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## ON AN INDIRECT REPRESENTATION OF EVOLUTIONARY EQUATIONS IN THE FORM OF BIRKHOFF'S EQUATIONS

#### S.A. Budochkina, H.P. Vu

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Key words: evolutionary equations, Birkhoff's equations, Pfaffian action.

#### AMS Mathematics Subject Classification: 49D29, 35A15.

Abstract. In the paper, the problem of an indirect representation of an evolutionary operator equation with the first order time derivative in the form of an operator Birkhoff's equation is solved and the corresponding Pfaffian action is constructed.

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#### 1 Introduction

The following system of equations

$$N^{i}(u) \equiv \sum_{j=1}^{2n} \left( \frac{\partial \mathcal{R}_{j}}{\partial u^{i}} - \frac{\partial \mathcal{R}_{i}}{\partial u^{j}} \right) \dot{u}^{j} - \left[ \frac{\partial \mathcal{B}}{\partial u^{i}} + \frac{\partial \mathcal{R}_{i}}{\partial t} \right] = 0, \quad i = \overline{1, 2n},$$
(1.1)

is called Birkhoff's equations [14] and it is derived from the stationarity condition of the Pfaffian action

$$F_N[u] = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^{2n} \mathcal{R}_i(t, u) \cdot \dot{u}^i - \mathcal{B}(t, u) \right] dt.$$
(1.2)

Equations (1.1) were widely investigated, in particular, in [11, 14]. An operator approach to Birkhoff's equations was developed by V.M. Savchin in [16], where he proved that the problem of a direct representation of an evolutionary operator equation in the form of an operator Birkhoff's equation was closely related to the problem of constructing the corresponding Pfaffian action. There is a large number of works devoted to the construction of direct and indirect variational formulations of different types of equations and their systems (see, e.g., [3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23]). In classical mechanics there exist methods of construction generalized Lagrangians of systems based on the properties of their motion [8, 9]. It is well known [10, 11, 14], that Birkhoff's systems are generalizations of Hamiltonian ones. It should be noted that the problem of a direct and indirect representation of an operator equation with the first order time derivative in the form of Hamiltonian equation is investigated in [1, 2, 17].

In the paper, we apply Savchin's approach for investigaton of an indirect representation of an evolutionary operator equation in the form of an operator Birkhoff's equation.

Below, we use notations and terminology of [3, 4, 15, 18, 19].

The following theorem is needed for the sequel.

**Theorem 1.1.** [15] Consider an operator  $N : D(N) \subset U \to V$  and a bilinear form  $\Phi(\cdot, \cdot) : V \times V \to \mathbb{R}$  such that for any fixed elements  $u \in D(N)$ ,  $g, h \in D(N'_u)$  the function  $\psi(\varepsilon) = \Phi(N(u + \varepsilon h), g)$  belongs to the class  $C^1[0, 1]$ . For N to be potential on the convex set D(N) relative to  $\Phi$  it is necessary and sufficient to have

$$\Phi\left(N'_{u}h,g\right) = \Phi\left(N'_{u}g,h\right) \quad \forall u \in D\left(N\right), \,\forall h,g \in D\left(N'_{u}\right).$$
(1.3)

Under this condition the potential  $F_N$  is given by

$$F_{N}[u] = \int_{0}^{1} \Phi(N(\tilde{u}(\lambda)), u - u_{0}) d\lambda + F_{N}[u_{0}], \qquad (1.4)$$

where  $\tilde{u}(\lambda) = u_0 + \lambda(u - u_0)$ ,  $u_0$  is a fixed element of D(N).

## 2 Conditions of an indirect representation of an evolutionary operator equation with the first order time derivative in the form of an operator Birkhoff's equation

Consider an operator equation

$$N(u) \equiv P_{u,t}u_t + Q(t,u) = 0, \quad u \in D(N),$$

$$t \in [t_0, t_1] \subset \mathbb{R}, \quad u_t \equiv D_t u \equiv \frac{d}{dt}u.$$
(2.1)

Here  $\forall t \in [t_0, t_1], \forall u \in U_1 \ P_{u,t} : U_1 \to V_1$  is a linear operator;  $Q : [t_0, t_1] \times U_1 \to V_1$  is an arbitrary operator; D(N) is the domain of definition of the operator  $N, U = C^1([t_0, t_1]; U_1), V = C([t_0, t_1]; V_1), U_1, V_1$  are linear normed spaces,  $U_1 \subseteq V_1$ .

We will also write

$$N(u) \equiv P_u u_t + Q(u) = 0,$$

bearing in mind that the operators  $P_u$  and Q may also depend on t.

Operator equation (2.1) can be an ordinary differential equation, a differential equation with partial derivatives, an integro-differential equation, a differential-difference equation, etc., and a system of such equations (see, e.g., [7, 8, 12, 13, 15]).

We will assume that the bilinear form

$$\Phi(\cdot, \cdot) \equiv \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle \ dt : V \times V \to \mathbb{R}$$

is symmetric and nondegenerate.

Denote by  $N(u) = M_u N(u)$ , where  $M_u : D(M_u) \supset R(N) \to V$  and consider the following equation:

$$\tilde{N}(u) \equiv M_u P_u u_t + M_u Q(u) = 0.$$
(2.2)

**Theorem 2.1.** Let  $D_t$  be skew-symmetric on  $D(N'_u)$ . Equation (2.1) admits an indirect representation in the form of an operator Birkhoff's equation if and only if  $\forall u \in D(N), \forall t \in [t_0, t_1]$  the following conditions hold on  $D(N'_u)$ :

$$P_u^* M_u^* + M_u P_u = 0, (2.3)$$

On an indirect representation of evolutionary equations in the form of Birkhoff's equations

$$-\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(P_u^* M_u^*\right) + \left[M_u'\left(Q(u);\cdot\right)\right]^* + Q_u'^* M_u^* - M_u'\left(Q(u);\cdot\right) - M_u Q_u' = 0,$$

$$\left[M_u'\left(P_u u_t;\cdot\right)\right]^* + \left[P_u'\left(u_t;\cdot\right)\right]^* M_u^* - P_u''\left(M_u^*\left(\cdot\right);u_t\right) - P_u^* M_u^{*\prime}\left(\cdot;u_t\right)$$
(2.4)

*Proof.* We have

$$\tilde{N}'_{u}h = M'_{u}(P_{u}u_{t};h) + M_{u}P'_{u}(u_{t};h) + M_{u}P_{u}h_{t} + M'_{u}(Q(u);h) + M_{u}Q'_{u}h.$$

Further,

$$\begin{split} \Phi\left(\tilde{N}'_{u}h,g\right) &= \int_{t_{0}}^{t_{1}} \left\{ \langle M'_{u}\left(P_{u}u_{t};h\right),g \rangle + \langle M_{u}\left(P'_{u}\left(u_{t};h\right) + P_{u}h_{t}\right),g \rangle \right. \\ &+ \langle M'_{u}\left(Q\left(u\right);h\right),g \rangle + \langle M_{u}Q'_{u}h,g \rangle \right\} dt \\ &= \int_{t_{0}}^{t_{1}} \left\{ \left\langle h, \left[M'_{u}\left(P_{u}u_{t};\cdot\right)\right]^{*}g \right\rangle + \left\langle h, \left[P'_{u}\left(u_{t};\cdot\right)\right]^{*}M_{u}^{*}g \right\rangle - \left\langle h, \frac{\partial}{\partial t}\left(P_{u}^{*}M_{u}^{*}\right)g \right\rangle \right. \\ &- \langle h, P_{u}^{*'}\left(M_{u}^{*}g;u_{t}\right) \rangle - \langle h, P_{u}^{*}M_{u}^{*'}\left(g;u_{t}\right) \rangle - \langle h, P_{u}^{*}M_{u}^{*}g_{t} \rangle \\ &+ \langle h, \left[M'_{u}\left(Q\left(u\right);\cdot\right)\right]^{*}g \right\rangle + \langle h, Q'_{u}^{*}M_{u}^{*}g \rangle \right\} dt \end{split}$$
$$\\ &= \int_{t_{0}}^{t_{1}} \left\{ \left\langle h, \left\{ \left[M'_{u}\left(P_{u}u_{t};\cdot\right)\right]^{*} + \left[P'_{u}\left(u_{t};\cdot\right)\right]^{*}M_{u}^{*} - P_{u}^{*'}\left(M_{u}^{*}\left(\cdot\right);u_{t}\right) - P_{u}^{*}M_{u}^{*'}\left(\cdot;u_{t}\right) \right. \\ &- \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(P_{u}^{*}M_{u}^{*}\right) + \left[M'_{u}\left(Q\left(u\right);\cdot\right)\right]^{*} + \left. Q'_{u}^{*}M_{u}^{*} \right\} g \right\rangle - \langle h, P_{u}^{*}M_{u}^{*}g_{t} \rangle \right\} dt. \end{split}$$

On the other hand,

$$\Phi\left(\tilde{N}'_{u}g,h\right) = \int_{t_{0}}^{t_{1}} \left\{ \langle h, M'_{u}\left(P_{u}u_{t};g\right) + M_{u}P'_{u}\left(u_{t};g\right) + M'_{u}\left(Q(u);g\right) + M_{u}Q'_{u}g + M_{u}P_{u}g_{t} \rangle \right\} dt.$$

Thus, from condition (1.3) it follows that

$$[M'_{u}(P_{u}u_{t};\cdot)]^{*} + [P'_{u}(u_{t};\cdot)]^{*}M_{u}^{*} - P_{u}^{*'}(M_{u}^{*}(\cdot);u_{t}) - P_{u}^{*}M_{u}^{*'}(\cdot;u_{t}) - M'_{u}(P_{u}u_{t};\cdot) - M_{u}P'_{u}(u_{t};\cdot) - \frac{\partial}{\partial t}(P_{u}^{*}M_{u}^{*}) + [M'_{u}(Q(u);\cdot)]^{*} + Q'_{u}^{*}M_{u}^{*} - M'_{u}(Q(u);\cdot) - M_{u}Q'_{u} = 0,$$
$$P_{u}^{*}M_{u}^{*} + M_{u}P_{u} = 0.$$

Hence, conditions (2.3)-(2.5) are satisfied.

Remark 1. Denote by

$$\overline{P}_u = M_u P_u, \qquad \overline{Q}(u) = M_u Q(u).$$

Then conditions (2.3)-(2.5) can be written in the form

$$P_{u}^{*} + P_{u} = 0,$$
  
$$-\frac{\partial \overline{P}_{u}^{*}}{\partial t} + \overline{Q}_{u}^{\prime *} - \overline{Q}_{u}^{\prime} = 0,$$
  
$$\left[\overline{P}_{u}^{\prime}\left(u_{t};\cdot\right)\right]^{*} - \overline{P}_{u}^{*\prime}\left(\cdot;u_{t}\right) - \overline{P}_{u}^{\prime}\left(u_{t};\cdot\right) = 0.$$

**Remark 2.** If  $M_u \equiv I$  is the identity operator then from (2.3)-(2.5) we obtain

$$P_u^* + P_u = 0, (2.6)$$

$$-\frac{\partial P_u^*}{\partial t} + Q_u^{\prime *} - Q_u^{\prime} = 0, \qquad (2.7)$$

$$[P'_u(u_t;\cdot)]^* - P''_u(\cdot;u_t) - P'_u(u_t;\cdot) = 0.$$
(2.8)

Note that these are conditions of a direct representation of an operator equation with the first order time derivative in the form of operator Birkhoff's equation [16].

Remark 3. Consider a system of ordinary differential equations

$$N^{i}(u) \equiv \sum_{j=1}^{2n} \mathcal{C}_{ij}(t, u) \dot{u}^{j} + \mathcal{D}_{i}(t, u) = 0, \qquad i = \overline{1, 2n}.$$
(2.9)

In our case

$$P_{u} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{C}_{11} & \mathcal{C}_{12} & \dots & \mathcal{C}_{1,2n} \\ \mathcal{C}_{21} & \mathcal{C}_{22} & \dots & \mathcal{C}_{2,2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \mathcal{C}_{2n,1} & \mathcal{C}_{2n,2} & \dots & \mathcal{C}_{2n,2n} \end{pmatrix}, \qquad Q(u) = \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{D}_{1} \\ \mathcal{D}_{2} \\ \vdots \\ \mathcal{D}_{2n} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Let us assume that

$$M_{u} = \begin{pmatrix} M_{11} & M_{12} & \dots & M_{1,2n} \\ M_{21} & M_{22} & \dots & M_{2,2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ M_{2n,1} & M_{2n,2} & \dots & M_{2n,2n} \end{pmatrix},$$
(2.10)

where  $M_{ij} = M_{ij}(t, u), \ i, j = \overline{1, 2n}$ .

Denote by

$$\overline{\mathcal{C}}_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^{2n} M_{ik} \mathcal{C}_{kj}, \qquad \overline{\mathcal{D}}_i = \sum_{k=1}^{2n} M_{ik} \mathcal{D}_k, \qquad i, j = \overline{1, 2n}.$$

From (2.3)-(2.5), we get

$$\overline{\mathcal{C}}_{ij} + \overline{\mathcal{C}}_{ji} = 0, \tag{2.11}$$

$$\frac{\partial \overline{\mathbb{C}}_{ij}}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial \overline{\mathcal{D}}_i}{\partial u^j} - \frac{\partial \overline{\mathcal{D}}_j}{\partial u^i},\tag{2.12}$$

$$\frac{\partial \overline{\mathbf{C}}_{ij}}{\partial u^k} + \frac{\partial \overline{\mathbf{C}}_{ki}}{\partial u^j} + \frac{\partial \overline{\mathbf{C}}_{jk}}{\partial u^i} = 0, \quad i, j, k = \overline{1, 2n}.$$
(2.13)

Note that (2.11)-(2.13) are conditions of an indirect representation of system (2.9) in the form of classical Birkhoff's equations [11].

If (2.10) is the identity matrix, then conditions (2.11)-(2.13) take the form

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{C}_{ij} + \mathcal{C}_{ji} &= 0, \\ \frac{\partial \mathcal{C}_{ij}}{\partial t} &= \frac{\partial \mathcal{D}_i}{\partial u^j} - \frac{\partial \mathcal{D}_j}{\partial u^i}, \\ \frac{\partial \mathcal{C}_{ij}}{\partial u^k} + \frac{\partial \mathcal{C}_{ki}}{\partial u^j} + \frac{\partial \mathcal{C}_{jk}}{\partial u^i} &= 0, \quad i, j, k = \overline{1, 2n}. \end{aligned}$$

These are conditions of a direct representation of system (2.9) in the form of classical Birkhoff's equations [11].

## 3 Construction of a Pfaffian action

**Theorem 3.1.** If conditions (2.3) - (2.5) are fulfilled then the corresponding Pfaffian action is given by

$$F_{\widetilde{N}}\left[u\right] = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \left\{ \langle M_u \mathcal{R}(u), u_t \rangle + \mathcal{B}_M[u] \right\} dt + F_{\widetilde{N}}\left[u_0\right],$$
(3.1)

where

$$\Phi \left\langle M_u \mathcal{R}(u), u_t \right\rangle = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \int_{0}^{1} \left\langle -M_{\tilde{u}(\lambda)} P_{\tilde{u}(\lambda)}(u-u_0), \frac{\partial \tilde{u}(\lambda)}{\partial t} \right\rangle d\lambda dt, \qquad (3.2)$$

$$\mathcal{B}_{M}[u] = \int_{0}^{1} \left\langle M_{\tilde{u}(\lambda)}Q(\tilde{u}(\lambda)), u - u_{0} \right\rangle d\lambda, \qquad (3.3)$$

 $\tilde{u}(\lambda) = u_0 + \lambda(u - u_0); u_0 \text{ is a fixed element of } D(N).$ 

*Proof.* Taking into consideration formula (1.4) and condition (2.3) we get

$$\begin{split} F_{\widetilde{N}}\left[u\right] - F_{\widetilde{N}}\left[u_{0}\right] &= \int_{t_{0}}^{t_{1}} \int_{0}^{1} \left\langle \widetilde{N}\left(\widetilde{u}\left(\lambda\right)\right), u - u_{0} \right\rangle d\lambda dt \\ &= \int_{t_{0}}^{t_{1}} \int_{0}^{1} \left\langle M_{\widetilde{u}(\lambda)} P_{\widetilde{u}(\lambda)} \frac{\partial \widetilde{u}(\lambda)}{\partial t}, u - u_{0} \right\rangle d\lambda dt + \int_{t_{0}}^{t_{1}} \int_{0}^{1} \left\langle M_{\widetilde{u}(\lambda)} Q\left(\widetilde{u}(\lambda)\right), u - u_{0} \right\rangle d\lambda dt \\ &= \int_{t_{0}}^{t_{1}} \int_{0}^{1} \left\langle P_{\widetilde{u}(\lambda)}^{*} M_{\widetilde{u}(\lambda)}^{*}(u - u_{0}), \frac{\partial \widetilde{u}(\lambda)}{\partial t} \right\rangle d\lambda dt + \int_{t_{0}}^{t_{1}} \int_{0}^{1} \left\langle M_{\widetilde{u}(\lambda)} Q(\widetilde{u}(\lambda)), u - u_{0} \right\rangle d\lambda dt \\ &= \int_{t_{0}}^{t_{1}} \int_{0}^{1} \left\langle -M_{\widetilde{u}(\lambda)} P_{\widetilde{u}(\lambda)}(u - u_{0}), \frac{\partial \widetilde{u}(\lambda)}{\partial t} \right\rangle d\lambda dt + \int_{t_{0}}^{t_{1}} \int_{0}^{1} \left\langle M_{\widetilde{u}(\lambda)} Q(\widetilde{u}(\lambda)), u - u_{0} \right\rangle d\lambda dt. \end{split}$$

The use of (3.2), (3.3) yields Pfaffian action (3.1).

**Remark 4.** If  $M_u \equiv I$  is the identity operator and conditions (2.6)-(2.8) hold then the corresponding Pfaffian action is given by

$$F_{N}[u] = \int_{t_{0}}^{t_{1}} \{ \langle \mathcal{R}(u), u_{t} \rangle + \mathcal{B}[u] \} dt + F_{N}[u_{0}], \qquad (3.4)$$

where

$$\begin{split} \Phi \left\langle \mathcal{R}(u), u_t \right\rangle &= \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \int_{0}^{1} \left\langle -P_{\tilde{u}(\lambda)}(u-u_0), \frac{\partial \tilde{u}(\lambda)}{\partial t} \right\rangle d\lambda dt \\ \mathcal{B}[u] &= \int_{0}^{1} \left\langle Q(\tilde{u}(\lambda)), u-u_0 \right\rangle d\lambda, \end{split}$$

 $\tilde{u}(\lambda) = u_0 + \lambda(u - u_0); u_0 \text{ is a fixed element of } D(N).$ 

Note that Pfaffian action (3.4) was constructed in [16].

# 4 Birkhoffian structure of an evolutionary operator equation with the first order time derivative

**Theorem 4.1.** Conditions (2.3) - (2.5) are fulfilled if and only if equation (2.2) has the Birkhoffian structure

$$\tilde{N}(u) \equiv \overline{P}_u u_t + \overline{Q}(u) \equiv \left(\overline{\mathcal{R}}_u^{\prime *} - \overline{\mathcal{R}}_u^{\prime}\right) u_t - \frac{\partial \mathcal{R}}{\partial t}(u) + grad_{\Phi_1}\overline{\mathcal{B}}[u] = 0, \qquad (4.1)$$

where

$$\overline{P}_u = M_u P_u, \quad \overline{Q}(u) = M_u Q(u), \quad \overline{\mathcal{R}}(u) = M_u \mathcal{R}(u), \quad \overline{\mathcal{B}}[u] = \mathcal{B}_M[u].$$
(4.2)

*Proof.* Let conditions (2.3)-(2.5) be satisfied. Then the corresponding Pfaffian action is given by (3.1) and

$$\begin{split} \delta F_{\tilde{N}}[u,h] &= \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \left\{ \langle M'_u(\mathcal{R}(u);h), u_t \rangle + \langle M_u \mathcal{R}'_u h, u_t \rangle + \langle M_u \mathcal{R}(u), h_t \rangle \right. \\ &+ \langle grad_{\Phi_1} \mathcal{B}_M[u],h \rangle \right\} dt = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \left\{ \left\langle \left[ M'_u(\mathcal{R}(u);\cdot)\right]^* u_t,h \right\rangle + \langle h, \mathcal{R}'^*_u M^*_u u_t \rangle \right. \\ &- \left\langle \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left( M_u \mathcal{R}(u) \right) + M'_u \left( \mathcal{R}(u); u_t \right) + M_u \mathcal{R}'_u u_t,h \right\rangle + \left\langle grad_{\Phi_1} \mathcal{B}_M[u],h \rangle \right\} dt \\ &= \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \left\langle \tilde{N}(u),h \right\rangle dt. \end{split}$$

Hence

$$M_u P_u = [M'_u(\mathcal{R}(u); \cdot)]^* + \mathcal{R}'^*_u M^*_u - M'_u(\mathcal{R}(u); \cdot) - M_u \mathcal{R}'_u,$$
$$M_u Q(u) = -\frac{\partial}{\partial t} (M_u \mathcal{R}(u)) + grad_{\Phi_1} \mathcal{B}_M[u].$$

Bearing in mind notations (4.2), we obtain

$$\overline{P}_{u} = \overline{\mathcal{R}}_{u}^{\prime *} - \overline{\mathcal{R}}_{u}^{\prime},$$
$$\overline{Q}(u) = -\frac{\partial \overline{\mathcal{R}}}{\partial t}(u) + grad_{\Phi_{1}}\overline{\mathcal{B}}[u]$$

This means that equation (2.2) is of the Birkhoffian type and, therefore, equation (2.1) is indirectly represented in the form of an operator Birkhoff's equation.

On the other hand, let equation (2.2) be of the Birkhoffian structure. As it is shown above, equation (4.1) is derived from the stationarity condition of Pfaffian action (3.1). It signifies that operators  $P_u$  and Q must satisfy conditions (2.3)-(2.5).

**Remark 5.** If  $M_u \equiv I$  is the identity operator then

$$P_u = \mathcal{R}'^*_u - \mathcal{R}'_u,$$
$$Q(u) = -\frac{\partial \mathcal{R}}{\partial t}(u) + grad_{\Phi_1} \mathcal{B}[u],$$

i.e. equation (2.1) is directly represented in the form of an operator Birkhoff's equation

$$N(u) \equiv P_u u_t + Q(u) \equiv \left(\mathcal{R}'^*_u - \mathcal{R}'_u\right) u_t - \frac{\partial \mathcal{R}}{\partial t}(u) + grad_{\Phi_1} \mathcal{B}[u] = 0$$
(4.3)

(see [16]).

**Remark 6.** Suppose that

$$\mathcal{R} = (\mathcal{R}_1, \mathcal{R}_2, ..., \mathcal{R}_{2n})^T, \qquad \mathcal{B} = -\mathcal{B},$$

where  $\mathcal{R}_i$   $(i = \overline{1, 2n})$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$  are functions of the variable t and unknown vector function  $u(t) = (u^1(t), u^2(t), ..., u^{2n}(t))^T$ .

Then

$$\mathcal{R}'_{u} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial \mathcal{R}_{1}}{\partial u^{1}} & \frac{\partial \mathcal{R}_{1}}{\partial u^{2}} & \cdots & \frac{\partial \mathcal{R}_{1}}{\partial u^{2n}} \\ \frac{\partial \mathcal{R}_{2}}{\partial u^{1}} & \frac{\partial \mathcal{R}_{2}}{\partial u^{2}} & \cdots & \frac{\partial \mathcal{R}_{2}}{\partial u^{2n}} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial \mathcal{R}_{2n}}{\partial u^{1}} & \frac{\partial \mathcal{R}_{2n}}{\partial u^{2}} & \cdots & \frac{\partial \mathcal{R}_{2n}}{\partial u^{2n}} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathcal{R}'^{*}_{u} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial \mathcal{R}_{1}}{\partial u^{1}} & \frac{\partial \mathcal{R}_{2}}{\partial u^{1}} & \cdots & \frac{\partial \mathcal{R}_{2n}}{\partial u^{1}} \\ \frac{\partial \mathcal{R}_{1}}{\partial u^{2}} & \frac{\partial \mathcal{R}_{2}}{\partial u^{2}} & \cdots & \frac{\partial \mathcal{R}_{2n}}{\partial u^{2}} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial \mathcal{R}_{2n}}{\partial u^{1}} & \frac{\partial \mathcal{R}_{2n}}{\partial u^{2}} & \cdots & \frac{\partial \mathcal{R}_{2n}}{\partial u^{2n}} \end{pmatrix}$$

In this case, (3.4) is classical Pfaffian action (1.2) and from (4.3) we get the structure of classical Birkhoff's equations (1.1).

#### 5 Example

Consider the following partial differential equation:

$$N(u) \equiv \alpha u_t + \beta u_{txx} + f(x, t, u, u_x) = 0, \quad (x, t) \in \mathcal{Q} = (a, b) \times (t_0, t_1), \tag{5.1}$$

where  $\alpha, \beta$  are constants,  $f \in C^2(\overline{\mathbb{Q}} \times \mathbb{R}^2)$ .

Define D(N) by

$$D(N) = \{ u \in C^{3}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}) : u|_{t=t_{0}} = \varphi_{1}(x), \ u|_{t=t_{1}} = \varphi_{2}(x) \ (x \in (a, b)), \ u|_{x=a} = \psi_{1}(t), \\ u|_{x=b} = \psi_{2}(t), \ u_{x}|_{x=a} = \psi_{3}(t), \ u_{tx}|_{x=a} = 0, \ \int^{b} u(x, t) dx = \psi_{4}(t) \ (t \in (t_{0}, t_{1})) \},$$
(5.2)

a

where  $\varphi_i$  (i = 1, 2),  $\psi_j$   $(j = \overline{1, 4})$  are continuous functions.

We introduce the classical bilinear form

$$\Phi(v,g) = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \int_{a}^{b} v(x,t)g(x,t)dxdt.$$
(5.3)

In this case

$$P_u \equiv P = \alpha I + \beta D_x^2, \qquad Q(u) = f(x, t, u, u_x),$$

where I is the identity operator.

Note that equation (5.1) does not admit a direct representation in the form of operator Birkhoff's equation, because  $P = P^*$  and condition (2.6) is not fulfilled.

Let  $M = D_x^{-1}$ , where

$$D_x^{-1}v(x,t) = \int_a^x v(y,t)dy$$

Equation (5.1) admits an indirect representation in the form of operator Birkhoff's equation if and only if  $\forall u \in D(N), \ \forall t \in [t_0, t_1]$  the following condition holds on  $D(N'_u)$ :

$$-\frac{\partial f}{\partial u}D_x^{-1} + D_x\left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial u_x}\right)D_x^{-1} - D_x^{-1}\left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial u}\left(\cdot\right)\right) + D_x^{-1}\left(D_x\left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial u_x}\right)\left(\cdot\right)\right) = 0.$$
(5.4)

Indeed, we have

$$M^* = -D_x^{-1}, \qquad Q'_u = \frac{\partial f}{\partial u} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial u_x} D_x, \qquad Q'^*_u = \frac{\partial f}{\partial u} - D_x \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial u_x}\right) - \frac{\partial f}{\partial u_x} D_x$$

and

$$(2.3) \Longrightarrow -\alpha D_x^{-1}h - \beta h_x + \alpha D_x^{-1}h + \beta h_x = 0,$$

$$(2.4) \Longrightarrow -\frac{\partial f}{\partial u} D_x^{-1}h + D_x \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial u_x}\right) D_x^{-1}h + \frac{\partial f}{\partial u_x}h - D_x^{-1} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial u}h\right) - D_x^{-1} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial u_x}h_x\right)$$

$$= -\frac{\partial f}{\partial u} D_x^{-1}h + D_x \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial u_x}\right) D_x^{-1}h + \frac{\partial f}{\partial u_x}h - D_x^{-1} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial u}h\right) - \frac{\partial f}{\partial u_x}h + D_x^{-1} \left(D_x \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial u_x}\right)h\right)$$

$$= -\frac{\partial f}{\partial u} D_x^{-1}h + D_x \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial u_x}\right) D_x^{-1}h - D_x^{-1} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial u}h\right) + D_x^{-1} \left(D_x \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial u_x}\right)h\right) = 0,$$

$$(2.5) \Longrightarrow 0 = 0.$$

Hence, from condition (2.4) we obtain condition (5.4). From (3.2) we find

$$\mathcal{R} = -\frac{1}{2}\alpha I - \frac{1}{2}\beta D_x^2.$$

Note that under condition (5.4) the following operator

$$N_1(u) \equiv D_x^{-1} f(x, t, u, u_x)$$

is potential on D(N) (5.2) relative to bilinear form (5.3) and in this case

$$\mathcal{B}_M[u] \equiv B_M[u] - B_M[u_0] = \int_0^1 \int_a^b D_x^{-1} f(x, t, \tilde{u}(\lambda), \tilde{u}_x(\lambda)) \cdot (u - u_0) dx d\lambda,$$

where  $\tilde{u}(\lambda) = u_0 + \lambda(u - u_0)$ ;  $u_0$  is a fixed element of D(N).

So functional (3.1) takes the form

$$F_{\widetilde{N}}\left[u\right] = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} \int_a^b \left(\alpha D_x^{-1} u \cdot u_t + \beta u_x u_t\right) dx + B_M[u] \right\} dt.$$

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