

\mathbb{Z}_N Graded Discrete Lax Pairs and Discrete Integrable Systems¹

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Integrable discretisations of “soliton equations”.

MKdV, SG, PKdV, Schwarzian KdV, Boussinesq and modified Boussinesq, etc.

Bianchi permutability (nonlinear superposition) of Bäcklund transformations leads directly to fully discrete equations.

Starting from the PDE, use Darboux transformations.
Gives a discrete Lax pair for the discrete system.

Starting from a discrete Lax pair, we may derive the corresponding discrete systems.

Discrete Lax Pair: Square Lattice: discrete coordinates (m, n) .

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \Psi_{m+1,n} &= L_{m,n} \Psi_{m,n} \\ \Psi_{m,n+1} &= M_{m,n} \Psi_{m,n} \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow L_{m,n+1} M_{m,n} = M_{m+1,n} L_{m,n}.$$

can be pictured as

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (m, n+1) & \xrightarrow{L_{m,n+1}} & (m+1, n+1) \\ \uparrow M_{m,n} & & \uparrow M_{m+1,n} \\ (m, n) & \xrightarrow{L_{m,n}} & (m+1, n) \end{array}$$

Commutativity around the quadrilateral.

Motivating Our Discrete Lax Pair: Factorisation.

Differential Case: $u^{(i)}(x, t)$ (Fordy-Gibbons 1980-1)

$$(\partial_x - u^{(2)})(\partial_x - u^{(1)})(\partial_x - u^{(0)})\psi^{(0)} = \lambda^3 \psi^{(0)} \quad \text{implies}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \psi^{(0)} \\ \psi^{(1)} \\ \psi^{(2)} \end{pmatrix}_x = \begin{pmatrix} u^{(0)} & \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & u^{(1)} & \lambda \\ \lambda & 0 & u^{(2)} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \psi^{(0)} \\ \psi^{(1)} \\ \psi^{(2)} \end{pmatrix} = (U + \lambda\Omega)\Psi.$$

Difference Case: $u^{(i)}_{(m,n)}$

$$(S_m - u^{(2)})(S_m - u^{(1)})(S_m - u^{(0)})\psi^{(0)}_{(m,n)} = \lambda^3 \psi^{(0)}_{(m,n)} \quad \text{implies}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \psi^{(0)}_{(m+1,n)} \\ \psi^{(1)}_{(m+1,n)} \\ \psi^{(2)}_{(m+1,n)} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} u^{(0)}_{(m,n)} & \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & u^{(1)}_{(m,n)} & \lambda \\ \lambda & 0 & u^{(2)}_{(m,n)} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \psi^{(0)}_{(m,n)} \\ \psi^{(1)}_{(m,n)} \\ \psi^{(2)}_{(m,n)} \end{pmatrix}.$$

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Start with the $N \times N$ matrix

$$\Omega = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & & \ddots & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Definition (Level k matrix)

An $N \times N$ matrix A of the form

$$A = \text{diag} \left(a^{(0)}, \dots, a^{(N-1)} \right) \Omega^k$$

will be said to have level k , written $\text{lev}(A) = k$.

Ω is cyclic: $\Omega^N = I_N$ (level 0) and

$$\text{lev}(AB) = \text{lev}(BA) = \text{lev}(A) + \text{lev}(B) \pmod{N}.$$

With

$$U_{m,n} = \text{diag} \left(u_{m,n}^{(0)}, \dots, u_{m,n}^{(N-1)} \right) \Omega^{k_1},$$

$$V_{m,n} = \text{diag} \left(v_{m,n}^{(0)}, \dots, v_{m,n}^{(N-1)} \right) \Omega^{k_2},$$

consider the Lax pair

$$\Psi_{m+1,n} = L_{m,n} \Psi_{m,n} \equiv \left(U_{m,n} + \lambda \Omega^{\ell_1} \right) \Psi_{m,n}, \quad k_1 \neq \ell_1,$$

$$\Psi_{m,n+1} = M_{m,n} \Psi_{m,n} \equiv \left(V_{m,n} + \lambda \Omega^{\ell_2} \right) \Psi_{m,n}, \quad k_2 \neq \ell_2,$$

with compatibility condition $L_{m,n+1} M_{m,n} = M_{m+1,n} L_{m,n}$.

Equating powers of λ :

$$\begin{aligned} U_{m,n+1} V_{m,n} &= V_{m+1,n} U_{m,n}, \\ U_{m,n+1} \Omega^{\ell_2} - \Omega^{\ell_2} U_{m,n} &= V_{m+1,n} \Omega^{\ell_1} - \Omega^{\ell_1} V_{m,n}. \end{aligned}$$

and we find $k_1 + \ell_2 \equiv k_2 + \ell_1 \pmod{N}$.

Example $N = 4$

Matrix L with $(k_1, \ell_1) = (1, 2)$

$$L_{m,n} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & u_{m,n}^{(0)} & \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & u_{m,n}^{(1)} & \lambda \\ \lambda & 0 & 0 & u_{m,n}^{(2)} \\ u_{m,n}^{(3)} & \lambda & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

The Level Structure of matrices L and M is labelled

$$(k_1, \ell_1; k_2, \ell_2).$$

with

$$\ell_2 - k_2 \equiv \ell_1 - k_1 \pmod{N}$$

The compatibility conditions

$$\begin{aligned} U_{m,n+1} V_{m,n} &= V_{m+1,n} U_{m,n}, \\ U_{m,n+1} \Omega^{\ell_2} - \Omega^{\ell_2} U_{m,n} &= V_{m+1,n} \Omega^{\ell_1} - \Omega^{\ell_1} V_{m,n}, \end{aligned}$$

are explicitly written as

$$\begin{aligned} u_{m,n+1}^{(i)} v_{m,n}^{(i+k_1)} &= v_{m+1,n}^{(i)} u_{m,n}^{(i+k_2)}, \\ u_{m,n+1}^{(i)} - u_{m,n}^{(i+\ell_2)} &= v_{m+1,n}^{(i)} - v_{m,n}^{(i+\ell_1)}, \end{aligned}$$

which can be solved to give:

$$\begin{aligned} u_{m,n+1}^{(i)} &= \frac{u_{m,n}^{(i+\ell_2)} - v_{m,n}^{(i+\ell_1)}}{u_{m,n}^{(i+k_2)} - v_{m,n}^{(i+k_1)}} u_{m,n}^{(i+k_2)}, \\ v_{m+1,n}^{(i)} &= \frac{u_{m,n}^{(i+\ell_2)} - v_{m,n}^{(i+\ell_1)}}{u_{m,n}^{(i+k_2)} - v_{m,n}^{(i+k_1)}} v_{m,n}^{(i+\ell_1)}. \end{aligned}$$

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Equivalent Lax Pairs

1. Switching m and n , so

$$L \leftrightarrow M \quad \text{and} \quad (k_1, \ell_1) \leftrightarrow (k_2, \ell_2).$$

2. $(k_i, \ell_i) \mapsto (N - k_i, N - \ell_i)$, so

$$(u_{m,n}^{(i)}, v_{m,n}^{(i)}) \mapsto (u_{m,n}^{(N-i)}, v_{m,n}^{(N-i)}).$$

The coprime case satisfies

$$(N, \ell_1 - k_1) = (N, \ell_2 - k_2) = 1.$$

We then have

$$|L| = a - (-\lambda)^N, \quad \text{where} \quad a = \prod_{j=0}^{N-1} u^j \quad \text{and} \quad \Delta_n a = 0.$$

$$|M| = b - (-\lambda)^N, \quad \text{where} \quad b = \prod_{j=0}^{N-1} v^j \quad \text{and} \quad \Delta_m b = 0.$$

Subdivision of the coprime case $(N, \ell_1 - k_1) = (N, \ell_2 - k_2) = 1$.

We may reduce to the submanifold

$$\prod_{j=0}^{N-1} u_{m,n}^{(j)} = a, \quad \prod_{j=0}^{N-1} v_{m,n}^{(j)} = b \quad (\text{constants}).$$

The generic subcase: $ab \neq 0$.

The above relations allow us to express one function from each set in terms of the remaining ones.

The degenerate subcase: $a \neq 0, b = 0$.

We can eliminate one of the $u^{(j)}$ and set (wlog) $v^{(N-1)} = 0$.

The degenerate case $a = b = 0$ is empty.

The non-coprime case: $(N, \ell_1 - k_1) = (N, \ell_2 - k_2) = p > 1$.

Determinant factorises:

$$(N, k_1, \ell_1) = (6, 1, 3) \quad (p = 2)$$

$$|L| = -(\lambda^3 + u_{m,n}^{(0)} u_{m,n}^{(2)} u_{m,n}^{(4)})(\lambda^3 + u_{m,n}^{(1)} u_{m,n}^{(3)} u_{m,n}^{(5)}).$$

$$(N, k_1, \ell_1) = (6, 1, 4) \quad (p = 3)$$

$$|L| = (\lambda^2 - u_{m,n}^{(0)} u_{m,n}^{(3)})(\lambda^2 - u_{m,n}^{(1)} u_{m,n}^{(4)})(\lambda^2 - u_{m,n}^{(2)} u_{m,n}^{(5)}).$$

Can transform to **block matrix form**, corresponding to a **coupling** of smaller coprime systems.

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The general equations

$$\begin{aligned} u_{m,n+1}^{(i)} v_{m,n}^{(i+k_1)} &= v_{m+1,n}^{(i)} u_{m,n}^{(i+k_2)}, \\ u_{m,n+1}^{(i)} - u_{m,n}^{(i+\ell_2)} &= v_{m+1,n}^{(i)} - v_{m,n}^{(i+\ell_1)}, \end{aligned}$$

can be reduced by **introducing potentials**.

The first holds identically if we set

$$u_{m,n}^{(i)} = \alpha \frac{\phi_{m+1,n}^{(i)}}{\phi_{m,n}^{(i+k_1)}}, \quad v_{m,n}^{(i)} = \beta \frac{\phi_{m,n+1}^{(i)}}{\phi_{m,n}^{(i+k_2)}}, \quad i \in \mathbb{Z}_N.$$

The second holds identically if we set

$$u_{m,n}^{(i)} = \chi_{m+1,n}^{(i)} - \chi_{m,n}^{(i+\ell_1)}, \quad v_{m,n}^{(i)} = \chi_{m,n+1}^{(i)} - \chi_{m,n}^{(i+\ell_2)}, \quad i \in \mathbb{Z}_N.$$

The first holds identically if we set $(i \in \mathbb{Z}_N \text{ throughout})$

$$u_{m,n}^{(i)} = \alpha \frac{\phi_{m+1,n}^{(i)}}{\phi_{m,n}^{(i+k_1)}}, \quad v_{m,n}^{(i)} = \beta \frac{\phi_{m,n+1}^{(i)}}{\phi_{m,n}^{(i+k_2)}}.$$

The second then take the form

$$\alpha \left(\frac{\phi_{m+1,n+1}^{(i)}}{\phi_{m,n+1}^{(i+k_1)}} - \frac{\phi_{m+1,n}^{(i+l_2)}}{\phi_{m,n}^{(i+k_1+l_2)}} \right) = \beta \left(\frac{\phi_{m+1,n+1}^{(i)}}{\phi_{m+1,n}^{(i+k_2)}} - \frac{\phi_{m,n+1}^{(i+l_1)}}{\phi_{m,n}^{(i+k_2+l_1)}} \right).$$

The solved form is written as

$$\phi_{m+1,n+1}^{(i)} = \frac{\phi_{m,n+1}^{(i+k_1)} \phi_{m+1,n}^{(i+k_2)}}{\phi_{m,n}^{(i+k_1+l_2)}} \left(\frac{\alpha \phi_{m+1,n}^{(i+l_2)} - \beta \phi_{m,n+1}^{(i+l_1)}}{\alpha \phi_{m+1,n}^{(i+k_2)} - \beta \phi_{m,n+1}^{(i+k_1)}} \right).$$

$P = \prod_{i=0}^{N-1} \phi_{m,n}^{(i)}$ satisfies $P_{m+1,n+1} P_{m,n} = P_{m+1,n} P_{m,n+1}$.

The Lax Pair in potential form

$$\Psi_{m+1,n} = \left(\alpha \phi_{m+1,n} \Omega^{k_1} \phi_{m,n}^{-1} + \lambda \Omega^{\ell_1} \right) \Psi_{m,n},$$

$$\Psi_{m,n+1} = \left(\beta \phi_{m,n+1} \Omega^{k_2} \phi_{m,n}^{-1} + \lambda \Omega^{\ell_2} \right) \Psi_{m,n},$$

where

$$\phi_{m,n} := \text{diag} \left(\phi_{m,n}^{(0)}, \dots, \phi_{m,n}^{(N-1)} \right).$$

Equivalence relation: $\tilde{\Psi}_{m,n} = \alpha^{-m} \beta^{-n} \lambda^{-m-n} \phi_{m,n}^{-1} \Psi_{m,n}$.

gives

$$(\phi^{(i)}; k_1, l_1, \alpha; k_2, l_2, \beta) \leftrightarrow (\tilde{\phi}^{(i)}; l_1, k_1, \tilde{\alpha}; l_2, k_2, \tilde{\beta})$$

where

$$\phi_{m,n}^{(i)} \tilde{\phi}_{m,n}^{(i)} = 1, \quad \alpha \tilde{\alpha} = 1, \quad \beta \tilde{\beta} = 1, \quad \lambda \mapsto \lambda^{-1}$$

The second holds identically if we set $(i \in \mathbb{Z}_N \text{ throughout})$

$$u_{m,n}^{(i)} = \chi_{m+1,n}^{(i)} - \chi_{m,n}^{(i+l_1)}, \quad v_{m,n}^{(i)} = \chi_{m,n+1}^{(i)} - \chi_{m,n}^{(i+l_2)}.$$

The first then take the form

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\chi_{m+1,n+1}^{(i)} - \chi_{m,n+1}^{(i+l_1)} \right) \left(\chi_{m,n+1}^{(i+k_1)} - \chi_{m,n}^{(i+k_1+l_2)} \right) \\ &= \left(\chi_{m+1,n+1}^{(i)} - \chi_{m+1,n}^{(i+l_2)} \right) \left(\chi_{m+1,n}^{(i+k_2)} - \chi_{m,n}^{(i+k_2+l_1)} \right). \end{aligned}$$

The solved form is written as

$$\chi_{m+1,n+1}^{(i)} = \frac{\chi_{m,n+1}^{(i+k_1)} \chi_{m,n+1}^{(i+l_1)} - \chi_{m+1,n}^{(i+k_2)} \chi_{m+1,n}^{(i+l_2)} - \chi_{m,n}^{(i+k_1+l_2)} (\chi_{m,n+1}^{(i+l_1)} - \chi_{m+1,n}^{(i+l_2)})}{\chi_{m,n+1}^{(i+k_1)} - \chi_{m+1,n}^{(i+k_2)}}.$$

These are Bäcklund related to the quotient potential equations.

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In $2D$ we have a unified description of several well known examples.

For quotient potentials we can set $\phi_{m,n}^{(0)}\phi_{m,n}^{(1)} = 1$.

Level structure $(0, 1; 0, 1)$

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha (\phi_{m,n}\phi_{m,n+1} - \phi_{m+1,n}\phi_{m+1,n+1}) \\ - \beta (\phi_{m,n}\phi_{m+1,n} - \phi_{m,n+1}\phi_{m+1,n+1}) = 0, \end{aligned}$$

where $\phi_{m,n} = \phi_{m,n}^{(0)} = 1/\phi_{m,n}^{(1)}$. (Discrete MKdV equation.)

Level structure $(0, 1; 1, 0)$

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha (\phi_{m,n}\phi_{m+1,n+1} - \phi_{m+1,n}\phi_{m,n+1}) \\ - \beta (\phi_{m,n}\phi_{m+1,n}\phi_{m,n+1}\phi_{m+1,n+1} - 1) = 0, \end{aligned}$$

where $\phi_{m,n} = \phi_{m,n}^{(0)} = 1/\phi_{m,n}^{(1)}$. (Hirota's discrete sine-Gordon equation.)

For additive potentials we have the first integrals

$$\prod_{i=0}^{N-1} \left(\chi_{m+1,n}^{(i)} - \chi_{m,n}^{(i+\ell_1)} \right) = \alpha^N, \quad \prod_{i=0}^{N-1} \left(\chi_{m,n+1}^{(i)} - \chi_{m,n}^{(i+\ell_2)} \right) = \beta^N.$$

Level structure $(0, 1; 0, 1)$

Using the first integrals to replace either $\chi^{(0)}$ or $\chi^{(1)}$:

$$(\chi_{m+1,n+1} - \chi_{m,n}) (\chi_{m+1,n} - \chi_{m,n+1}) = \alpha^2 - \beta^2,$$

which is the **discrete potential KdV**.

Level structure $(1, 0; 1, 0)$

Using the first integrals to eliminate one of the variables:

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha^2 (\chi_{m,n} - \chi_{m,n+1}) (\chi_{m+1,n} - \chi_{m+1,n+1}) \\ - \beta^2 (\chi_{m,n} - \chi_{m+1,n}) (\chi_{m,n+1} - \chi_{m+1,n+1}) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

which is the **Schwarzian KdV equation**

The 2D degenerate case

$$u_{m,n}^{(0)} u_{m,n}^{(1)} = a, \quad v_{m,n}^{(1)} = 0,$$

gives Hirota's KdV equation:

$$\frac{a}{u_{m+1,n+1}} + u_{m,n+1} = u_{m+1,n} + \frac{a}{u_{m,n}}.$$

In higher dimensions, we derive a new generalisation of this, involving $2N$ points.

In $3D$ and above our scheme gives either generalisations of well known $2D$ examples or **new families of integrable systems**.

For **quotient potentials** we can set $\prod_{i=0}^2 \phi_{m,n}^{(i)} = 1$.

We use the following substitution:

$$\left(\phi_{m,n}^{(0)}, \phi_{m,n}^{(1)}, \phi_{m,n}^{(2)} \right) \mapsto \left(\frac{1}{\phi_{m,n}^{(0)}}, \phi_{m,n}^{(1)}, \frac{\phi_{m,n}^{(0)}}{\phi_{m,n}^{(1)}} \right).$$

Two Equivalence Relations for the quotient potential:

1. $(k_i, \ell_i) \mapsto (N - k_i, N - \ell_i)$,
2. $(k_i, \ell_i) \leftrightarrow (\ell_i, k_i)$.

In 3D we therefore have the following inequivalent cases:

1. Level structure $(0, 1; 0, 1)$ (modified Boussinesq),
2. Level structure $(0, 1; 1, 2)$ (a new integrable system),
3. Level structure $(0, 1; 2, 0)$ (a new integrable system),
4. Level structure $(1, 2; 1, 2)$ (a new integrable system).

The case $(0, 1; 2, 0)$ is specific to $N = 3$, since

$$2 + 1 \equiv 0 + 0 \pmod{3}.$$

Level structure $(0, 1; 0, 1)$

$$\phi_{m+1,n+1}^{(0)} = \frac{\alpha \phi_{m,n+1}^{(0)} - \beta \phi_{m+1,n}^{(0)}}{\alpha \phi_{m+1,n}^{(1)} - \beta \phi_{m,n+1}^{(1)}} \phi_{m,n}^{(1)},$$

$$\phi_{m+1,n+1}^{(1)} = \frac{\alpha \phi_{m+1,n}^{(0)} \phi_{m,n+1}^{(1)} - \beta \phi_{m,n+1}^{(0)} \phi_{m+1,n}^{(1)}}{\alpha \phi_{m+1,n}^{(1)} - \beta \phi_{m,n+1}^{(1)}} \frac{\phi_{m,n}^{(1)}}{\phi_{m,n}^{(0)}}.$$

This equation is related to the **modified Boussinesq** equation.

Special case of **nonlinear superposition** of 2D Toda lattice, related to modified Lax equations. (**Fordy-Gibbons 1980**)

Rediscovered by (**Nijhoff, et al, 1992**) in the context of **discrete integrable systems**.

Level structure (1, 2; 1, 2)

$$\phi_{m+1,n+1}^{(0)} = \frac{\alpha \phi_{m+1,n}^{(1)} - \beta \phi_{m,n+1}^{(1)}}{\alpha \phi_{m+1,n}^{(0)} \phi_{m,n+1}^{(1)} - \beta \phi_{m,n+1}^{(0)} \phi_{m+1,n}^{(1)}} \frac{1}{\phi_{m,n}^{(0)}},$$

$$\phi_{m+1,n+1}^{(1)} = \frac{\alpha \phi_{m,n+1}^{(0)} - \beta \phi_{m+1,n}^{(0)}}{\alpha \phi_{m+1,n}^{(0)} \phi_{m,n+1}^{(1)} - \beta \phi_{m,n+1}^{(0)} \phi_{m+1,n}^{(1)}} \frac{1}{\phi_{m,n}^{(1)}}.$$

This is a new integrable system.

The reduction

$$\phi_{m,n}^{(0)} = \phi_{m,n}^{(1)} = \frac{-1}{2^{1/3} u_{m,n}}, \quad \beta = -\alpha.$$

leads to a **discrete Tzitzeica equation** (Mikhailov and Xenitidis):

$$u_{m,n} u_{m+1,n+1} (u_{m+1,n} + u_{m,n+1}) + 1 = 0.$$

Additive Potential Level structure $(0, 1; 0, 1)$

$$\chi_{m+1,n+1}^{(i)} = \frac{(\chi_{m+1,n}^{(i)} - \chi_{m,n}^{(i+1)})\chi_{m+1,n}^{(i+1)} - (\chi_{m,n+1}^{(i)} - \chi_{m,n}^{(i+1)})\chi_{m,n+1}^{(i+1)}}{\chi_{m+1,n}^{(i)} - \chi_{m,n+1}^{(i)}},$$

$$\chi_{m+1,n+1}^{(i+1)} = \chi_{m,n}^{(i)} + \frac{1}{\chi_{m+1,n}^{(i+1)} - \chi_{m,n+1}^{(i+1)}} \left(\frac{\alpha^3}{\chi_{m+1,n}^{(i)} - \chi_{m,n}^{(i+1)}} - \frac{\beta^3}{\chi_{m,n+1}^{(i)} - \chi_{m,n}^{(i+1)}} \right).$$

This is a **two component** system with fixed $i = 0$ (or 1 or 2).

This is a **new integrable system**, which can be decoupled to a nine point scalar equation (the **discrete potential Boussinesq** equation).

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The Non-Coprime Case has $(N, \ell_j - k_j) = p > 1$.

For $N = pq$, $\ell_j - k_j = pr$, $(q, r) = 1$ the variables are grouped together

$$\mathbf{u}_i = (u^{(i)}, u^{(i+p)}, \dots, u^{(i+p(q-1))}), \quad i = 0, \dots, p-1.$$

and

$$\mathbf{v}_i = (v^{(i)}, v^{(i+p)}, \dots, v^{(i+p(q-1))}), \quad i = 0, \dots, p-1.$$

The permutation matrix which re-orders them like this, can be used to put L and M in block form:

$p \times p$ matrices of $q \times q$ blocks.

For $N = 6$ with $p = 3$, $q = 2$, $r = 1$ there are several compatible level structures.

The choices $(1, 4)$ and $(2, 5)$ give the following forms for L :

$$L = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & L_{03}^{(0,1)} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & L_{14}^{(0,1)} \\ L_{25}^{(1,0)} & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad L = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & L_{03}^{(0,1)} \\ L_{14}^{(1,0)} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & L_{25}^{(1,0)} & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

where $L_{ab}^{(k,\ell)}$ is the 2×2 Lax matrix of level structure (k, ℓ) and depending on variables $u_{m,n}^{(a)}$ and $u_{m,n}^{(b)}$.

For example

$$L_{03}^{(0,1)} = \begin{pmatrix} u_{m,n}^{(0)} & \lambda \\ \lambda & u_{m,n}^{(3)} \end{pmatrix}, \quad L_{25}^{(1,0)} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & u_{m,n}^{(2)} \\ u_{m,n}^{(5)} & \lambda \end{pmatrix}.$$

Similarly for M (but depending upon $v_{m,n}^{(a)}$, $v_{m,n}^{(b)}$).

The choice $(2, 5; 2, 5)$ leads to the system

$$\begin{aligned} L_{03}^{(0,1)}(\mathbf{u}_{m,n+1})M_{25}^{(1,0)}(\mathbf{v}_{m,n}) &= M_{03}^{(0,1)}(\mathbf{v}_{m+1,n})L_{25}^{(1,0)}(\mathbf{u}_{m,n}), \\ L_{14}^{(1,0)}(\mathbf{u}_{m,n+1})M_{03}^{(0,1)}(\mathbf{v}_{m,n}) &= M_{14}^{(1,0)}(\mathbf{v}_{m+1,n})L_{03}^{(0,1)}(\mathbf{u}_{m,n}), \\ L_{25}^{(1,0)}(\mathbf{u}_{m,n+1})M_{14}^{(1,0)}(\mathbf{v}_{m,n}) &= M_{25}^{(1,0)}(\mathbf{v}_{m+1,n})L_{14}^{(1,0)}(\mathbf{u}_{m,n}), \end{aligned}$$

In potential form, with

$$\phi_{m,n}^{(0)} = 1/\phi_{m,n}^{(3)} = \psi_{m,n}^{(0)}, \phi_{m,n}^{(4)} = 1/\phi_{m,n}^{(1)} = \psi_{m,n}^{(1)}, \phi_{m,n}^{(2)} = 1/\phi_{m,n}^{(5)} = \psi_{m,n}^{(2)},$$

we obtain the **coupled discrete MKdV** system

$$\psi_{m+1,n+1}^{(i)} = \left(\frac{\alpha\psi_{m,n+1}^{(i+2)} - \beta\psi_{m+1,n}^{(i+2)}}{\alpha\psi_{m+1,n}^{(i+2)} - \beta\psi_{m,n+1}^{(i+2)}} \right) \psi_{m,n}^{(i+1)}, \quad i \in \mathbb{Z}_3.$$

The choice $(1, 4; 2, 5)$ leads to the system

$$\psi_{m,n}^{(i)} \psi_{m+1,n+1}^{(i)} = \frac{\alpha - \beta \psi_{m,n+1}^{(i+1)} \psi_{m+1,n}^{(i+2)}}{\alpha \psi_{m,n+1}^{(i+1)} \psi_{m+1,n}^{(i+2)} - \beta}, \quad i \in \mathbb{Z}_3,$$

which is a **coupled system** of Hirota's **discrete sine-Gordon** equations.

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A consistent lattice is such that around each elementary quadrilateral, we have

$$L_{m,n+1}M_{m,n} = M_{m+1,n}L_{m,n}.$$

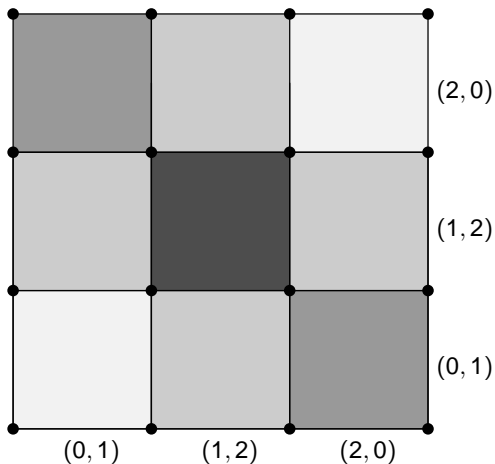
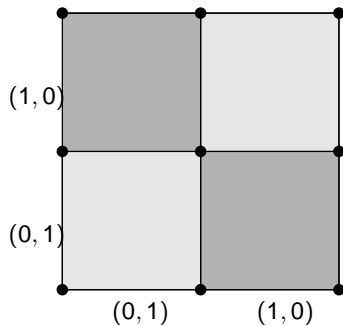
One choice is to take the same L and M around each quadrilateral.

However, we can choose a variety of level structures $(k_1, \ell_1; k_2, \ell_2)$, subject only to

$$\ell_j - k_j \text{ being fixed } \pmod{N} \text{ over the lattice.}$$

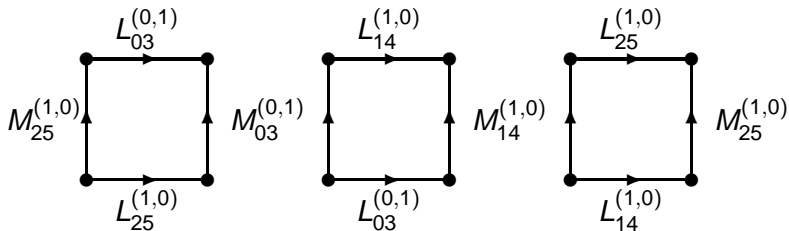
Opposite edges carry matrices with exactly the same structure.

For $N = 2$ and $N = 3$ we can choose:



Non-coprime systems form subsystems.

For the **discrete MKdV case** we had separate consistency equations:



Matching edges can be glued together.

Compatible 3D Lattices:

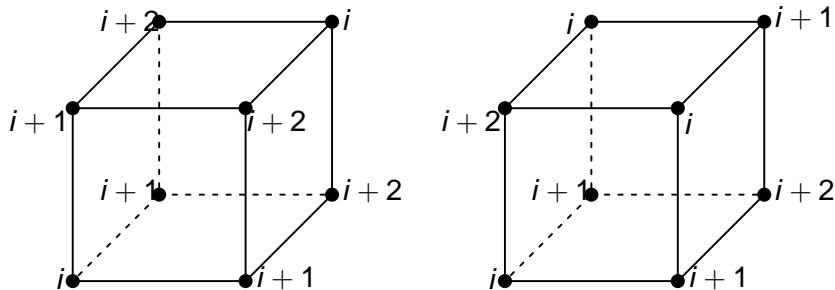


Figure : *The first cube involves only copies of the modified KdV equation, whereas the second cube carries two copies of mKdV (bottom and top faces) and four copies of the sine-Gordon equation.*

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Continuous deformations: General framework:

$$\partial_t \Psi_{m,n} = \mathcal{S}_{m,n} \Psi_{m,n}.$$

Compatibility with the m -shift

$$\Psi_{m+1,n} = L_{m,n} \Psi_{m,n} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \partial_t L_{m,n} = \mathcal{S}_{m+1,n} L_{m,n} - L_{m,n} \mathcal{S}_{m,n}.$$

Compatibility with the n -shift

$$\Psi_{m,n+1} = M_{m,n} \Psi_{m,n} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \partial_t M_{m,n} = \mathcal{S}_{m,n+1} M_{m,n} - M_{m,n} \mathcal{S}_{m,n}.$$

We have

$$\partial_t (L_{m,n+1} M_{m,n} - M_{m+1,n} L_{m,n}) = 0$$

on solutions of the discrete system.

Continuous symmetries of the discrete equations.

Continuous deformations: **Specific solutions.**

Two sequences of symmetries (in the non-degenerate case).
Associated with L_{mn} and M_{mn} respectively.

Lowest L -symmetry: $S_{m,n} = L_{m,n}^{-1} Q_{m,n}$,

$$Q_{m,n} = \text{diag}(q_{m,n}^{(0)}, q_{m,n}^{(1)}, \dots, q_{m,n}^{(N-1)}) \Omega^{k_1} \quad (\text{independent of } \lambda).$$

Then

$$\partial_{t_1} u_{m,n}^{(i)} = q_{m+1,n}^{(i-\ell_1)} - q_{m,n}^{(i)}$$

where

$$q_{m,n}^{(i)} u_{m-1,n}^{(i+k_1)} = u_{m,n}^{(i)} q_{m,n}^{(i+k_1-\ell_1)} \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} \frac{q_{m,n}^{(i)}}{u_{m,n}^{(i)}} = \frac{1}{a}.$$

These equations can be solved exactly for $q_{m,n}^{(i)}$.

With $S_{m,n} = L_{m,n}^{-1} Q_{m,n}$,

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \Psi_{m,n+1} &= M_{m,n} \Psi_{m,n} \\ \partial_t \Psi_{m,n} &= S_{m,n} \Psi_{m,n} \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow \partial_t M_{m,n} = S_{m,n+1} M_{m,n} - M_{m,n} S_{m,n},$$

which leads to

$$\partial_t \mathbf{v}_{m,n}^{(i)} = \mathbf{q}_{m,n+1}^{(i-\ell_1)} - \mathbf{q}_{m,n}^{(i+\ell_2-\ell_1)}.$$

The quantity $\mathbf{q}_{m,n}^{(i)}$ is a function of $\mathbf{u}_{m,n}$ only, but the n -shift introduces $\mathbf{v}_{m,n}$ through the discrete system.

This whole structure can be repeated for continuous flows in the n -direction:

$$\partial_s \Psi_{m,n} = (V_{m,n} + \lambda \Omega^{\ell_2})^{-1} R_{m,n} \Psi_{m,n},$$

with the simplest choice being that $R_{m,n}$ is λ -independent.

Example: $N = 2$: Level structure $(k_1, \ell_1) = (0, 1)$.

Matrix $Q_{m,n}$ has entries:

$$q_{m,n}^{(0)} = \frac{1}{u_{m-1,n}^{(0)} + u_{m,n}^{(1)}}, \quad q_{m,n}^{(1)} = \frac{u_{m-1,n}^{(0)}}{u_{m,n}^{(0)} (u_{m-1,n}^{(0)} + u_{m,n}^{(1)})}$$

The corresponding symmetries are

$$\partial_t u_{m,n}^{(0)} = q_{m+1,n}^{(1)} - q_{m,n}^{(0)}, \quad \partial_t u_{m,n}^{(1)} = q_{m+1,n}^{(0)} - q_{m,n}^{(1)}.$$

This lowest symmetry depends upon

$$\mathbf{u}_{m-1,n}, \quad \mathbf{u}_{m,n}, \quad \mathbf{u}_{m+1,n}.$$

Example: $N = 3$: Level structure $(k_1, \ell_1) = (0, 1)$.

Matrix $Q_{m,n}$ has entries:

$$q_{m,n}^{(0)} = \frac{u_{m-1,n}^{(1)}}{u_{m,n}^{(1)}} q_{m,n}^{(1)}, \quad q_{m,n}^{(1)} = \frac{1}{\Gamma}, \quad q_{m,n}^{(2)} = \frac{u_{m-1,n}^{(0)} u_{m-1,n}^{(1)}}{u_{m,n}^{(0)} u_{m,n}^{(1)}} q_{m,n}^{(1)},$$

where

$$\Gamma = u_{m-1,n}^{(0)} u_{m-1,n}^{(1)} + u_{m,n}^{(0)} u_{m,n}^{(2)} + u_{m-1,n}^{(1)} u_{m,n}^{(2)}.$$

The corresponding symmetries are

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t u_{m,n}^{(0)} &= q_{m+1,n}^{(2)} - q_{m,n}^{(0)}, & \partial_t u_{m,n}^{(1)} &= q_{m+1,n}^{(0)} - q_{m,n}^{(1)}, \\ \partial_t u_{m,n}^{(2)} &= q_{m+1,n}^{(1)} - q_{m,n}^{(2)}. \end{aligned}$$

Master symmetry X^M :

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_\tau u_{m,n}^{(i)} &= (m+1)q_{m+1,n}^{(i-\ell_1)} - mq_{m,n}^{(i)}, & \partial_\tau \mathbf{a} &= \mathbf{1}, \\ \partial_\tau v_{m,n}^{(i)} &= m(q_{m,n+1}^{(i-\ell_1)} - q_{m,n}^{(i+\ell_2-\ell_1)}), & \partial_\tau \mathbf{b} &= \mathbf{0},\end{aligned}$$

satisfies

$$[[X^M, X^1], X^1] = 0, \quad \text{whilst } [X^M, X^1] \neq 0.$$

where X^1, X^M are the vector fields corresponding to ∂_{t_1} and ∂_τ .

X^k is defined recursively by $X^{k+1} = [X^M, X^k]$.

X^1 depends upon $(\mathbf{u}_{m-1,n}, \mathbf{u}_{m,n}, \mathbf{u}_{m+1,n})$.

X^2 depends upon $(\mathbf{u}_{m-2,n}, \mathbf{u}_{m-1,n}, \mathbf{u}_{m,n}, \mathbf{u}_{m+1,n}, \mathbf{u}_{m+2,n})$.

Quotient Potential form of symmetries:

$$\partial_t \phi_{m,n}^{(i)} = \alpha^{-1} q_{m,n}^{(i-\ell_1)} \phi_{m-1,n}^{(i+k_1)} - \frac{\phi_{m,n}^{(i)}}{N\alpha^N},$$

with master symmetry

$$\partial_\tau \phi_{m,n}^{(i)} = m \alpha^{-1} q_{m,n}^{(i-\ell_1)} \phi_{m-1,n}^{(i+k_1)} - \frac{m \phi_{m,n}^{(i)}}{N\alpha^N},$$

and similarly for the **s**-symmetries.

Additive Potential forms of symmetries:

$$\partial_t \chi_{m,n}^{(i)} = q_{m,n}^{(i-\ell_1)}, \quad \partial_s \chi_{m,n}^{(i)} = r_{m,n}^{(i-\ell_2)}, \quad i \in \mathbb{Z}_N,$$

with master symmetries

$$\partial_\tau \chi_{m,n}^{(i)} = m \partial_t \chi_{m,n}^{(i)}, \quad \partial_\tau \alpha = \frac{1}{N\alpha^{N-1}}, \quad i \in \mathbb{Z}_N,$$

and similarly for ∂_σ .

Conclusions:

- ▶ The general scheme we introduced has led to a unified description of many **known** discrete integrable systems.
- ▶ Each of these is generalised to arbitrary N dimensions.
- ▶ Many **new** systems are included.
- ▶ Multicoloured lattices.
- ▶ Continuous symmetries and master symmetries: classification and hierarchies.
- ▶ Nonlocal symmetries and Bäcklund Transformations of the 2D Toda Lattice.
- ▶ Nonlinear superposition formula as Discrete Integrable Systems.