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OCTAHEDRAL STRUCTURE OF THE HIROTA–MIWA EQUATION

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The Hirota–Miwa equation is studied from the view point of derived category.

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1. Introduction

There have been known many models in physics, including the theory of strings, which are described by means of the theory of KP hierarchy. The Hirota–Miwa (HM) equation [6, 11] itself, from which all equations of the KP hierarchy can be derived, has been studied in various respects of mathematics, such as algebraic geometry, representation theory of algebra, conformal field theory, and so on.

On the other hand, from the pure mathematical view point, the theory of sheaf category has been developed extensively to unify all fields in mathematics [3, 4] and [10].^a In particular, since it was combined with the theory of strings more than two decades ago [2, 9], the theory of derived category has been investigated intensively.

The purpose of this note is to point out that the theory of KP hierarchy can be described in terms of the theory of derived category. To this end we study in detail the HM equation [6, 11], such that various features of a triangle category become manifest, even though mathematical details will not be given. If the KP hierarchy is embedded successfully in the theory of derived category we should be able to characterize integrable systems both in physics and mathematics in a common base.

In order to introduce the notion of category to the theory of KP hierarchy, we first study, in §2, the Bäcklund transformation of the HM equation [15, 21]. It will be accomplished by the use of exterior “difference” form d_B in the lattice space \mathbb{Z}^4 . This operator connects

^aThere exist many text books on the subject, but the author learned much from this thesis.

one octahedron to another, on which six τ functions of the HM equation are attached at every corner. An octahedron is on a hyperplane in \mathbb{Z}^4 . Hence d_B shifts an octahedron in one hyperplane to another. We can consider an octahedron and the Bäcklund transformation as a pair of an object and a morphism of category. The exactness of d_B , which owes to the Grassmann nature of vertex operators [14], naturally provides us the structure of a complex of this category.

In §3 we consider the local feature of the octahedron. If we associate a morphism to every edge of the octahedron we can study the flow of information from one vertex to another. In other words the objects in this case are the τ functions at corners of the octahedron. We show in the text that the flow of information in the procedure of solving the HM equation exactly fits the axioms of the triangle category. This also means that every step of solving the HM equation starting from an initial value forms a complex. Notice that this complex is in one hyperplane of \mathbb{Z}^4 . If we combine this complex together with the complex of the Bäcklund transformation, we obtain a double complex, as illustrated in Fig. 3.

The localization properties of the complexes have to be considered if we argue the derived categories. We show in this note that it is realized by the generation of the invariant varieties of periodic points (IVPP) [16–18, 20] after liberated from the singularity confinement [19]. In fact we can follow explicitly, in the case of Lotka–Volterra map, how the localization of the category takes place and generates the IVPPs. Section 5 is devoted to conclusion.

2. Global Feature of the HM Equation

The purpose of this section is to reformulate the theory of KP hierarchy in such a way that the structure of complex becomes manifest.

2.1. Hirota–Miwa equation

It is well known that all integrable maps which belong to the KP hierarchy can be derived from the following single HM equation [6, 11], defined by

$$\begin{aligned} & a_{14}a_{23}f(p_1 + 1, p_2, p_3, p_4 + 1)f(p_1, p_2 + 1, p_3 + 1, p_4) \\ & - a_{13}a_{24}f(p_1, p_2 + 1, p_3, p_4 + 1)f(p_1 + 1, p_2, p_3 + 1, p_4) \\ & + a_{12}a_{34}f(p_1, p_2, p_3 + 1, p_4 + 1)f(p_1 + 1, p_2 + 1, p_3, p_4) = 0. \end{aligned} \tag{2.1}$$

Here $f(\mathbf{p}) \in \mathbb{C}$ is a function of $\mathbf{p} = (p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4) \in \mathbb{Z}^4$ and $a_{ij} = -a_{ji} \in \mathbb{C}$ are arbitrary constants.

The integrability of (2.1) enables us to determine $f(\mathbf{p})$ for all $\mathbf{p} \in \mathbb{Z}^4$. In fact the general solution of (2.1), which is called the τ function, is given by

$$\tau(p_1, p_2, \dots, p_N, z_1, z_2, \dots, z_N) := \frac{\langle 0|V(p_1, z_1)V(p_2, z_2) \cdots V(p_N, z_N)|D\rangle}{\langle 0|V(p_1, z_1)V(p_2, z_2) \cdots V(p_N, z_N)|0\rangle}, \tag{2.2}$$

where $V(p, z)$ is the vertex operator with momentum p attached at z on a Riemann surface [14]. The state $|D\rangle$ specifies the Riemann surface, while $|0\rangle$ denotes the empty state. The τ function is nothing but the Plücker coordinate, which determines four-dimensional subspace in the Grassmannian parametrized by (z_1, z_2, \dots, z_N) .

An important property of this function owes to the Grassmann nature of the vertex operators when the magnitude of the momentum is unity. Namely, when $p = \pm 1$ the vertex operators $\psi(z) := V(1, z)$ and $\bar{\psi}(z) := V(-1, z)$ satisfy [14]

$$\psi(z)\psi(z) = 0, \quad \bar{\psi}(z)\bar{\psi}(z) = 0. \tag{2.3}$$

2.2. Exterior difference form

We reformulate the Bäcklund transformation of the HM equation, which was discussed in [15, 21], in this and the next subsections, such that the structure of complex of the transformation becomes manifest.

In order to study the nature of solutions of the HM equation (2.1), it is convenient to introduce the notations

$$D_j f(\mathbf{p}) := f(\mathbf{p} + \boldsymbol{\delta}_j), \quad (\boldsymbol{\delta}_j)_i := \delta_{ij}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} f_i(\mathbf{p}) &:= D_i f(\mathbf{p}), & f_{ij}(\mathbf{p}) &:= D_i D_j f(\mathbf{p}), \\ f_{(i)}(\mathbf{p}) &:= D_k D_l D_m f(\mathbf{p}), & f_{(ij)}(\mathbf{p}) &:= D_k D_l f(\mathbf{p}), \quad k, l, m \neq i, j \end{aligned}$$

to simplify our arguments. We define an “exterior difference operator” d_B to obtain the “difference one form” \mathbf{f} from a function $f(\mathbf{p})$ by

$$\mathbf{f} := d_B f(\mathbf{p}) := \sum_{j=1}^4 D_j f(\mathbf{p}) dp_j = \sum_{j=1}^4 f_j(\mathbf{p}) dp_j.$$

The formula

$$d_B \mathbf{f} = d_B^2 f(\mathbf{p}) = \sum_{i,j=1}^4 f_{ij} dp_i \wedge dp_j \equiv 0$$

follows immediately, such that the condition (2.3) is naturally satisfied.

If we define the “difference two forms” by

$$F := \sum_{i,j}^4 a_{ij} f_{ij} dp_i \wedge dp_j, \quad \tilde{F} := \sum_{i,j}^4 a_{(ij)} f_{ij} dp_i \wedge dp_j, \tag{2.4}$$

each of the next formulae is equivalent to the HM equation (2.1):

$$\det\{F_{ij}\} = 0, \quad \det\{\tilde{F}_{(ij)}\} = 0. \tag{2.5}$$

We notice that the Eq. (2.1), or (2.5), determines a relation among six f_{ij} ’s which are on a three-dimensional hyperplane defined by $p_1 + p_2 + p_3 + p_4 + 2 = t$ ($=$ constant). If we denote the hyperplane by Ξ_t , and introduce the three-dimensional coordinates (k_1, k_2, k_3) by

$$k_1 := \frac{p_1 - p_2 - p_3 + p_4}{2}, \quad k_2 := \frac{p_2 - p_3 - p_1 + p_4}{2}, \quad k_3 := \frac{p_3 - p_1 - p_2 + p_4}{2}$$

they are on the vertexes of an octahedron on Ξ_t as illustrated in Fig. 1.

Octahedra fill, together with tetrahedra, this three-dimensional lattice space. Every octahedron is connected with other 12 octahedra by edges. All points of this three-dimensional

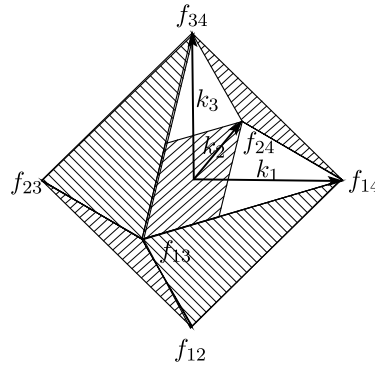


Fig. 1.

lattice space, however, are not the points of the same hyperplane Ξ_t , specified by t . The centers of the octahedra are on Ξ_{t-2} , while the centers of tetrahedra are on $\Xi_{t\pm 1}$. We notice that f_j 's and $f_{(j)}$'s are on $\Xi_{t\pm 1}$. Hence the operator d_B moves points on Ξ_t to those of Ξ_{t+1} .

It will be worthwhile to mention that there are many other integrable discrete equations of octahedron type. Since they have been well classified in detail [1] we should be able to study them in a way we discuss below.

2.3. Bäcklund transformation

Let $f(\mathbf{p})$ be a solution of (2.5) and $\mathbf{g} = d_B g(\mathbf{p})$ be a difference one form which satisfies the linear equation

$$\tilde{F} \wedge \mathbf{g} = 0. \tag{2.6}$$

We can rewrite the three form $\tilde{F} \wedge \mathbf{g}$, by using $*dp_i := \epsilon_{ijkl} dp_j \wedge dp_k \wedge dp_l$, as

$$(\tilde{F} \wedge \mathbf{g})_i = \sum_{j,k,l=1}^4 a_{(kl)} f_{kl} g_j dp_k \wedge dp_l \wedge dp_j = \sum_{j=1}^4 a_{ij} f_{(ij)} g_j *dp_i, \quad i = 1, 2, 3, 4. \tag{2.7}$$

The last expression of this formula admits to write (2.6) as

$$\sum_{j=1}^4 \tilde{F}_{(ij)} g_j = 0, \quad i = 1, 2, 3, 4. \tag{2.8}$$

It also shows that $\tilde{F} \wedge \mathbf{g}$ is not exact. Therefore, for (2.6) to hold, we must require $d_B(\tilde{F} \wedge \mathbf{g})$ to vanish. Since we can write

$$d_B(\tilde{F} \wedge \mathbf{g}) = d_B \sum_{j=1}^4 a_{ij} f_{(ij)} g_j *dp_i = \sum_j a_{ij} f_{(j)} g_{ij} dp_i \wedge *dp_i = \sum_j G_{ij} f_{(j)},$$

we see that (2.6), hence (2.8), is compatible only if

$$\sum_{j=1}^4 G_{ij} f_{(j)} = 0, \quad i = 1, 2, 3, 4 \tag{2.9}$$

is satisfied.

We are now ready to describe the Bäcklund transformation of the HM equation in terms of the difference geometry. First we notice that, owing to (2.5), both linear equations (2.8) and (2.9) have nontrivial solutions iff $f(\mathbf{p})$ and $g(\mathbf{p})$ are solutions of the HM equation. We call (2.8) and (2.9) the linear Bäcklund transformation [15] because they are a set of linear equations which enables us to derive a series of solutions of the HM equation as follows.

- (1) Let $f^{(0)}(\mathbf{p})$ be a solution of $\det(\tilde{F}_{(ij)}) = 0$ on Ξ_t .
- (2) Substitute $f^{(0)}(\mathbf{p})$ into (2.8) and solve it for $\{g_j\}$.
- (3) Define $G_{ij} := a_{ij}D_i g_j$, then $\det(G_{ij}) = 0$ is satisfied.
- (4) Let $g^{(1)}(\mathbf{p})$ be the function determined by G_{ij} on Ξ_{t+1} .
- (5) Substitute $g^{(1)}(\mathbf{p})$ into (2.9) and solve it for $\{f_{(j)}\}$.
- (6) Define $\tilde{F}_{ij} := a_{(ij)}D_i f_{(j)}$, then $\det(\tilde{F}_{ij}) = 0$ is satisfied.
- (7) Let $f^{(2)}(\mathbf{p})$ be the function determined by \tilde{F}_{ij} on Ξ_{t+2} .

We can repeat this procedure to obtain a sequence

$$f^{(0)} \xrightarrow{d_B} g^{(1)} \xrightarrow{d_B} f^{(2)} \xrightarrow{d_B} g^{(3)} \xrightarrow{d_B} \dots$$

of solutions of the HM equation. It is important to mention that, since (2.9) is obtained from (2.8) by an operation of d_B , the hyperplanes in the four-dimensional lattice space, on which octahedra are associated, are different. This also means that at every step of the transformation we obtain a new solution of the HM equation. Since a solution determines an octahedron the above sequence of the Bäcklund transformation also implies a scheme of transformations of octahedra

$$\mathcal{O}^{(0)} \xrightarrow{d_B} \mathcal{O}^{(1)} \xrightarrow{d_B} \mathcal{O}^{(2)} \xrightarrow{d_B} \mathcal{O}^{(3)} \xrightarrow{d_B} \dots \tag{2.10}$$

The structure of complex is manifest in this diagram such that $(\mathcal{O}^{(j)}, d_B)$ forms a pair of an object and morphism of the category. We say this is a global feature of the HM equation in the sense that all information in one three-dimensional hyperplane is transformed by d_B to another hyperplane at once.

3. Local Feature of the HM Equation

We would like to know, in this section, how a local information propagates to other parts on one three-dimensional hyperplane under the control of the HM equation.

3.1. Translation of octahedra

In order to explore the mechanism how the information of an octahedron transfers to other octahedra, we define the translation operator by

$$T := \prod_{j=1}^4 D_j^{m_j} : f(\mathbf{p}) \rightarrow f(\mathbf{p} + \mathbf{m}), \quad m_j = 0, \pm 1. \tag{3.1}$$

The values of m_j are strictly constrained by the condition (2.3). Needless to say, T itself satisfies $T^2 = 0$.

Information of an octahedron will be transferred properly only when the octahedron is translated by T to a top of another octahedron. If we denote $\sum_{j=1}^4 m_j$ by m , it can change

from -4 to 4 . When $m = \pm 4$, the octahedron is moved to itself in the three-dimensional lattice space, since the values of (k_1, k_2, k_3) remain the same. In the four-dimensional lattice space, however, it is moved to the $\Xi_{t\pm 4}$ hyperplane. Similarly, when $m \neq 0$, all points are moved to the hyperplane Ξ_{t+m} . From our arguments in the previous section the octahedra translated to other hyperplanes must belong to other solutions.

When $m = 0$, the translation is constrained on Ξ_t . In other words the information of a solution can propagate to other places of the same Ξ_t . There are 12 possible operators which satisfy $m = 0$,

$$T_{ji} := D_j D_i^{-1}, \quad j \neq i,$$

among which only six are independent because $T_{ji} = T_{ij}^{-1}$. As we apply T_{ij} to an octahedron, the octahedron itself is translated to its neighbor in the direction of $p_i - p_j$. Every pair of octahedra connected by T_{ij} has an edge in common, as illustrated in Fig. 2.

3.2. Octahedral axiom

In addition to the translation of an octahedron the operator T_{ji} plays another important role in the octahedron. Namely every vertex of the octahedron is locally connected with others by this operator. To understand the mechanism how the information is transferred to other octahedra, we must know in detail how the vertexes are connected within the octahedron.

Let us denote by

$$\tilde{S}_j = (X, Y, Z) := (f_{bc}, f_{ca}, f_{ab}), \quad a, b, c \neq j, \quad j = 1, 2, 3, 4$$

the four triangles of the octahedron as shown in Fig. 2, and by

$$S_j = (X', Y', Z') := (f_{ja}, f_{jb}, f_{jc}), \quad a, b, c \neq j, \quad j = 1, 2, 3, 4$$

those parallel to them. The operator T_{ji} connects the corners of the triangle S_j . We define the order of vertexes by $c \rightarrow b \rightarrow a \rightarrow c$ when $c < b < a$. Then every triangle S_j of Fig. 2 is

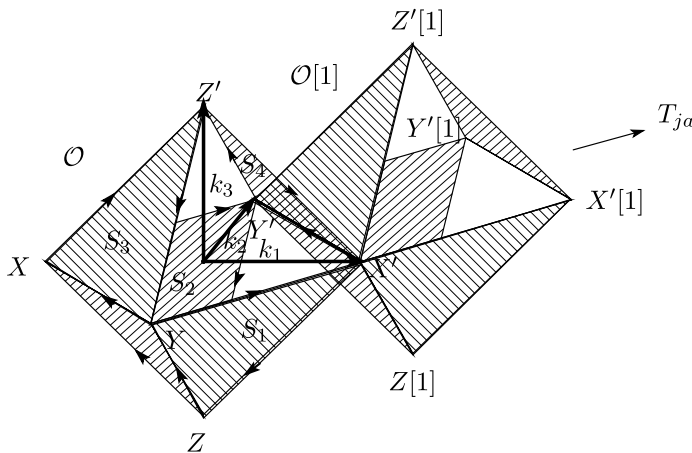


Fig. 2.

