

# On the Deformations of Dorfman's and Sokolov's Operators

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We deform the Dorfman's and Sokolov's Hamiltonian operators by the quasi-Miura transformation coming from the topological field theory and investigate the deformed operators.

## 1 Introduction

The Dorfman's and Sokolov's Hamiltonian operators are defined respectively as [2, 11] ( $D = \partial_x$ )

$$J = D \frac{1}{v_x} D \frac{1}{v_x} D, \tag{1}$$

$$S = v_x D^{-1} v_x, \tag{2}$$

which are Hamiltonian operators (or  $J^{-1} = D^{-1} v_x D^{-1} v_x D^{-1}$  and  $S^{-1} = \frac{1}{v_x} D \frac{1}{v_x}$  are symplectic operators). The Dorfman's operator  $J$  (or  $J^{-1}$ ) and the Sokolov's operator  $S$  are related to integrable equations as follows.

- The Riemann hierarchy

$$\begin{aligned} v_{t_n} = v^n v_x = S \delta H_n &= \frac{1}{(n+1)(2n+1)} K \delta H_{n+1} = \frac{1}{(n+1)(n+2)} D \delta H_{n+2} \\ &= \frac{1}{(n+1)(n+2)(n+3)(n+4)} J \delta H_{n+4}, \end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

where

$$K = Dv + vD, \quad H_n = \int v^n dx, \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots,$$

and  $\delta$  is the variational derivative. When  $n = 1$ , it is called the Riemann equation or dispersionless KdV equation. We notice that it seems that the Riemann hierarchy (3) is a quater-Hamiltonian system. But one can show that  $S$  and  $J$  is not compatible, i.e.,  $S + \lambda J$  are not a Hamiltonian operator for any  $\lambda \neq 0$  (see below).

- The Schwarzian KdV equation [10, 13]

$$v_t = v_{xxx} - \frac{3}{2} \frac{v_{xx}^2}{v_x} = v_x \{v, x\} = S \delta H_1 = J^{-1} \delta H_2, \tag{4}$$

where  $\{v, x\}$  is the Schwartz derivative and

$$H_1 = \frac{1}{2} \int (v_x^{-2} v_{xx}^2) dx, \quad H_2 = \frac{1}{2} \int \left( -v_x^{-2} v_{xxx}^2 + \frac{3}{4} v_x^{-4} v_{xx}^4 \right) dx.$$

**Remark 1.** It is not difficult to verify that  $J^{-1}$  is also a Hamiltonian operator and, then,  $J$  is also a symplectic operator; however,  $S^{-1} = \frac{1}{v_x} D \frac{1}{v_x}$  is not a Hamiltonian operator and, then,  $S$  is not a symplectic operator.

Next, to deform the operators  $J$  and  $S$ , we use the free energy in topological field theory of the famous KdV equation

$$u_t = uu_x + \frac{\epsilon^2}{12}u_{xxx} \quad (5)$$

to construct the quasi-Miura transformation as follows. The free energy  $F$  of KdV equation (5) in TFT has the form ( $F_0 = \frac{1}{6}v^3$ )

$$F = \frac{1}{6}v^3 + \sum_{g=1}^{\infty} \epsilon^{2g-2} F_g \left( v; v_x, v_{xx}, v_{xxx}, \dots, v^{(3g-2)} \right).$$

Let

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta F &= \sum_{g=1}^{\infty} \epsilon^{2g-2} F_g \left( v; v_x, v_{xx}, v_{xxx}, \dots, v^{(3g-2)} \right) \\ &= F_1(v; v_x) + \epsilon^2 F_2(v; v_x, v_{xx}, v_{xxx}, v_{xxxx}) \\ &\quad + \epsilon^4 F_3 \left( v; v_x, v_{xx}, v_{xxx}, v_{xxxx}, \dots, v^{(7)} \right) + \dots \end{aligned}$$

The  $\Delta F$  will satisfy the loop equation [4, p. 151]

$$\begin{aligned} &\sum_{r \geq 0} \frac{\partial \Delta F}{\partial v^{(r)}} \partial_x^r \frac{1}{v - \lambda} + \sum_{r \geq 1} \frac{\partial \Delta F}{\partial v^{(r)}} \sum_{k=1}^r \binom{r}{k} \partial_x^{k-1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{v - \lambda}} \partial_x^{r-k+1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{v - \lambda}} \\ &= \frac{1}{16\lambda^2} - \frac{1}{16(v - \lambda)^2} - \frac{\kappa_0}{\lambda^2} \\ &\quad + \frac{\epsilon^2}{2} \sum_{k, l \geq 0} \left[ \frac{\partial^2 \Delta F}{\partial v^{(k)} \partial v^{(l)}} + \frac{\partial \Delta F}{\partial v^{(k)}} \frac{\partial \Delta F}{\partial v^{(l)}} \right] \partial_x^{k+1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{v - \lambda}} \partial_x^{l+1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{v - \lambda}} \\ &\quad - \frac{\epsilon^2}{16} \sum_{k \geq 0} \frac{\partial \Delta F}{\partial v^{(k)}} \partial_x^{k+2} \frac{1}{(v - \lambda)^2}. \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

Then we can determine  $F_1, F_2, F_3, \dots$  recursively by substituting  $\Delta F$  into equation (6). For  $F_1$ , one obtains

$$\frac{1}{v - \lambda} \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial v} - \frac{3}{2} \frac{v_x}{(v - \lambda)^2} \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial v_x} = \frac{1}{16\lambda^2} - \frac{1}{16(v - \lambda)^2} - \frac{\kappa_0}{\lambda^2}.$$

From this, we have

$$\kappa_0 = \frac{1}{16}, \quad F_1 = \frac{1}{24} \log v_x.$$

For the next terms  $F_2(v; v_x, v_{xx}, v_{xxx}, v_{xxxx})$ , it can be similarly computed and the result is

$$F_2 = \frac{v_{xxxx}}{1152v_x^2} - \frac{7v_{xx}v_{xxx}}{1920v_x^3} + \frac{v_{xx}^3}{360v_x^4}.$$

Now, one can define the quasi-Miura transformation as

$$\begin{aligned} u &= v + \epsilon^2 (\Delta F)_{xx} = v + \epsilon^2 (F_1)_{xx} + \epsilon^4 (F_2)_{xx} + \dots \\ &= v + \frac{\epsilon^2}{24} (\log v_x)_{xx} + \epsilon^4 \left( \frac{v_{xxxx}}{1152v_x^2} - \frac{7v_{xx}v_{xxx}}{1920v_x^3} + \frac{v_{xx}^3}{360v_x^4} \right)_{xx} + \dots \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

One remarks that Miura-type transformation means the coefficients of  $\epsilon$  are homogeneous polynomials in the derivatives  $v_x, v_{xx}, \dots, v^{(m)}$  [4, p. 37], [5] and “quasi” means the ones of  $\epsilon$  are quasi-homogeneous rational functions in the derivatives, too [4, p. 109] (see also [12]).

The truncated quasi-Miura transformation

$$u = v + \sum_{n=1}^g \epsilon^{2n} \left[ F_n \left( v; v_x, v_{xx}, \dots, v^{(3g-2)} \right) \right]_{xx} \quad (8)$$

has the basic property [4, p. 117] that it reduces the Magri–Poisson pencil [6] of KdV equation (5)

$$\{u(x), u(y)\}_\lambda = [u(x) - \lambda] D \delta(x - y) + \frac{1}{2} u_x(x) \delta(x - y) + \frac{\epsilon^2}{8} D^3 \delta(x - y) \quad (9)$$

to the Poisson pencil of the Riemann hierarchy (3):

$$\{v(x), v(y)\}_\lambda = [v(x) - \lambda] D \delta(x - y) + \frac{1}{2} v_x(x) \delta(x - y) + O(\epsilon^{2g+2}). \quad (10)$$

One can also say that the truncated quasi-Miura transformation (8) deforms the KdV equation (5) to the Riemann equation  $v_t = vv_x$  up to  $O(\epsilon^{2g+2})$ .

**Remark 2.** A simple calculation shows that, under the transformation  $u = \frac{\epsilon^2}{4} \{m, x\}$ , the KdV equation (5) is transformed into the Schwarzian KdV equation

$$m_t = \frac{\epsilon^2}{12} m_x \{m, x\} = \frac{\epsilon^2}{12} \left( m_{xxx} - \frac{3}{2} \frac{m_{xx}^2}{m_x} \right).$$

Furthermore, after a direct calculation, one can see that the Magri Poisson bracket

$$K(\epsilon) = \{u(x), u(y)\} = u(x) D \delta(x - y) + \frac{1}{2} u_x(x) \delta(x - y) + \frac{\epsilon^2}{8} D^3 \delta(x - y) \quad (11)$$

is transformed into the Dorfman's symplectic operator  $J^{-1}$  ( $m = v$ )

$$\{m(x), m(y)\} = -\frac{\epsilon^2}{8} D^{-1} m_x D^{-1} m_x D^{-1} \delta(x - y).$$

Now, a natural question arises: under the truncated quasi-Miura transformation (8), are the deformed Dorfman's operator  $J(\epsilon)$  and Sokolov's operator  $S(\epsilon)$  still Hamiltonian operators up to  $O(\epsilon^{2g+2})$ ? For simplicity, we consider only the case  $g = 1$ , i.e.,

$$u = v + \frac{\epsilon^2}{24} (\log v_x)_{xx} + O(\epsilon^4) \quad (12)$$

or

$$v = u - \frac{\epsilon^2}{24} (\log u_x)_{xx} + O(\epsilon^4). \quad (13)$$

The answer is true for the Dorfman's operator  $J(\epsilon)$  but it is false for the Sokolov's operator  $S(\epsilon)$ . It is the purpose of this article.

## 2 Deformations under quasi-Miura transformation

In the new “ $u$ -coordinate”,  $J$  and  $S$  will be given by the operators

$$J(\epsilon) = M^* D \frac{1}{u_x - \frac{\epsilon^2}{24} (\log u_x)_{xxx}} D \frac{1}{u_x - \frac{\epsilon^2}{24} (\log u_x)_{xxx}} DM + O(\epsilon^4), \quad (14)$$

$$S(\epsilon) = M^* \left( u_x - \frac{\epsilon^2}{24} (\log u_x)_{xxx} \right) D^{-1} \left( u_x - \frac{\epsilon^2}{24} (\log u_x)_{xxx} \right) M + O(\epsilon^4), \quad (15)$$

where

$$M = 1 - \frac{\epsilon^2}{24} D \frac{1}{u_x} D^2, \quad M^* = 1 + \frac{\epsilon^2}{24} D^2 \frac{1}{u_x} D, \quad (16)$$

$M^*$  being the adjoint operator of  $M$ . Then we have the following

**Theorem 1.** 1.  $J(\epsilon)$  is a Hamiltonian operator up to  $O(\epsilon^4)$ . 2.  $S(\epsilon)$  is not a Hamiltonian operator up to  $O(\epsilon^4)$ .

**Proof.** 1. The fact that  $J(\epsilon)$  is a skew-adjoint (or  $J^*(\epsilon) = -J(\epsilon)$ ) differential operator (up to  $O(\epsilon^4)$ ) follows immediately from (14). Rather than prove the Poisson form [7] of the Jacobi identity for  $J(\epsilon)$ , it is simpler to prove that the symplectic two-form

$$\Omega_J(\epsilon) = \int \{ du \wedge J(\epsilon)^{-1} du \} dx + O(\epsilon^4)$$

is closed [8, 9]:  $d\Omega_J(\epsilon) = O(\epsilon^4)$ .

A simple calculation can yield

$$\begin{aligned} J(\epsilon)^{-1} &= \left( 1 + \frac{\epsilon^2}{24} D \frac{1}{u_x} D^2 \right) D^{-1} \left( u_x - \frac{\epsilon^2}{24} (\log u_x)_{xxx} \right) D^{-1} \\ &\quad \times \left( u_x - \frac{\epsilon^2}{24} (\log u_x)_{xxx} \right) D^{-1} \left( 1 - \frac{\epsilon^2}{24} D^2 \frac{1}{u_x} D \right) \\ &= \left( D^{-1} u_x - \frac{\epsilon^2}{24} D^{-1} (\log u_x)_{xxx} + \frac{\epsilon^2}{24} D \frac{1}{u_x} D u_x \right) D^{-1} \\ &\quad \times \left( u_x D^{-1} - \frac{\epsilon^2}{24} (\log u_x)_{xxx} D^{-1} - \frac{\epsilon^2}{24} u_x D \frac{1}{u_x} D \right) + O(\epsilon^4) \\ &= D^{-1} u_x D^{-1} u_x D^{-1} + \frac{\epsilon^2}{24} \left[ D \frac{1}{u_x} D u_x D^{-1} u_x D^{-1} - D^{-1} (\log u_x)_{xxx} D^{-1} u_x D^{-1} \right. \\ &\quad \left. - D^{-1} u_x D^{-1} u_x D \frac{1}{u_x} D - D^{-1} u_x D^{-1} (\log u_x)_{xxx} D^{-1} \right] + O(\epsilon^4) \\ &= D^{-1} u_x D^{-1} u_x D^{-1} \\ &\quad + \frac{\epsilon^2}{24} [D u_x D^{-1} - D^{-1} u_x D + (\log u_x)_x u_x D^{-1} + D^{-1} (\log u_x)_x u_x] + O(\epsilon^4). \end{aligned}$$

Let  $\psi$  denote the potential function for  $u$ , i.e.,  $u = \psi_x$ . Thus, formally,

$$D_x^{-1}(du) = d\psi$$

and hence, after a series of integration by parts, one has

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega_J(\epsilon) &= \int \left\{ \left[ \left( D^{-1} d \left( \frac{\psi_x^2}{2} \right) \right) \wedge d \left( \frac{\psi_x^2}{2} \right) - \psi_x d\psi \wedge d \left( \frac{\psi_x^2}{2} \right) \right] \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{\epsilon^2}{24} [2\psi_{xx} d\psi \wedge d\psi_{xx} + 2\psi_{xxx} d\psi_x \wedge d\psi] \right\} dx + O(\epsilon^4). \end{aligned}$$

So

$$\begin{aligned} d\Omega_J(\epsilon) &= \int \left\{ 0 + \frac{\epsilon^2}{12} [d\psi_{xxx} \wedge d\psi_x \wedge d\psi] \right\} dx + O(\epsilon^4) \\ &= \frac{\epsilon^2}{12} \int \{(d\psi_{xx} \wedge d\psi_x \wedge d\psi)_x\} dx + O(\epsilon^4) = O(\epsilon^4). \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof of (1).

2. The skew-adjoint property of the deformed Sokolov's operator  $S(\epsilon)$  (15) is obvious. To see whether  $S(\epsilon)$  is Hamiltonian operator or not, we must check whether  $S(\epsilon)$  satisfies the Jacobi identity up to  $O(\epsilon^4)$ . Following [7, 8], we introduce the arbitrary basis of tangent vector  $\Theta$ , which is then conveniently manipulated according to the rules of exterior calculus. The Jacobi identity is given by the compact expression

$$P(\epsilon) \wedge \delta I = O(\epsilon^4) \quad (\text{mod. div.}), \quad (17)$$

where  $P(\epsilon) = S(\epsilon)\Theta$ ,  $I = \frac{1}{2}\Theta \wedge P(\epsilon)$  and  $\delta$  denotes the variational derivative. The vanishing of the tri-vector (17) modulo a divergence is equivalent to the satisfaction of the Jacobi identity.

After a tedious calculation, one can obtain

$$\begin{aligned} S(\epsilon) &= M^* \left( u_x - \frac{\epsilon^2}{24} (\log u_x)_{xxx} \right) D^{-1} \left( u_x - \frac{\epsilon^2}{24} (\log u_x)_{xxx} \right) M + O(\epsilon^4) \\ &= \left[ u_x + \frac{\epsilon^2}{24} (D^3 + D^2(\log u_x)_x - (\log u_x)_{xxx}) \right] D^{-1} \\ &\quad \times \left[ u_x - \frac{\epsilon^2}{24} (D^3 - (\log u_x)_x D^2 + (\log u_x)_{xxx}) \right] + O(\epsilon^4) \\ &= u_x D^{-1} u_x + \frac{\epsilon^2}{24} [D^2 u_x + D^2 (\log u_x)_x D^{-1} u_x - (\log u_x)_{xxx} D^{-1} u_x - u_x D^2 \\ &\quad + u_x D^{-1} (\log u_x)_x D^2 - u_x D^{-1} (\log u_x)_{xxx}] + O(\epsilon^4) \\ &= u_x D^{-1} u_x + \frac{\epsilon^2}{24} [D^2 u_x - u_x D^2 + (\log u_x)_x D u_x + u_x D (\log u_x)_x] + O(\epsilon^4) \\ &= u_x D^{-1} u_x + \frac{\epsilon^2}{12} [D u_{xx} + u_{xx} D] + O(\epsilon^4). \end{aligned}$$

So

$$P(\epsilon) = S(\epsilon)\Theta = u_x D^{-1}(u_x \Theta) + \frac{\epsilon^2}{12} [2u_{xx} \Theta_x + u_{xxx} \Theta] + O(\epsilon^4).$$

Hence

$$I = \frac{1}{2}\Theta \wedge P(\epsilon) = \frac{1}{2}u_x \Theta \wedge D^{-1}(u_x \Theta) + \frac{\epsilon^2}{12} u_{xx} \Theta \wedge \Theta_x + O(\epsilon^4)$$

and then

$$\begin{aligned} \delta I &= -\frac{1}{2}[\Theta \wedge D^{-1}(u_x \Theta)]_x - \frac{1}{2}u_x \Theta \wedge D^{-1}(\Theta_x) + \frac{\epsilon^2}{12}[\Theta \wedge \Theta_x]_{xx} + O(\epsilon^4) \\ &= -\frac{1}{2}\Theta_x \wedge D^{-1}(u_x \Theta) + \frac{\epsilon^2}{12}[\Theta \wedge \Theta_x]_{xx} + O(\epsilon^4). \end{aligned}$$

Finally,

$$\begin{aligned}
P(\epsilon) \wedge \delta I &= \left\{ u_x D^{-1}(u_x \Theta) + \frac{\epsilon^2}{12} [2u_{xx} \Theta_x + u_{xxx} \Theta] \right\} \\
&\wedge \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} \Theta_x \wedge D^{-1}(u_x \Theta) + \frac{\epsilon^2}{12} [\Theta \wedge \Theta_x]_{xx} \right\} + O(\epsilon^4) \\
&= 0 + \frac{\epsilon^2}{12} \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} u_{xxx} \Theta \wedge \Theta_x \wedge D^{-1}(u_x \Theta) + u_{xxx} D^{-1}(u_x \Theta) \wedge \Theta \wedge \Theta_x \right. \\
&\quad \left. + 3u_{xx} u_x \Theta \wedge \Theta \wedge \Theta_x + u_x^2 \Theta_x \wedge \Theta \wedge \Theta_x \right\} + O(\epsilon^4) \\
&= 0 + \frac{\epsilon^2}{24} u_{xxx} \Theta \wedge \Theta_x \wedge D^{-1}(u_x \Theta),
\end{aligned}$$

which can be easily checked that it cannot be expressed as a total divergence. So  $S(\epsilon)$  cannot satisfy the Jacobi identity and therefore  $S(\epsilon)$  is not a Hamiltonian operator. This completes the proof of (2).  $\blacksquare$

**Remark 3.** Using the technics of the last proof, one can show that  $J$  and  $S$  is not compatible. Since  $J$  and  $S$  are Hamiltonian operators, what we are going to do is show that [7, 8]

$$\tilde{Q}(\Theta) \wedge \delta R + Q(\Theta) \wedge \delta \tilde{R} \neq 0 \pmod{\text{div.}},$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
Q(\Theta) &= v_x D^{-1}(v_x \Theta), \quad R = \frac{1}{2} \Theta \wedge Q(\Theta), \\
\tilde{Q}(\Theta) &= \left( \frac{1}{v_x} \left( \frac{\Theta_x}{v_x} \right)_x \right)_x, \quad \tilde{R} = \frac{1}{2} \Theta \wedge \tilde{Q}(\Theta) = -\frac{1}{2v_x^2} \Theta_x \wedge \Theta_{xx}.
\end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\delta R = \frac{-1}{2} [\Theta \wedge D^{-1}(v_x \Theta)]_x - \frac{1}{2} v_x \Theta \wedge D^{-1}(\Theta_x) = \frac{-1}{2} \Theta_x \wedge D^{-1}(v_x \Theta)$$

and

$$\delta \tilde{R} = - \left( \frac{1}{v_x^3} \Theta_x \wedge \Theta_{xx} \right)_x.$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned}
&\tilde{Q}(\Theta) \wedge \delta R + Q(\Theta) \wedge \delta \tilde{R} \\
&= \left( \frac{1}{v_x} \left( \frac{\Theta_x}{v_x} \right)_x \right)_x \wedge \left( \frac{-1}{2} \Theta_x \wedge D^{-1}(v_x \Theta) \right) - v_x D^{-1}(v_x \Theta) \wedge \left( \frac{1}{v_x^3} \Theta_x \wedge \Theta_{xx} \right)_x \\
&= \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{v_x} \left( \frac{\Theta_x}{v_x} \right)_x \wedge [\Theta_{xx} \wedge D^{-1}(v_x \Theta) + v_x \Theta_x \wedge \Theta] \\
&\quad + [v_{xx} D^{-1}(v_x \Theta) + v_x^2 \Theta] \wedge \left( \frac{1}{v_x^3} \Theta_x \wedge \Theta_{xx} \right) \\
&= \frac{1}{2v_x} \Theta_{xx} \wedge \Theta_x \wedge \Theta - \frac{v_{xx}}{2v_x^3} \Theta_x \wedge \Theta_{xx} \wedge D^{-1}(v_x \Theta) \\
&\quad + \frac{v_{xx}}{v_x^3} D^{-1}(v_x \Theta) \wedge \Theta_x \wedge \Theta_{xx} + \frac{1}{v_x} \Theta \wedge \Theta_x \wedge \Theta_{xx} \\
&= \frac{1}{2v_x} \Theta \wedge \Theta_x \wedge \Theta_{xx} + \frac{v_{xx}}{2v_x^3} \Theta_x \wedge \Theta_{xx} \wedge D^{-1}(v_x \Theta) \\
&\neq 0 \pmod{\text{div.}},
\end{aligned}$$

as required.

### 3 Concluding remarks

- That  $J(\epsilon)$  is a Hamiltonian operator (up to  $O(\epsilon^4)$ ) is proved in [1]. We give another proof here, which remarkably simplifies the proof given in [1].
- We notice that all the deformed operators  $J(\epsilon)$  (14),  $D(\epsilon)$  ( $= D + O(\epsilon^4)$ ),  $K(\epsilon)$  (11) under the quasi-Miura transformation (7) are Hamiltonian operators (up to  $O(\epsilon^4)$ ). That the deformed Sokolov's operator  $S(\epsilon)$  is not Hamiltonian is a little surprising that means that the Poisson bracket of the Hamiltonians  $H_m(u; \epsilon)$ ,  $H_n(u; \epsilon)$  for  $S(\epsilon)$

$$\{H_m(u; \epsilon), H_n(u; \epsilon)\}_{S(\epsilon)}$$

will not be  $O(\epsilon^4)$  but  $O(\epsilon^2)$ , i.e., it cannot be a conserved quantity of the Riemann hierarchy (3).

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