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On the Lagrangian multiform structure of the extended lattice Boussinesq system

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Abstract

The lattice Boussinesq (IBSQ) equation is a member of the lattice Gel'fand-Dikii (IGD) hierarchy, introduced in [17], which is an infinite family of integrable systems of partial difference equations labelled by an integer N , where $N = 2$ represents the lattice Korteweg-de Vries (KdV) system, and $N = 3$ the Boussinesq system. In [6] it was shown that, written as three-component system, the IBSQ system allows for extra parameters which essentially amounts to building the lattice KdV inside the IBSQ. In this paper we show that, on the level of the Lagrangian structure, this boils down to a linear combination of Lagrangians from the members of the IGD hierarchy as was established in [10]. The corresponding Lagrangian multiform structure is shown to exhibit a ‘double zero’ structure.

Dedicated to the memory of Decio Levi

1 Introduction

The extended lattice Boussinesq (IBSQ) system is given by the coupled system of partial difference equations (PΔEs)

$$\frac{\alpha_1(p-q) - \alpha_2(p^2 - q^2) + \alpha_3(p^3 - q^3)}{p - q + \widehat{u} - \widetilde{u}} = \alpha_1 - \alpha_2(p + q + u - \widehat{u}) + \alpha_3 \left[\widehat{v} - w + (p + q + u)(p + q - \widehat{u}) - pq \right], \quad (1.1a)$$

$$\widehat{v} - \widetilde{v} = (p - q + \widehat{u} - \widetilde{u})\widehat{u} + q\widetilde{u} - p\widehat{u}, \quad (1.1b)$$

$$\widehat{w} - \widetilde{w} = -(p - q + \widehat{u} - \widetilde{u})u + p\widetilde{u} - q\widehat{u}, \quad (1.1c)$$

for the dependent variable fields $u = u(n, m)$, $v = v(n, m)$ and $w(n, m)$ depending on discrete independent variables n, m , where the $\tilde{}$ and $\hat{}$ denote elementary shifts on the lattice, i.e.

$$\tilde{u} = u(n + 1, m), \quad \hat{u} = u(n, m + 1), \quad \widehat{\tilde{u}} = u(n + 1, m + 1),$$

and similarly for the fields v and w . In (1.1), p and q are lattice parameters associated with the variables n, m respectively, whereas the α_i , $i = 1, 2, 3$ are fixed parameters. While the ‘pure’ lattice BSQ equation (i.e., the case that $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0$) was introduced in [17], Hietarinta in [6] by a systematic search of integrable cases found the extension of the IBSQ system with the additional parameters. These extra parameters were subsequently understood from the point of view of the ‘direct linearization method’ in [24] and extended to the entire lattice Gel’fand-Dikii (IGD) hierarchy. In fact, the extra parameters arise from an unfolding of the underlying dispersion curve, which is singular in the pure IBSQ case. Consequently, the soliton solutions associated with the extended IBSQ system exhibit a physically more regular (forsooth non-singular) behaviour as was demonstrated in e.g. [8].

In a separate development, the notion of Lagrangian multiforms was introduced in [9] in order to provide a variational framework for the phenomenon of multidimensional consistency (MDC), (as exhibited for instance by the system (1.1)): the key aspect of integrability that multiple equations, in terms of a multitude of independent variables, can be imposed on one and the same dependent variable such that they allow for nontrivial common solutions (i.e. implying that those equations are mutually compatible). In the Lagrangian multiform framework, the Lagrangians are components of a differential- or difference d -form L (d corresponding to the dimensionality of the equations, i.e. the necessary minimal set of independent variables appearing in each of the equations of the MDC system) and they are integrated over arbitrary d -dimensional hypersurfaces in an embedding space of arbitrary dimensionality to give the relevant action functional $\mathcal{S}[\mathbf{u}; \sigma]$ which is a functional of both the field variables $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x})$ (where \mathbf{x} denotes the set of independent variables) as well as of the hypersurfaces σ in the space of independent variables. The key new feature is that the least action principle is to find the critical point for simultaneously varying the dependent variables as well as under deformations of the surfaces σ . This means that at the critical value of the field variables the action is invariant under local deformations of the surfaces of integration, which implies that they must obey a set of (extended) Euler-Lagrange (EL) equations that possess the MDC property, as they must obey simultaneously compatible EL equations on all choices of surfaces (subject to fixed boundary conditions). Since its inception, this theory has been elaborated for many examples, in particular to the case of the IGD hierarchy, [10], where a Lagrangian multiform structure was presented for the entire hierarchy in terms of a single Lagrangian for each N . In the present paper we focus on the case $N = 3$ but show that the Lagrangians for the hierarchy up to this level can be ‘summed up’, in the sense of a linear combination of Lagrangians, where the parameters α_i of the extended case emerge naturally. We further demonstrate, going beyond the results of [10], that this Lagrangian multiform possesses a ‘double-zero structure’ in the sense of [21], (cf. also [22, 13, 5, 4]) where it was shown that the exterior derivative of the Lagrangian multiform for continuous MDC systems breaks down into sums of products of factors which vanish on solutions of the EL equations¹.

¹Similar double-zero structures were recently exhibited by Vermeeren in the discrete case, cf. [23].

2 The extended lattice Boussinesq Lagrangians

A Lagrangian for the pure lattice Boussinesq equation in scalar form, which is a 9-point equation for the field u , obtained by eliminating v and w from the system (1.1), was given in [17]. Associated 9-point lattice systems are the lattice modified Boussinesq (IMBSQ) equation, derived in the same paper, and lattice Schwarzian Boussinesq (LSBSQ) equation, [15], while the parameter extension (coined NQC (Nijhoff-Quispel-Capel) type BSQ equation, as it can be thought of as the rank 3 version of the primary lattice equation found in [18]) was found in [24], cf. also [19]. From these higher-order equations which go beyond the well-studied case of quad equations, only for the IMBSQ a Lagrangian structure has so far been found, [2], while for the Schwarzian variants of the IBSQ no Lagrangian structure so far exists.

The Lagrangian for the IBSQ we will consider here, reads

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{pq}^{(3)} &= (p^3 - q^3) \ln(p - q + \widehat{u} - \widetilde{u}) + (p^2 + pq + q^2)(\widehat{u} - \widetilde{u}) \\ &\quad - (p + q + u)(p + q - \widehat{\widetilde{u}})(p - q + \widehat{u} - \widetilde{u}) + \widehat{\widetilde{u}}(q\widetilde{u} - p\widehat{u}) , \end{aligned} \quad (2.2)$$

which differs from the Lagrangian given in [17] through the presence of some linear difference terms, which are unimportant for the conventional EL equations, leading to a the 9-point scalar equation which is the IBSQ. However, these total difference terms are important for the so-called *corner equations* and for the ‘double-zero’ structure of the IBSQ system (in analogy to the double-zero phenomenon that appeared in the continuous Lagrangian multiform structures, cf. [21]). We supplement the IBSQ Lagrangian (2.2) with the Lagrangian for the lattice (potential) Korteweg-de Vries (IKdV) in the following form

$$\mathcal{L}_{pq}^{(2)} = (q^2 - p^2) \ln(p - q + \widehat{u} - \widetilde{u}) + u(\widehat{u} - \widetilde{u}) + (p - q)(u - \widehat{\widetilde{u}}) . \quad (2.3)$$

Here also we include linear terms, which do not contribute to the usual discrete EL equations, in comparison to the original IKdV Lagrangian that was first found in [3], again for reasons mentioned above. Furthermore, we also add the ‘trivial’ Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L}_{pq}^{(1)} = (p - q) \ln(p - q + \widehat{u} - \widetilde{u}) , \quad (2.4)$$

the EL equation of which leads to the linear PΔE: $\widehat{u} + \widetilde{u} - 2u = 0$, with the under-accents denoting the backward shifts.

It turns out that the linear combination of these Lagrangians

$$\mathcal{L}_{pq} = \alpha_1 \mathcal{L}_{pq}^{(1)} + \alpha_2 \mathcal{L}_{pq}^{(2)} + \alpha_3 \mathcal{L}_{pq}^{(3)} \quad (2.5)$$

forms the Lagrangian for the extended IBSQ system, whose conventional EL equation leads to the 9-point equation that is obtained from the system (1.1) by eliminating the fields v and w :

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{P - Q}{p - q + u - \widehat{\widetilde{u}}} - \frac{P - Q}{p - q + \widehat{\widetilde{u}} - u} &= (\alpha_3(p + q) - \alpha_2) \left(\widehat{u} + \underline{u} - \widetilde{u} - \underline{\underline{u}} \right) \\ &+ \alpha_3 \left[\underline{u} \widehat{u} - \underline{\widetilde{u}} + p(\widehat{u} + \underline{u}) - q(\widetilde{u} + \underline{\underline{u}}) \right. \\ &\quad \left. - (p - q + \widehat{u} - \widetilde{u}) \widehat{\widetilde{u}} - (p - q + \underline{u} - \underline{\underline{u}}) \underline{\underline{\underline{u}}} \right] , \end{aligned} \quad (2.6)$$

in which $P = \alpha_1 p - \alpha_2 p^2 + \alpha_3 p^3$, $Q = \alpha_1 q - \alpha_2 q^2 + \alpha_3 q^3$. So far this establishes the conventional Lagrangian structure for the extended IBSQ system. We now proceed to establishing the multiform structure.

3 The extended lattice Boussinesq Lagrangian multiform structure

For 2-dimensional integrable lattice equations we expect a discrete Lagrangian 2-form structure which can be written as

$$\mathbb{L} = \sum_{i < j} \mathcal{L}_{p_i p_j} \delta_{p_i} \wedge \delta_{p_j} , \quad (3.7)$$

where the $\mathcal{L}_{p_i p_j}$ are the Lagrangian components for any two directions indicated by the lattice parameters p_i, p_j of multidimensional regular lattice of, in principle, arbitrary dimension. The parameters p and q of the previous section are just two possible choices for the parameters p_i , among many additional parameters, and with each parameter there is a discrete lattice variable n_{p_i} playing the role of coordinates for the i^{th} direction in that multidimensional lattice. In (3.7) the δ_p denotes a *discrete differential*², i.e. a formal symbol indicating that in the action functional

$$S[u(\mathbf{n}); \sigma] = \sum_{\sigma} \mathbb{L} = \sum_{\sigma_{ij} \in \sigma} \mathcal{L}_{p_i p_j} \delta_{p_i} \wedge \delta_{p_j} , \quad (3.8)$$

the Lagrangian contributions from all elementary quads $\sigma_{ij} = (\mathbf{n}, \mathbf{n} + \mathbf{e}_i, \mathbf{n} + \mathbf{e}_j)$ (with elementary displacement vectors \mathbf{e}_i along the edges in the lattice associated with the lattice parameter p_i) are simply summed up according to their base point \mathbf{n} and their orientation.

According to the derivation proposed in [11], the set of multiform EL equations is obtained by considering the smallest closed quad-surface, which is simply an elementary cube, and the action of which is given by

$$S[u(\mathbf{n}); \text{cube}] =: (\square \mathcal{L})_{pqr} = \Delta_p \mathcal{L}_{qr} + \Delta_q \mathcal{L}_{rp} + \Delta_r \mathcal{L}_{pq} , \quad (3.9)$$

where $\Delta_p = T_p - \text{id}$ is the forward difference operator in the direction labeled by p , and where T_p denotes the elementary forward shift operator in that direction, i.e.

$$T_p u(\cdots, n_p, \cdots) = u(\cdots, n_p + 1, \cdots) = u(\mathbf{n} + \mathbf{e}_p) .$$

The fundamental EL equations of the multiform are obtained by taking partial derivatives w.r.t. all the internal vertices, i.e. the variables $u, \tilde{u}, \hat{u}, \bar{u}$, which represent the shifts in all three directions n_p, n_q, n_r , and w.r.t. the variable with the combined shifts $\hat{\tilde{u}}, \hat{\bar{u}}, \tilde{\bar{u}}$, as well as w.r.t. the triply shifted $\hat{\tilde{\bar{u}}}$. With the cube action for the IBSQ ($N = 3$) contribution to the multiform calculated as

$$\begin{aligned} (\square \mathcal{L}^{(3)})_{pqr} &= (p^3 - q^3) \ln \left(\frac{p - q + \hat{\tilde{u}} - \tilde{\bar{u}}}{p - q + \hat{\bar{u}} - \tilde{\tilde{u}}} \right) - \hat{\tilde{u}}(q\tilde{u} - p\hat{u}) + \text{cycl.} \\ &- (p^2 + pq + q^2)(\hat{u} - \tilde{u}) - (p - q + \hat{\tilde{u}} - \tilde{\bar{u}})(p + q + \bar{u})(p + q - \hat{\bar{u}}) + \text{cycl.} \\ &+ (p^2 + pq + q^2)(\hat{\bar{u}} - \tilde{\tilde{u}}) + (p - q + \hat{u} - \tilde{u})(p + q + u)(p + q - \hat{\tilde{u}}) + \text{cycl.} , \end{aligned}$$

²The notation is similar to the one introduced in [12].

where +cycl. means adding two similar terms after cyclic permutations of p, q, r and the respective shifts $\tilde{\cdot}, \hat{\cdot}, \bar{\cdot}$. The contribution to the action from the IKdV components reads:

$$(\square\mathcal{L}^{(2)})_{pqr} = (q^2 - p^2) \ln \left(\frac{p - q + \hat{u} - \tilde{u}}{p - q + \bar{u} - \hat{u}} \right) + \bar{u}(\hat{u} - \tilde{u}) + (p - q)(\bar{u} + \hat{u}) + \text{cycl.}$$

Varying independently w.r.t. the variables u at all the internal vertices of the closed surface of the cube leads to the corner equations. Let us, for simplicity, treat the corner equations for the IKdV and IBSQ separately. First, for the IKdV component (setting here $\alpha_1 = \alpha_3 = 0, \alpha_2 = 1$) we have as only nontrivial contributions

$$\frac{\partial(\square\mathcal{L}^{(2)})_{pqr}}{\partial\bar{u}} = \left(\hat{u} - q + \frac{q^2 - r^2}{q - r + \bar{u} - \hat{u}} \right) - \left(\tilde{u} - p + \frac{p^2 - r^2}{p - r + \bar{u} - \tilde{u}} \right) = 0, \quad (3.10a)$$

$$\frac{\partial(\square\mathcal{L}^{(2)})_{pqr}}{\partial\hat{u}} = \left(-\tilde{u} - q + \frac{q^2 - r^2}{q - r + \tilde{u} - \hat{u}} \right) - \left(-\hat{u} - p + \frac{p^2 - r^2}{p - r + \hat{u} - \tilde{u}} \right) = 0. \quad (3.10b)$$

Since (3.10a) and (3.10b) must hold for every p, q (and corresponding lattice shifts) while fixing r , it is evident that we deduce the two conditions

$$\hat{u} - q + \frac{q^2 - r^2}{q - r + \bar{u} - \hat{u}} = f_r, \quad -\tilde{u} - q + \frac{q^2 - r^2}{q - r + \tilde{u} - \hat{u}} = \hat{g}_r,$$

where f_r and g_r are independent of p, q and their corresponding lattice shifts, the only consistent choice being $f_r = r_0 + u, g_r = r_0 - \bar{u}$ (where r_0 is an arbitrary constant which may only depend on the parameter r), and which leads to the lattice potential KdV equation as a quad-lattice equation.

Let us next consider the corner equations for the IBSQ components $\mathcal{L}^{(3)}$ of the multiform. In what follows we will use the abbreviations

$$\Gamma_{pq} := p - q + T_q u - T_p u, \quad \Gamma_{qr} := q - r + T_r u - T_q u, \quad \Gamma_{rp} := r - p + T_p u - T_r u,$$

with $T_p u = \tilde{u}, T_q u = \hat{u}, T_r u = \bar{u}$ and denote

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma_{pqr} &= \Gamma_{pq}(r + T_p T_q u) + \Gamma_{qr}(p + T_q T_r u) + \Gamma_{rp}(q + T_r T_p u) \\ &= (T_r \Gamma_{pq})(T_r u - r) + (T_p \Gamma_{qr})(T_p u - p) + (T_q \Gamma_{rp})(T_q u - q), \end{aligned}$$

where we note that $\Gamma_{pqr} = 0$ is actually the lattice Kadomtsev-Petviashvili (IKP) equation [16], which holds for the IBSQ solutions as a consequence of (1.1b) and (1.1c). From the

elementary cube action $(\square\mathcal{L}^{(3)})_{pqr}$ we obtain the following corner relations:

$$\frac{\partial(\square\mathcal{L}^{(3)})_{pqr}}{\partial u} = -\Gamma_{pqr} = 0, \quad (3.11a)$$

$$\frac{\partial(\square\mathcal{L}^{(3)})_{pqr}}{\partial \tilde{u}} = \Gamma_{pqr} = 0, \quad (3.11b)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial(\square\mathcal{L}^{(3)})_{pqr}}{\partial \bar{u}} &= \frac{r^3 - p^3}{r - p + \tilde{u} - \bar{u}} - \frac{q^3 - r^3}{q - r + \bar{u} - \hat{u}} - p\tilde{u} + q\hat{u} \\ &\quad + (p - q + \hat{u} - \tilde{u})(p + q - \hat{u}) + (r^2 + rp + p^2) - (q^2 + rq + r^2) \\ &\quad + (q + r + u)(q + r - \hat{u}) - (r + p + u)(r + p - \tilde{u}) = 0, \end{aligned} \quad (3.11c)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial(\square\mathcal{L}^{(3)})_{pqr}}{\partial \hat{u}} &= \frac{r^3 - p^3}{r - p + \hat{u} - \tilde{u}} - \frac{q^3 - r^3}{q - r + \tilde{u} - \hat{u}} + p\hat{u} - q\tilde{u} \\ &\quad - (p - q + \hat{u} - \tilde{u})(p + q + u) + (r^2 + rp + p^2) - (q^2 + rq + r^2) \\ &\quad + (q + r + \tilde{u})(q + r - \hat{u}) - (r + p + \hat{u})(r + p - \tilde{u}) = 0, \end{aligned} \quad (3.11d)$$

(and similar equations to (3.11c) and (3.11d) upon cyclic permutations) which form essentially the system of EL equations for the multiform action. We note that using the IKP equation $\Gamma_{pqr} = 0$ we can rewrite (3.11c) as

$$\begin{aligned} &\left[r^2 + rp + p^2 - p\tilde{u} + \frac{p^3 - r^3}{p - r + \bar{u} - \tilde{u}} - (r + p + u)(r + p - \tilde{u}) - (r + p - \tilde{u})(p - r + \bar{u} - \tilde{u}) \right] \\ &- \left[r^2 + rq + q^2 - q\hat{u} + \frac{q^3 - r^3}{q - r + \bar{u} - \hat{u}} - (r + q + u)(r + q - \hat{u}) - (r + q - \hat{u})(q - r + \bar{u} - \hat{u}) \right] = 0 \end{aligned}$$

and (3.11d) as

$$\begin{aligned} &\left[r^2 + rp + p^2 + p\hat{u} + \frac{p^3 - r^3}{p - r + \hat{u} - \tilde{u}} - (r + p + \hat{u})(r + p - \tilde{u}) + (r + p + \hat{u})(r - p + \hat{u} - \tilde{u}) \right] \\ &- \left[r^2 + rq + q^2 + q\tilde{u} + \frac{q^3 - r^3}{q - r + \tilde{u} - \hat{u}} - (r + q + \tilde{u})(r + q - \hat{u}) + (r + q + \tilde{u})(r - q + \hat{u} - \tilde{u}) \right] = 0, \end{aligned}$$

which hold for all p, q and their corresponding shifts, while fixing r . Thus we conclude that the following relations hold:

$$\begin{aligned} r^2 + rq + q^2 - q\hat{u} + \frac{q^3 - r^3}{q - r + \bar{u} - \hat{u}} - (r + q + u)(r + q - \hat{u}) - (r + q - \hat{u})(q - r + \bar{u} - \hat{u}) &= F_r \\ r^2 + rq + q^2 + q\tilde{u} + \frac{q^3 - r^3}{q - r + \tilde{u} - \hat{u}} - (r + q + \tilde{u})(r + q - \hat{u}) + (r + q + \tilde{u})(r - q + \hat{u} - \tilde{u}) &= \tilde{G}_r \end{aligned}$$

for all lattice parameters q and corresponding lattice shifts $\hat{\cdot}$, where F_r and G_r are independent of q and the associated shifts and only depends on r and may only involve (single or multiple) $\bar{\cdot}$ shifts acting on u . In fact, using (1.1) we have the identifications

$$F_r = 2r^2 + \bar{v} - w - r\bar{u}, \quad G_r = 2r^2 + \bar{v} - \underline{w} + r\underline{u},$$

but since the quantities v and w are not present in the Lagrangians, in these formulas the quantity $\bar{v} - w$ can be considered as a potential field. Eliminating this potential field, the ensuing relation $G_r - r\underline{u} = \underline{F}_r + r\bar{u}$ leads to the 9-point IBSQ equation (2.6) (for the choice made here, $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0$, $\alpha_3 = 1$).

We will now elucidate the double-zero structure of the IBSQ multiform.³ The double-zero structure for the extended IBSQ multiform is based on the following identities:

$$\begin{aligned} (\square\mathcal{L}^{(3)})_{pqr} = & - (p + q + r + u - \widehat{\bar{u}})\Gamma_{pqr} \\ & + p^3 \ln \left(\frac{\bar{\Gamma}_{pq}}{\Gamma_{pq}} \cdot \frac{\Gamma_{rp}}{\widehat{\Gamma}_{rp}} \right) + q^3 \ln \left(\frac{\widetilde{\Gamma}_{qr}}{\Gamma_{qr}} \cdot \frac{\Gamma_{pq}}{\bar{\Gamma}_{pq}} \right) + r^3 \ln \left(\frac{\widehat{\Gamma}_{rp}}{\Gamma_{rp}} \cdot \frac{\Gamma_{qr}}{\widetilde{\Gamma}_{qr}} \right) \end{aligned} \quad (3.12a)$$

for the IBSQ components and

$$(\square\mathcal{L}^{(2)})_{pqr} = \Gamma_{pqr} - p^2 \ln \left(\frac{\bar{\Gamma}_{pq}}{\Gamma_{pq}} \cdot \frac{\Gamma_{rp}}{\widehat{\Gamma}_{rp}} \right) - q^2 \ln \left(\frac{\widetilde{\Gamma}_{qr}}{\Gamma_{qr}} \cdot \frac{\Gamma_{pq}}{\bar{\Gamma}_{pq}} \right) - r^2 \ln \left(\frac{\widehat{\Gamma}_{rp}}{\Gamma_{rp}} \cdot \frac{\Gamma_{qr}}{\widetilde{\Gamma}_{qr}} \right) \quad (3.12b)$$

for the IKdV components, while for the linear components we have

$$(\square\mathcal{L}^{(1)})_{pqr} = p \ln \left(\frac{\bar{\Gamma}_{pq}}{\Gamma_{pq}} \cdot \frac{\Gamma_{rp}}{\widehat{\Gamma}_{rp}} \right) + q \ln \left(\frac{\widetilde{\Gamma}_{qr}}{\Gamma_{qr}} \cdot \frac{\Gamma_{pq}}{\bar{\Gamma}_{pq}} \right) + r \ln \left(\frac{\widehat{\Gamma}_{rp}}{\Gamma_{rp}} \cdot \frac{\Gamma_{qr}}{\widetilde{\Gamma}_{qr}} \right). \quad (3.12c)$$

In eqs. (3.12) the shifted functions Γ_{pq} are expressed as

$$\bar{\Gamma}_{pq} = p - q + \widehat{\bar{u}} - \widetilde{\bar{u}}, \quad \widetilde{\Gamma}_{qr} = q - r + \widetilde{\bar{u}} - \widehat{\bar{u}}, \quad \widehat{\Gamma}_{rp} = r - p + \widehat{\bar{u}} - \widetilde{\bar{u}},$$

where $\widehat{\bar{u}} = T_q T_r u$, $\widetilde{\bar{u}} = T_q T_p u$, $\widetilde{\bar{u}} = T_p T_r u$.

Now it is noted that both Γ_{pqr} and the factors within the logarithms, have a zero, resp. a logarithmic zero (i.e. where the factors equal unity) on solutions of the IKP equation. In fact, due to the identities:

$$\Gamma_{pqr} = \bar{\Gamma}_{pq}\Gamma_{qr} - \Gamma_{pq}\widetilde{\Gamma}_{qr} = \widetilde{\Gamma}_{qr}\Gamma_{rp} - \Gamma_{qr}\widehat{\Gamma}_{rp} = \widehat{\Gamma}_{rp}\Gamma_{pq} - \Gamma_{rp}\bar{\Gamma}_{pq},$$

we can factorise the exterior derivative of the extended Lagrangian multiform components (2.5) as follows

$$(\square\mathcal{L})_{pqr} = \Gamma_{pqr} \times \left[\alpha_2 - \alpha_3(p + q + r + u - \widehat{\bar{u}}) + \frac{1}{\Gamma_{pqr}} \left(P \ln \left(1 - \frac{\Gamma_{pqr}}{\Gamma_{pq}\widehat{\Gamma}_{rp}} \right) + \text{cycl.} \right) \right],$$

³Similar double-zero structures have been recently established in [20] for the Lagrangian multiforms for the well-known Adler-Bobenko-Suris (ABS, cf. [1]) list of integrable quad-equations. Lagrangians for those equations are based on 3-leg formulae for those quad equations, but these may not be universal for higher rank systems like the IBSQ system, and the latter does not share the same symmetries of the square. We note that the specific *log* structure in the Lagrangians, exploited here, holds for Lagrangians of the entire IGD hierarchy, and indeed also for the Lagrangians 3-forms for the lattice and semi-discrete versions of the KP equation, cf. [14].

where the terms from the logarithms in the second factor have a zero for $\Gamma_{pqr} = 0$. Thus, the multiform variational equations from $\delta(\square\mathcal{L})_{pqr} = 0$, yield two equations

$$\text{i) } \Gamma_{pqr} = 0, \quad (3.13a)$$

$$\text{ii) } \alpha_2 + \alpha_3 \widehat{u} = \alpha_3(p + q + r + u) + \frac{\Gamma_{rp}}{\widehat{\Gamma}_{rp}} \left(\frac{P}{\Gamma_{pq}\Gamma_{rp}} + \frac{Q}{\Gamma_{qr}\Gamma_{pq}} + \frac{R}{\Gamma_{rp}\Gamma_{qr}} \right), \quad (3.13b)$$

(in which in addition to P, Q , introduced earlier, we have $R = \alpha_1 r - \alpha_2 r^2 + \alpha_3 r^3$) where we have used in the expansions of the logarithms in the factor above that the higher order terms do not contribute on solutions of the LKP equation, $\Gamma_{pqr} = 0$, and that the prefactor in the second term on the r.h.s. of (3.13b) is invariant under cyclic permutations of the indices (again on solutions of the LKP equation). We can perhaps consider the second equation, (3.13b), as in some sense a BSQ ‘dual’ to the first equation.

From eqs. (3.13) a non-potential extended IBSQ system can be deduced in the following way. Fix r and the shift \bar{u} , and introduce the quantities $\Gamma_p := \Gamma_{pr}$ and $\Gamma_q := \Gamma_{qr}$. Then in terms of Γ_p, Γ_q we have the following coupled two-dimensional lattice system:

$$\frac{\widehat{\Gamma}_p}{\Gamma_p} = \frac{\widetilde{\Gamma}_q}{\Gamma_q}, \quad (3.14a)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_3 \left(\widehat{\widehat{\Gamma}}_p - \widehat{\widetilde{\Gamma}}_q - \Gamma_p + \Gamma_q \right) &= \frac{\widehat{\Gamma}_q}{\widehat{\widetilde{\Gamma}}_q} \left(\frac{P}{\widehat{\Gamma}_p(\widehat{\Gamma}_q - \widehat{\Gamma}_p)} + \frac{Q}{\widehat{\Gamma}_q(\widehat{\Gamma}_p - \widehat{\Gamma}_q)} - \frac{R}{\widehat{\Gamma}_p\widehat{\Gamma}_q} \right) \\ &\quad - \frac{\widetilde{\Gamma}_p}{\widetilde{\Gamma}_p} \left(\frac{P}{\widetilde{\Gamma}_p(\widetilde{\Gamma}_q - \widetilde{\Gamma}_p)} + \frac{Q}{\widetilde{\Gamma}_q(\widetilde{\Gamma}_p - \widetilde{\Gamma}_q)} - \frac{R}{\widetilde{\Gamma}_p\widetilde{\Gamma}_q} \right), \end{aligned} \quad (3.14b)$$

which may play the same role as the non-potential KdV equation, cf. [7], relative to the potential KdV quad-equation.

4 Discussion

It is almost evident that the Lagrangian multiform structure for the whole extended IGD hierarchy can be obtained by taking the earlier results from [10], and use the collection of Lagrangians for any N to construct the linear combination

$$\mathcal{L}_{pq} = \sum_{N=1}^M \alpha_N \mathcal{L}_{pq}^{(N)},$$

and do a resummation of the p, q -dependent factors therein. The resulting Lagrangian structure will necessarily have closure, as a consequence of the closure relation that was proven in the 2010 paper [10]. A technical difficulty is that as we climb in the IGD hierarchy the number of component fields will increase, while the Lagrangian components $\mathcal{L}^{(N)}$ for $N = 1, 2, 3$ as presented here are in terms of one scalar field. Furthermore, in [10] the notion of corner equations was not yet established, so some additional linear terms in the Lagrangians will need to be computed. We will postpone that work to a future publication. Furthermore, we speculate that in the limit that $M \rightarrow \infty$, i.e. the infinite-component case

of the IGD hierarchy, we may expect essentially that a Lagrangian multiform structure for the IKP system itself will appear. Even though, the equation $\Gamma_{pqr} = 0$ that appears at all levels in the IGD Lagrange structure, which is already the IKP equation, one should note that in this context it is constrained by the additional equations, which renders the solutions as essentially that of a 2-dimensional lattice field theory. However, in the limit $M \rightarrow \infty$ we expect to regain the unconstrained IKP system, which can be considered as a true 3-dimensional lattice field theory⁴.

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⁴An alternative formulation of the Lagrangian structure for the IKP system is developed in [14].

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