f} - A\sqrt{t_x} = 0 \}$. We have,

$$\sqrt{f} = A\sqrt{t_x} + B$$

 $\sqrt{f} = A\sqrt{t_x} + B$ where $A = A(x, n, t, t_1)$ and $B = B(x, n, t, t_1)$. We substitute $f = A^2t_x + 2AB\sqrt{t_x} + B^2$ into $\Lambda_1 = 0$ and

$$\alpha_1 t_x^2 + \alpha_2 t_x^{3/2} + \alpha_3 t_x + \alpha_4 \sqrt{t_x} + \alpha_5 = 0.$$

We solve the system of equations
$$\alpha_k = 0$$
, $1 \le k \le 5$, and obtain $B = 0$, that is
$$\begin{cases}
A_x = \frac{B}{2A}B_t - \frac{3}{2}ABB_{t_1} + \frac{2(t_1 - x)B + A\{2(t - t_1) + 6(t - x)B + 3(t - x)B^2\}}{2(t - x)(x - t_1)}, \\
A_t = \frac{A}{2B}B_t + \frac{A^3}{2B}B_{t_1} + \frac{A\{2(t_1 - x)A + 2(x - t_1)B - (t - x)A^2(2 + B)\}}{2(t - x)(x - t_1)B}, \\
A_{t_1} = -\frac{1}{2AB}B_t - \frac{A}{2B}B_{t_1} + \frac{2(x - t_1) + (t - x)A(2 + 3B)}{2(t - x)(x - t_1)B}, \\
B_x = -B^2B_{t_1} - \frac{B(1 + B)^2}{t_1 - x}.
\end{cases} (4.1)$$

We substitute $f = A^2 t_x + 2AB\sqrt{t_x} + B^2$ into $\Lambda_3 = 0$ and get

$$\beta_1 t_x^3 + \beta_2 t_x^{5/2} + \beta_3 t_x^2 + \beta_4 t_x^{3/2} + \beta_5 t_x + \beta_6 \sqrt{t_x} + \beta_7 = 0.$$

We solve the system of equations
$$\beta_k = 0$$
, $1 \le k \le 7$, and obtain $B = 0$, or
$$\begin{cases}
A_x = \frac{3B}{8A}B_t - \frac{23}{24}ABB_{t_1} + \frac{21(t_1 - x)B + A\{16(t - t_1) + 51(t - x)B + 23(t - x)B^2\}}{24(t - x)(x - t_1)}, \\
A_t = \frac{3A}{8B}B_t + \frac{3A^3}{8B}B_{t_1} + \frac{A\{7(t_1 - x)A + 8(x - t_1)B - (t - x)A^2(7 + 3B)\}}{8(t - x)(x - t_1)B}, \\
A_{t_1} = -\frac{3}{8AB}B_t - \frac{3A}{8B}B_{t_1} + \frac{7(x - t_1) + (t - x)A(7 + 11B)}{8(t - x)(x - t_1)B}, \\
B_x = -B^2B_{t_1} - \frac{B(1 + B)^2}{t_1 - x}.
\end{cases} (4.2)$$

We equate expressions for A_x and A_t from (4.1) and (4.2) and find

$$\begin{cases}
B_{t} = -\frac{A\{2(t_{1} - x)B + A((t - t_{1}) + (t - x)B)\}}{2(t - x)(x - t_{1})B}, \\
B_{t_{1}} = \frac{t - t_{1} + 3(t - x)B + 2(t - x)B^{2}}{2(t - x)(x - t - 1)B}.
\end{cases} (4.3)$$

Then, it follows from (4.1) that

$$\begin{cases} A_{x} = \frac{(t_{1} - x + (t - x)A)B}{2(t - x)(x - t_{1})}, \\ A_{t} = \frac{A((t_{1} - x)A + (x - t)A^{2} + 2(x - t_{1})B)}{2(t - x)(x - t_{1})B}, \\ A_{t_{1}} = \frac{x - t_{1} + (t - x)A(1 + 2B)}{2(t - x)(x - t_{1})B}, \\ B_{x} = \frac{B(t + t_{1} - 2x + (t - x)B)}{2(t_{1} - x)(x - t)}. \end{cases}$$

$$(4.4)$$

Equality $A_{tt_1} - A_{t_1t} = 0$ becomes $\frac{(t_1 - x)^2 - (t - x)^2 A^3}{(t - x)^2 (t_1 - x)^2 B} = 0$, thus

$$A^{3} = \frac{(t_{1} - x)^{2}}{(t - x)^{2}}. (4.5)$$

Equality $A_{xt_1} - A_{t_1x} = 0$ becomes $\frac{-(t_1 - x)^2 + (t - x)^2 A(1 + B)^2}{(t - x)^2 (t_1 - x)^2 B} = 0$, thus

$$A(1+B)^2 = \frac{(t_1-x)^2}{(t-x)^2}. (4.6)$$

Equality $A_{xt} - A_{tx} = 0$ becomes $\frac{(t_1 - x)^2 (A - B)^2 - (t - x)^2 A^3}{(t - x)^2 (t_1 - x)^2 B} = 0$. It implies that

$$\frac{A^3}{(A-B)^2} = \frac{(t_1 - x)^2}{(t-x)^2},\tag{4.7}$$

or A = B, that leads to A = B = 0 and f = 0. It follows from (4.5) and (4.7) that A - B = 1 or A - B = -1. It follows from (4.5) and (4.6) that 1 + B = A or 1 + B = -A. This gives rise to four possibilities:

- 1) A B = 1;
- 2) A B = 1 and A + B = -1 which gives A = 0, B = -1 and therefore f = 1;
- 3) A B = -1 and A B = 1 which is an inconsistent system;
- 4) A B = -1 and A + B = -1 which gives A = -1, B = 0 and therefore $f = t_x$.

We have to study case 1) only. In this case we get B = A - 1 and equation $\sqrt{t_{1x}} = A\sqrt{t_x} + B$ becomes $\sqrt{t_{1x}} + 1 = A(\sqrt{t_x} + 1)$, that can be written as well as

$$(\sqrt{t_{1x}} + 1)^3 = A^3(\sqrt{t_x} + 1)^3. \tag{4.8}$$

Due to (4.5), our equation (4.8) becomes

$$\frac{(\sqrt{t_{1x}}+1)^3}{(t_1-x)^2} = \frac{(\sqrt{t_x}+1)^3}{(t-x)^2}.$$

The last equation admits an *n*-integral $I = \frac{(\sqrt{t_x} + 1)^3}{(t - x)^2}$ of order one.

Let us consider case B = 0. We write DI - I = 0 for the chain $t_{1x} = C(x, n, t, t_1)t_x$ and get

$$\Lambda_1 t_{xxx} + \Lambda_2 t_{xx}^2 + \Lambda_3 t_{xx} + \Lambda_4 = 0$$

where $\Lambda_k = \Lambda_k(x, n, t, t_1, t_x)$, $1 \le k \le 4$. Equation $\Lambda_1 = 0$ implies

$$\alpha_1 t_x + \alpha_2 \sqrt{t_x} + \alpha_3 = 0$$

where $\alpha_k = \alpha_k(x, n, t, t_1)$, $1 \le k \le 3$. In particular, $\alpha_2 = 4C(-(t_1 - x) + (t - x)\sqrt{C})$. Since $\alpha_2 = 0$, we have $C = (t_1 - x)^2(t - x)^{-2}$. The chain becomes $t_{1x} = (t_1 - x)^2(t - x)^{-2}t_x$. It admits the *n*-integral $I = (t - x)^{-2}t_x$ of order one.

Therefore, if equation (1.7) admits *n*-integral (1.4) then (1.4) is not a minimal order integral.

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