

# Simple Lie algebras, Drinfeld–Sokolov hierarchies, and multi-point correlation functions

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## Abstract

For a simple Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$ , we derive a simple algorithm for computing logarithmic derivatives of tau-functions of Drinfeld–Sokolov hierarchy of  $\mathfrak{g}$ -type in terms of  $\mathfrak{g}$ -valued resolvents. We show, for the topological solution to the lowest-weight-gauge Drinfeld–Sokolov hierarchy of  $\mathfrak{g}$ -type, the resolvents evaluated at zero satisfy the *topological ODE*.

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# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Simple Lie algebra and Drinfeld–Sokolov hierarchy

Let  $\mathfrak{g}$  be a simple Lie algebra over  $\mathbb{C}$  of rank  $n$ , with the Lie bracket denoted by  $[\cdot, \cdot]$ . Let  $\text{ad} : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \text{gl}(\mathfrak{g})$  be the adjoint representation of  $\mathfrak{g}$ . We denote by  $h, h^\vee$  the Coxeter and dual Coxeter numbers [40] of  $\mathfrak{g}$ , and  $m_1 = 1 < m_2 \leq \dots \leq m_{n-1} < m_n = h - 1$  the exponents. Denote  $(\cdot|\cdot) : \mathfrak{g} \times \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  the *normalized* Cartan–Killing [14] form

$$(x|y) := \frac{1}{2h^\vee} \text{tr}(\text{ad}_x \cdot \text{ad}_y), \quad \forall x, y \in \mathfrak{g}. \quad (1.1.1)$$

Fix a Cartan subalgebra  $\mathfrak{h} \subset \mathfrak{g}$ , and let  $\Delta \subset \mathfrak{h}^*$  be the root system. We choose a set of simple roots  $\Pi = \{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n\} \subset \mathfrak{h}^*$ . Then  $\mathfrak{g}$  has the root space decomposition

$$\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{h} \oplus \bigoplus_{\alpha \in \Delta} \mathfrak{g}_\alpha.$$

For any  $\alpha \in \Delta$ , denote by  $H_\alpha$  the unique element in  $\mathfrak{h}$  such that  $(H_\alpha|X) = \alpha(X)$ ,  $\forall X \in \mathfrak{h}$ . The normalized Cartan–Killing form induces naturally a bilinear inner product on  $\mathfrak{h}^*$  :

$$(\alpha|\beta) = (H_\alpha|H_\beta), \quad \forall \alpha, \beta \in \mathfrak{h}^*.$$

Denote by  $E_i \in \mathfrak{g}_{\alpha_i}$ ,  $F_i \in \mathfrak{g}_{-\alpha_i}$ ,  $H_i = 2H_{\alpha_i}/(\alpha_i|\alpha_i)$  the Weyl generators of  $\mathfrak{g}$ . They satisfy

$$[E_i, F_i] = H_i \delta_{ij}, \quad [H_i, E_j] = A_{ij} E_j, \quad [H_i, F_j] = -A_{ij} F_j$$

where  $(A_{ij})$  denotes the Cartan matrix associated to  $(\mathfrak{g}, \Pi)$ , and  $\delta_{ij}$  is the Kronecker delta. Here and below, free Latin indices take integer values from 1 to  $n$  unless otherwise indicated.

Let  $\theta$  be the highest root w.r.t.  $\Pi$ ; recall that  $(\theta|\theta) = 2$ . We choose  $E_{-\theta} \in \mathfrak{g}_{-\theta}$ ,  $E_\theta \in \mathfrak{g}_\theta$ , normalized by the conditions  $(E_\theta|E_{-\theta}) = 1$  and  $\omega(E_{-\theta}) = -E_\theta$ , where  $\omega : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}$  is the Chevalley involution. Let

$$I_+ := \sum_{i=1}^n E_i \quad (1.1.2)$$

be a principal nilpotent element of  $\mathfrak{g}$ . Define

$$\Lambda = I_+ + \lambda E_{-\theta}. \quad (1.1.3)$$

Denote by  $L(\mathfrak{g}) = \mathfrak{g} \otimes \mathbb{C}[\lambda, \lambda^{-1}]$  the loop algebra of  $\mathfrak{g}$ . The Lie bracket  $[\cdot, \cdot]$  and the Cartan–Killing form  $B(\cdot, \cdot)$  extend naturally to  $L(\mathfrak{g})$ . We have

$$L(\mathfrak{g}) = \text{Ker ad}_\Lambda \oplus \text{Im ad}_\Lambda, \quad \text{Ker ad}_\Lambda \perp \text{Im ad}_\Lambda. \quad (1.1.4)$$

Recall that the *principal gradation* on  $L(\mathfrak{g})$  is defined by

$$\deg \lambda = h, \quad \deg E_i = -\deg F_i = 1, \quad i = 1, \dots, n.$$

Observe that

$$\deg \Lambda = 1.$$

This gradation is of course also defined on  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g} \otimes 1$ . With the principal gradation, the loop algebra  $L(\mathfrak{g})$  and the simple Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$  decompose into direct sums of homogeneous subspaces  $L(\mathfrak{g})^j, \mathfrak{g}^j, j \in \mathbb{Z}$ :

$$L(\mathfrak{g}) = \bigoplus_{j \in \mathbb{Z}} L(\mathfrak{g})^j, \quad \mathfrak{g} = \bigoplus_{j=-(h-1)}^{h-1} \mathfrak{g}^j.$$

We will denote the projection onto the nonnegative subspace by  $(\bullet)^+ : L(\mathfrak{g}) \rightarrow \sum_{j \geq 0} L(\mathfrak{g})^j$ , and onto the negative subspace by  $(\bullet)^-$ . It is known [39] that  $\text{Ker ad}_\Lambda \subset L(\mathfrak{g})$  admits the following decomposition

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Ker ad}_\Lambda &= \bigoplus_{j \in E} \mathbb{C} \Lambda_j, \quad \Lambda_j \in L(\mathfrak{g})^j, j \in E, \\ [\Lambda_i, \Lambda_j] &= 0, \quad \forall i, j \in E. \end{aligned}$$

Here,  $E := \bigsqcup_{i=1}^n (m_i + h\mathbb{Z})$ . We choose normalizations of  $\Lambda_j, j \in E$  satisfying

$$\Lambda_{m_a + kh} = \Lambda_{m_a} \lambda^k, \quad k \in \mathbb{Z}, \quad (1.1.5)$$

$$(\Lambda_{m_a} | \Lambda_{m_b}) = h \eta_{ab} \lambda. \quad (1.1.6)$$

Here and below,

$$\eta_{ab} := \delta_{a+b, n+1}. \quad (1.1.7)$$

Since  $\Lambda \in L(\mathfrak{g})^1$ , we fix the normalization of  $\Lambda_1$  such that

$$\Lambda_1 = \Lambda.$$

It is useful to notice that  $\Lambda_{m_a}, a = 1, \dots, n$  have the form [43]

$$\Lambda_{m_a} = L_{m_a} + \lambda K_{m_a - h}, \quad L_{m_a} \in \mathfrak{g}^{m_a}, K_{m_a - h} \in \mathfrak{g}^{m_a - h}, L_{m_a} \neq 0, K_{m_a - h} \neq 0.$$

In [19], Drinfeld–Sokolov associate to  $\mathfrak{g}$  an integrable hierarchy of Hamiltonian evolutionary PDEs, known as the Drinfeld–Sokolov (DS) hierarchy of  $\mathfrak{g}$ -type. Let us briefly review their construction in the form suitable for subsequent considerations. Denote by  $\mathfrak{b} = \mathfrak{g}^{\leq 0}$  a Borel subalgebra of  $\mathfrak{g}$ , and  $\mathfrak{n} = \mathfrak{g}^{< 0}$  a nilpotent subalgebra. Let

$$\mathcal{L} = \partial_x + \Lambda + q(x), \quad q(x) \in \mathfrak{b}. \quad (1.1.8)$$

**Definition 1.1.1.** *The basic resolvents  $R_a, a = 1, \dots, n$  of  $\mathcal{L}$  are defined as the unique solutions to*

$$[\mathcal{L}, R_a] = 0, \quad R_a \in \mathcal{A}^q \otimes \mathfrak{g}((\lambda^{-1})), \quad (1.1.9)$$

$$R_a(\lambda; q, q_x, \dots) = \Lambda_{m_a} + \text{lower order terms w.r.t. deg}, \quad (1.1.10)$$

$$(R_a(\lambda; q, q_x, \dots) | R_b(\lambda; q, q_x, \dots)) = h \eta_{ab} \lambda. \quad (1.1.11)$$

Here and below,  $\mathcal{A}^q$  denotes the ring of differential polynomials in  $q$ , namely, an element of  $\mathcal{A}^q$  is a polynomial in the entries of  $q, q_x, q_{2x}, \dots$ .

Existence and uniqueness of the basic resolvents will be shown in Prop. 2.2.3.

The DS flows for the  $\mathfrak{b}$ -valued function  $q = q(x, \mathbf{T})$ ,  $\mathbf{T} = (T_k^a)_{k \geq 0}^{a=1, \dots, n}$  are evolution PDEs

$$\frac{\partial q}{\partial T_k^a} = f_k^a(q, q_x, q_{xx}, \dots) \quad (1.1.12)$$

for some  $\mathfrak{b}$ -valued differential polynomials  $f_k^a$  defined by the following Lax representation

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial T_k^a} = \left[ (\lambda^k R_a)_+, \mathcal{L} \right], \quad a = 1, \dots, n, k \geq 0. \quad (1.1.13)$$

Here  $(\bullet)_+$  stands for the polynomial part in  $\lambda$ . These flows are well-defined and pairwise commute [19]; they form the *pre-DS hierarchy*.

Consider transformations of the dependent variable  $q(x) \mapsto \tilde{q}(x)$  of the pre-DS hierarchy induced by gauge transformations of the form

$$\mathcal{L} = \partial_x + \Lambda + q(x) \mapsto \tilde{\mathcal{L}} = e^{\text{ad}_{N(x)}} \mathcal{L} = \partial_x + \Lambda + \tilde{q}(x) \quad (1.1.14)$$

for an arbitrary smooth  $\mathfrak{n}$ -valued function  $N(x)$ . A crucial point of the Drinfeld–Sokolov construction is the following statement.

**Lemma 1.1.2.** *The gauge transformations (1.1.14) are symmetries of the pre-DS flows of (1.1.13). In particular, they map solutions to solutions.*

In our approach the proof of this simple but important statement easily follows by observing that the basic resolvents  $\tilde{R}_a$  of the gauge-transformed operator  $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}$  satisfy

$$\tilde{R}_a(\lambda; \tilde{q}, \tilde{q}_x, \dots) = e^{\text{ad}_{N(x)}} R_a(\lambda; q, q_x, \dots), \quad a = 1, \dots, n. \quad (1.1.15)$$

The DS hierarchy is obtained from (1.1.13) by considering suitably chosen *gauge invariant* functions  $q^{can}$  (see below for more details).

## 1.2 From resolvents to tau-function

We start from defining tau-functions of an arbitrary solution  $q(x, \mathbf{T})$  of the pre-DS hierarchy. Then we verify its independence from the choice of the gauge with respect to the transformations of the form (1.1.14).

**Definition 1.2.1.** *Define a sequence of functions  $\Omega_{a,k;b,\ell} = \Omega_{a,k;b,\ell}(q, q_x, \dots) \in \mathcal{A}^q$ ,  $a, b = 1, \dots, n$ ,  $k, \ell, \geq 0$  by means of the generating function expression below*

$$\sum_{k, \ell \geq 0} \frac{\Omega_{a,k;b,\ell}}{\lambda^{k+1} \mu^{\ell+1}} = \frac{(R_a(\lambda) | R_b(\mu))}{(\lambda - \mu)^2} - \eta_{ab} \frac{m_a \lambda + m_b \mu}{(\lambda - \mu)^2}. \quad (1.2.1)$$

We call  $\Omega_{a,k;b,\ell}$  the two-point correlation functions.

**Lemma 1.2.2.** *The two-point correlation functions  $\Omega_{a,k;b,\ell}$  satisfy the following properties*

$$\Omega_{a,k;b,\ell} \in \mathcal{A}^q, \quad \Omega_{a,k;b,\ell} = \Omega_{b,\ell;a,k}, \quad \forall a, b = 1, \dots, n, k, \ell \geq 0, \quad (1.2.2)$$

$$\partial_{T_m^c} \Omega_{a,k;b,\ell} = \partial_{T_k^a} \Omega_{b,\ell;c,m} = \partial_{T_\ell^b} \Omega_{c,m;a,k}, \quad \forall a, b, c = 1, \dots, n, k, \ell, m \geq 0. \quad (1.2.3)$$

**Lemma 1.2.3.** *For an arbitrary solution  $q(x, \mathbf{T})$  to (1.1.13), there exists  $\tau = \tau(x, \mathbf{T})$  such that*

$$\frac{\partial^2 \log \tau}{\partial T_k^a \partial T_\ell^b} = \Omega_{a,k;b,\ell}(q(x, \mathbf{T}), q_x(x, \mathbf{T}), \dots) \quad (1.2.4)$$

$$\frac{\partial \tau}{\partial x} = -\frac{\partial \tau}{\partial T_0^1}. \quad (1.2.5)$$

The proofs are provided later in the paper.

In view of (1.2.5) we will henceforth identify  $x$  with  $-T_0^1$  for  $\tau(x, \mathbf{T})$ . So we will use the short notation  $\tau = \tau(\mathbf{T})$ . Note that the scalar function  $\tau(\mathbf{T})$  advocated for in Lemma 1.2.3 is uniquely determined by the solution  $q(x, \mathbf{T})$  only up to a factor of the form

$$\exp \left( d_0 + \sum_{a=1}^n \sum_{k \geq 0} d_{a,k} T_k^a \right), \quad d_0, d_{a,k} \text{ are arbitrary constants.} \quad (1.2.6)$$

**Definition 1.2.4.** We call  $\tau(\mathbf{T})$  the tau-function of the solution  $q(x, \mathbf{T})$  of the pre-DS hierarchy.

**Definition 1.2.5.** For an arbitrary solution to the pre-DS hierarchy, let  $\tau(\mathbf{T})$  be a tau-function of this solution in the sense of Definition 1.2.4. The  $N$ -point correlation functions of  $\tau(\mathbf{T})$  are defined by

$$\langle\langle \tau_{a_1 k_1} \dots \tau_{a_N k_N} \rangle\rangle^{DS} = \frac{\partial^N \log \tau}{\partial T_{k_1}^{a_1} \dots \partial T_{k_N}^{a_N}}, \quad k_1, \dots, k_N \geq 0, N \geq 1. \quad (1.2.7)$$

From (1.1.15) it easily follows

**Lemma 1.2.6.** The tau-function of a solution to the pre-DS hierarchy is invariant, up to a factor of the form (1.2.6), with respect to the gauge transformations (1.1.14).

Thus  $\tau(\mathbf{T})$  will also be called tau-function of the solution  $q^{can}$  of the DS hierarchy corresponding to a gauge-fixed Lax operator. The usual procedure [19] to fix the gauge is by choosing a subspace  $\mathcal{V} \subset \mathfrak{b}$  transversal to the adjoint action of the nilpotent subgroup so that  $q^{can}(x)$  restricts to a  $\mathcal{V}$ -valued function (see below).

### 1.3 Main results

For any  $a = 1, \dots, n$  introduce the following differential operator depending on a parameter  $\lambda$

$$\nabla_a(\lambda) = \sum_{k \geq 0} \frac{\partial T_k^a}{\lambda^{k+1}}. \quad (1.3.1)$$

For a given  $N \geq 1$  and a collection of integers  $a_1, \dots, a_N \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ , we define the following generating series of  $N$ -point correlations functions by

$$F_{a_1, \dots, a_N}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_N; \mathbf{T}) = \nabla_{a_1}(\lambda_1) \dots \nabla_{a_N}(\lambda_N) \log \tau(\mathbf{T}). \quad (1.3.2)$$

Observe that, for  $N \geq 2$  the correlation functions (1.2.7) depend only on the solution  $q(x, \mathbf{T})$  of the pre-DS hierarchy. Our goal is to derive an explicit expression for these generating functions for  $N \geq 2$  in terms of the defined above basic resolvents.

For any  $N \geq 2$  define a cyclic-symmetric  $N$ -linear form  $B : \mathfrak{g} \times \dots \times \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  by

$$B(x_1, \dots, x_N) = \text{tr}(\text{ad}_{x_1} \circ \dots \circ \text{ad}_{x_N}), \quad \forall x_1, \dots, x_N \in \mathfrak{g}. \quad (1.3.3)$$

**Theorem 1.3.1.** For an arbitrary solution  $q^{can}(\mathbf{T})$  to the DS-hierarchy, let  $\tau(\mathbf{T})$  be a tau-function of this solution. Then  $\forall N \geq 2$ , we have

$$F_{a_1, \dots, a_N}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_N; \mathbf{T}) = -\frac{1}{2N h^\vee} \sum_{s \in S_N} \frac{B \left( R_{a_{s_1}}^{can}(\lambda_{s_1}; \mathbf{T}), \dots, R_{a_{s_N}}^{can}(\lambda_{s_N}; \mathbf{T}) \right)}{\prod_{j=1}^N (\lambda_{s_j} - \lambda_{s_{j+1}})} - \delta_{N2} \eta_{a_1 a_2} \frac{m_{a_1} \lambda_1 + m_{a_2} \lambda_2}{(\lambda_1 - \lambda_2)^2} \quad (1.3.4)$$

where  $R_a^{can}(\lambda)$ ,  $a = 1, \dots, n$  denote the basic resolvents of  $\mathcal{L}^{can} := \partial_x + \Lambda(\lambda) + q^{can}$ . In particular,  $\forall N \geq 2$ ,  $\forall a_1, \dots, a_N \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ , we have  $F_{a_1, \dots, a_N}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_N; \mathbf{T}) \in \mathcal{A}^{q^{can}}[[\lambda_1^{-1}, \dots, \lambda_N^{-1}]]$ .

**The partition function.** We now consider a particular tau-function that we shall call the *partition function*: it will be denoted by  $Z(\mathbf{t})$  where the new time variables  $\mathbf{t}$  differ from the original  $\mathbf{T}$  by a rescaling (see eq. (1.3.6)). This particular tau-function is uniquely specified up to a multiplicative constant by the following *string equation*

$$\sum_{a=1}^n \sum_{k \geq 0} t_{k+1}^a \frac{\partial Z}{\partial t_k^a} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{a,b=1}^n \eta_{ab} t_0^a t_0^b Z = \frac{\partial Z}{\partial t_0^1} \quad (1.3.5)$$

(see details in Section 4.2 below). Here, the time variables  $t_k^a$  and  $T_k^a$  are related by

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t_k^a} = c_{a,k} \frac{\partial}{\partial T_k^a}, \quad c_{a,k} = \frac{(-1)^k}{\sqrt{-h}^{m_a+hk+1} \left(\frac{m_a}{h}\right)_{k+1}}, \quad a = 1, \dots, n, k \geq 0 \quad (1.3.6)$$

where  $(\cdot)_\ell$  denotes the Pochhammer symbol, i.e.  $(y)_\ell := y(y+1)\cdots(y+\ell-1)$ .

**Theorem 1.3.2.** *Let the subspace  $\mathcal{V} := \text{Ker ad}_{I_-} \subset \mathfrak{g}$  be the lowest weight gauge (see eq. (3.1.1) for the definition of  $I_-$ ), and  $\mathcal{L}^{can}$  the associated Lax operator. Let  $R_a^{can}$ ,  $a = 1, \dots, n$  be the basic resolvents of  $\mathcal{L}^{can}$ . For the Drinfeld–Sokolov partition function  $Z$ , define  $M_a(\lambda) = \lambda^{-\frac{m_a}{h}} R_a^{can}(\lambda; \mathbf{t} = \mathbf{0})$ . Then for any  $a \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ ,  $M_a(\lambda)$  satisfies the topological ODE of  $\mathfrak{g}$ -type*

$$M' = \kappa [M, \Lambda], \quad \kappa = \left(\sqrt{-h}\right)^{-h}, \quad ' := \frac{d}{d\lambda}. \quad (1.3.7)$$

Observe that, as  $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$ , the solutions  $M_a(\lambda)$  admit the expansions

$$M_a = \lambda^{-\frac{m_a}{h}} [\Lambda_{m_a} + \text{lower degree terms w.r.t. deg}], \quad a = 1, \dots, n.$$

Thus,  $M_a$  coincide with the basis of regular solutions to the topological ODE constructed in [8].

## 1.4 Applications to the FJRW theory

Let  $f : \mathbb{C}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be a quasi-homogeneous polynomial, i.e. there exist positive integers  $d, n_1, \dots, n_m$  s.t.

$$f(z^{n_1}x_1, \dots, z^{n_m}x_m) = z^d f(x_1, \dots, x_m), \quad \forall z \in \mathbb{C}.$$

The weight of  $x_i$  is defined to be  $q_i = \frac{n_i}{d}$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, m$ . In general the gradient of  $f$  vanishes at the origin and hence the zero level-set  $f^{-1}(0)$  is a singular variety and defines a “singularity” in the sense of singularity theory [3]. The function  $f$  is called *non-degenerate* if the choice of weights  $q_i$  is unique and  $x = \mathbf{0}$  is the only singularity of  $f$ . Let  $G_f$  (or  $G_{max}$ ) denote the maximal diagonal symmetry group of  $f$ , which is the subgroup of  $\text{Aut}(f)$  consisting of diagonal matrices  $\gamma$  such that  $f(\gamma x) = f(x)$ . It is easy to see that the matrix

$$J = \text{diag}(e^{2\pi i q_1}, \dots, e^{2\pi i q_m}) \in G_f.$$

Let  $G$  be a subgroup of  $G_f$  containing  $\langle J \rangle$ . Let  $n$  be the dimension of the Fan–Jarvis–Ruan cohomology ring [28] associated to  $(f, G)$ . Fan–Jarvis–Ruan associate with the pair  $(f, G)$  a certain *generalized Witten class*, called the Fan–Jarvis–Ruan–Witten class

$$\Lambda_{g,N}^{f,G}(a_1, \dots, a_N) \in H^*(\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,N}), \quad a_i = 1, \dots, n, i = 1, \dots, N$$

such that incorporation of these cohomological classes to  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,N}$  gives rise to a cohomological field theory [46, 28]. The FJRW invariants are defined by

$$\langle \tau_{a_1 k_1} \cdots \tau_{a_N k_N} \rangle_g^{f,G} = \int_{\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,N}} \psi_1^{k_1} \cdots \psi_N^{k_N} \cdot \Lambda_{g,N}^{f,G}(a_1, \dots, a_N)$$

where  $\psi_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, N$  are  $\psi$ -classes.

**Definition 1.4.1.** *The partition function  $Z^{f,G}$  of FJRW invariants is defined by*

$$Z^{f,G}(\mathbf{t}) = \exp \left( \sum_{g,N \geq 0} \frac{1}{N!} \sum_{a_1, \dots, a_N=1}^n \sum_{k_1, \dots, k_N \geq 0} \langle \tau_{a_1 k_1} \dots \tau_{a_N k_N} \rangle_g^{f,G} t_{k_1}^{a_1} \dots t_{k_N}^{a_N} \right).$$

Now we consider an important subclass of singularities, called *simple singularities*. They are classified by the ADE Dynkin diagrams [1, 2]. In particular, we consider

$$\begin{aligned} A_k : f &= x^{k+1}, \quad k \geq 1; & D_k : f &= x^{k-1} + xy^2, \quad k \geq 4; \\ E_6 : f &= x^3 + y^4; & E_7 : f &= x^3 + xy^3; & E_8 : f &= x^3 + y^5. \end{aligned}$$

We are also interested in the mirror singularity of  $D_k$  [28], denoted by  $D_k^T$ :

$$D_k^T : \quad f = x^{k-1}y + y^2, \quad k \geq 4.$$

The maximal diagonal symmetry groups  $G_f$  of the above polynomials will be denoted by  $G_{A_k}$ ,  $G_{D_k}$ ,  $G_{D_k^T}$  and  $G_{E_n}$ ,  $n = 6, 7, 8$ .

**Theorem-ADE** ([28, 29]). *The following statements hold true*

- A. *The partition function  $Z^{A_n, G}(\mathbf{t})$ ,  $n \geq 1$  with  $G = \langle J \rangle = G_{A_n}$  is a particular tau-function of the Drinfeld–Sokolov hierarchy of  $A_n$ -type satisfying the string equation (1.3.5).*
- D. *The partition function  $Z^{D_n, G}(\mathbf{t})$ ,  $n \geq 4$  with  $n$  **even** and  $G = \langle J \rangle$  is a particular tau-function of the DS hierarchy of  $D_n$ -type satisfying (1.3.5).*
- D'. *The partition function  $Z^{D_k, G}(\mathbf{t})$ ,  $k \geq 4$  with  $G = G_{D_k}$  is a particular tau-function of the DS hierarchy of  $A_{2k-3}$ -type satisfying (1.3.5).*
- D". *The partition function  $Z^{D_n^T, G}(\mathbf{t})$ ,  $n \geq 4$  with  $G = G_{D_n^T}$  is a particular tau-function of the DS hierarchy of  $D_n$ -type satisfying (1.3.5).*
- E. *The partition function  $Z^{E_n, G}(\mathbf{t})$ ,  $n = 6, 7, 8$ , with  $G = \langle J \rangle = G_{E_n}$  is a particular tau-function of the DS hierarchy of  $E_n$ -type satisfying (1.3.5).*

*Summarizing, the partition function  $Z^{X_k, G_{X_k}}(\mathbf{t})$  with  $X = A, D, D^T$ , or  $E$  is a particular tau-function of the DS hierarchy of  $X_k^T$ -type satisfying (1.3.5).*

In the case that  $f = x^r$  with  $G = \langle J \rangle = G_f$ , the FJRW invariants  $\langle \tau_{a_1 k_1} \dots \tau_{a_N k_N} \rangle_g^{f,G}$  coincide with Witten's  $r$ -spin correlators. The statement A of Theorem-ADE justifies Witten's  $r$ -spin conjecture [52], which was first proved by Faber–Shadrin–Zvonkine [27]; see “Theorem  $r$ -spin” below.

For convenience of the reader let us recall in more details the definition of Witten's  $r$ -spin correlators. For a given  $N \geq 1$  let  $1 \leq a_1, \dots, a_N \leq r$  be integers satisfying the following divisibility condition

$$a_N + \dots + a_1 - N - (2g - 2) = mr, \quad m \in \mathbb{Z}. \quad (1.4.1)$$

Then for any algebraic curve  $C$  of genus  $g$  with  $N$  marked points  $x_1, \dots, x_N$  there exists a line bundle  $\mathcal{T}$  over  $C$  such that

$$\mathcal{T}^{\otimes r} = K_C \otimes \mathcal{O}((1 - a_1)x_1) \otimes \dots \otimes \mathcal{O}((1 - a_N)x_N). \quad (1.4.2)$$

Here  $K_C$  is the canonical class of the curve  $C$ . Moreover, for a smooth  $C$  there are  $r^{2g}$  such line bundles. A choice of such an “ $r$ -th root” of the bundle (1.4.2) defines a point in a covering of the moduli space. After a suitable compactification this covering is denoted by

$$p : \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,N}^{1/r}(a_1, \dots, a_N) \rightarrow \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,N}. \quad (1.4.3)$$

For a point  $(C, x_1, \dots, x_N, \mathcal{T})$  in the covering space denote  $V = H^1(C, \mathcal{T})$ . It defines a vector bundle  $\mathcal{V} \rightarrow \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,N}^{1/r}(a_1, \dots, a_N)$ . Put

$$c_W(a_1, \dots, a_N) := \frac{1}{r^g} p_* (e(\mathcal{V}^\vee)) \in H^{2(m-g+1)}(\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,N}), \quad a_1, \dots, a_N = 1, \dots, r$$

where  $e(\mathcal{V}^\vee)$  is the Euler class of the dual bundle  $\mathcal{V}^\vee$ . The cohomological class  $c_W(a_1, \dots, a_N)$  is called the *Witten class* [52, 27, 37, 49, 48]. The  $r$ -spin intersection numbers are defined by

$$\langle \tau_{a_1 p_1} \dots \tau_{a_N p_N} \rangle_g^{r\text{-spin}} := \int_{\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,N}} c_W(a_1, \dots, a_N) \psi_1^{p_1} \dots \psi_N^{p_N}. \quad (1.4.4)$$

The numbers  $\langle \tau_{a_1 p_1} \dots \tau_{a_N p_N} \rangle_g^{r\text{-spin}}$  are zero unless

$$\frac{a_1 - 1}{r} + \dots + \frac{a_N - 1}{r} + \frac{r - 2}{r}(g - 1) + k_1 + \dots + k_N = 3g - 3 + N. \quad (1.4.5)$$

The so-called *Vanishing Axiom* conjectured in [37] and proven in [49, 48] tells that the Witten class vanishes if any of  $a_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, N$  reaches  $r$ . Hence, below, we only consider the case of  $a_1, \dots, a_N$  belonging to  $\{1, \dots, r - 1\}$ .

For computing Witten’s  $r$ -spin correlators, we use the theorems 1.3.1, 1.3.2 for a particular tau-function along with the following result.

**Theorem  $r$ -spin** ([52, 27]). *The partition function of  $r$ -spin intersection numbers*

$$Z^{r\text{-spin}}(\mathbf{t}) := \exp \left( \sum_{g,N \geq 0} \frac{1}{N!} \sum_{a_1, \dots, a_N = 1}^n \sum_{k_1, \dots, k_N \geq 0} \langle \tau_{a_1 k_1} \dots \tau_{a_N k_N} \rangle_g^{r\text{-spin}} t_{k_1}^{a_1} \dots t_{k_N}^{a_N} \right)$$

is a particular tau-function of the DS hierarchy of  $A_n$ -type,  $n = r - 1$  satisfying (1.3.5).

In [44], Liu–Ruan–Zhang introduced *cohomological field theories with finite symmetry*, associated with simple singularities and certain symmetry groups, and with a  $\Gamma$ -invariant sector, where  $\Gamma$  is the group of automorphisms of the Dynkin digram. These theories are proved to be related to the DS integrable hierarchies associated to the non-simply laced simple Lie algebras.

**Theorem-BCFG** ([44]). *The partition function of the  $\Gamma$ -invariant sector of  $D_{n+1}^T, A_{2n-1}, E_6$  FJRW theory with  $G_{\max}$  is a particular tau-function of the Drinfeld–Sokolov hierarchy of  $B_n, C_n, F_4$ -type satisfying (1.3.5); the partition function of the  $\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}$ -invariant sector of  $(D_4, \langle J \rangle)$  FJRW theory is a particular tau-function of the Drinfeld–Sokolov hierarchy of  $G_2$ -type satisfying (1.3.5).*

Note that the common feature of Theorem-ADE and Theorem-BCFG claims that the partition function of FJRW invariants associated to a simple singularity with a symmetry group (possibly also with an

invariant sector) is a tau-function of the DS hierarchy of  $\mathfrak{g}$ -type, where  $\mathfrak{g}$  is a simple Lie algebra. We call these numbers the *FJRW invariants of  $\mathfrak{g}$ -type*, denoted by

$$\langle \tau_{a_1 k_1} \cdots \tau_{a_N k_N} \rangle_g^{FJRW-\mathfrak{g}}, \text{ or simply by } \langle \tau_{a_1 k_1} \cdots \tau_{a_N k_N} \rangle_g^{\mathfrak{g}}.$$

As before, let  $n$  denote the rank of  $\mathfrak{g}$ . For a given  $N \geq 1$  and for a collection of integers  $a_1, \dots, a_N \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ , we define the following generating functions of  $N$ -point FJRW invariants of  $\mathfrak{g}$ -type

$$F_{a_1, \dots, a_N}^{FJRW}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_N) := (\kappa^{\frac{1}{h+1}} \sqrt{-h})^N \sum_{g, k_1, \dots, k_N \geq 0} \prod_{\ell=1}^N \frac{(-1)^{k_\ell} \left(\frac{m_{a_\ell}}{h}\right)_{k_\ell+1}}{\left(\kappa^{\frac{1}{h+1}} \lambda_\ell\right)^{\frac{m_{a_\ell}}{h} + k_\ell + 1}} \langle \tau_{a_1 k_1} \cdots \tau_{a_N k_N} \rangle_g^{\mathfrak{g}}. \quad (1.4.6)$$

Here  $\kappa := (\sqrt{-h})^{-h}$ .

Combining the results of Theorems 1.3.1 and 1.3.2 with the statements of Theorem-ADE and Theorem-BCFG we arrive at the following formula for the FJRW invariants of  $\mathfrak{g}$ -type.

**Theorem 1.4.2.** *Let  $\mathfrak{g}$  be a simple Lie algebra and  $n$  the rank of  $\mathfrak{g}$ . Let  $M_a = M_a(\lambda)$ ,  $a = 1, \dots, n$  be the generalized Airy resolvents of  $\mathfrak{g}$ -type, which are the unique solutions to*

$$M' = [M, \Lambda], \quad (1.4.7)$$

subjected to

$$M_a(\lambda) = \lambda^{-\frac{m_a}{h}} [\Lambda_{m_a}(\lambda) + \text{lower degree terms w.r.t. deg}].$$

Here,  $h$  is the Coxeter number and  $m_a$ ,  $a = 1, \dots, n$  are the exponents of  $\mathfrak{g}$ . Then the generating functions (1.4.6) for the  $N$ -point FJRW invariants of  $\mathfrak{g}$ -type have the following expressions

$$\frac{dF_a^{FJRW}}{d\lambda}(\lambda) = -\frac{1}{2h^\vee} B(E_{-\theta}, M_a(\lambda)) + \lambda^{-\frac{h-1}{h}} \delta_{a,n}, \quad N = 1, \quad (1.4.8)$$

$$F_{a_1, \dots, a_N}^{FJRW}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_N) = -\frac{1}{2N h^\vee} \sum_{s \in S_N} \frac{B(M_{a_{s_1}}(\lambda_{s_1}), \dots, M_{a_{s_N}}(\lambda_{s_N}))}{\prod_{j=1}^N (\lambda_{s_j} - \lambda_{s_{j+1}})} - \delta_{N2} \eta_{a_1 a_2} \frac{\lambda_1^{-\frac{m_{a_1}}{h}} \lambda_2^{-\frac{m_{a_2}}{h}} (m_{a_1} \lambda_1 + m_{a_2} \lambda_2)}{(\lambda_1 - \lambda_2)^2}, \quad N \geq 2. \quad (1.4.9)$$

Eqs. (1.4.7)–(1.4.9) are equivalent to the proposed formulae in [8] (eq. (4.2.9) of the current paper).

In particular, for given integers  $r \geq 2$ ,  $N \geq 1$  and a given collection of indices  $a_1, \dots, a_N$  belonging to  $\{1, \dots, r-1\}$ , define

$$F_{a_1, \dots, a_N}^{r\text{-spin}}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_N) := \left(\kappa^{\frac{1}{r+1}} \sqrt{-r}\right)^N \sum_{k_1, \dots, k_N \geq 0} \prod_{\ell=1}^N \frac{(-1)^{k_\ell} \left(\frac{a_\ell}{r}\right)_{k_\ell+1}}{\left(\kappa^{\frac{1}{r+1}} \lambda_\ell\right)^{\frac{a_\ell}{r} + k_\ell + 1}} \langle \tau_{a_1 k_1} \cdots \tau_{a_N k_N} \rangle^{r\text{-spin}}. \quad (1.4.10)$$

Here  $\kappa = (\sqrt{-r})^{-r}$ . Note that we have omitted the genus labelling in the notation of correlator, since it can be obtained from the degree-dimension matching (1.4.5).

**Theorem 1.4.3.** *Let  $n = r - 1$ ,  $\mathfrak{g} = sl_{n+1}(\mathbb{C})$ ,  $\Lambda = \sum_{i=1}^n E_{i, i+1} + \lambda E_{n+1, 1}$ , and let  $M_i = M_i(\lambda)$  be the basis of generalized Airy resolvents of  $\mathfrak{g}$ -type, uniquely determined by the topological ODE*

$$M' = [M, \Lambda], \quad (1.4.11)$$

subjected to

$$M_a = \lambda^{-\frac{a}{r}} [\Lambda^a + \text{lower degree terms w.r.t. deg}].$$

Then the  $N$ -point functions (1.4.10) of  $r$ -spin intersection numbers have the following expressions

$$\frac{dF_a^{r\text{-spin}}}{d\lambda}(\lambda) = -(M_a)_{1,n+1}(\lambda) + \lambda^{-\frac{r-1}{r}} \delta_{a,n}, \quad N = 1, \quad (1.4.12)$$

$$F_{a_1, \dots, a_N}^{r\text{-spin}}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_N) = -\frac{1}{N} \sum_{s \in S_N} \frac{\text{Tr} \left( M_{a_{s_1}}(\lambda_{s_1}) \dots M_{a_{s_N}}(\lambda_{s_N}) \right)}{\prod_{j=1}^N (\lambda_{s_j} - \lambda_{s_{j+1}})} \\ - \delta_{N2} \eta_{a_1 a_2} \frac{\lambda_1^{-\frac{a_1}{h}} \lambda_2^{-\frac{a_2}{h}} (a_1 \lambda_1 + a_2 \lambda_2)}{(\lambda_1 - \lambda_2)^2}, \quad N \geq 2. \quad (1.4.13)$$

**Example 1.4.4** ( $r = 2$ ). Witten's 2-spin invariants coincide with intersection numbers of  $\psi$ -classes over  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,N}$  [51, 42, 27]. So Thm. 1.4.3 with the choice  $r = 2$  recovers the result of [7, 55]:

$$\sum_{g \geq 0} \sum_{p_1, \dots, p_N \geq 0} \frac{(2p_1 + 1)!! \dots (2p_N + 1)!!}{2^{2g-2+N}} \int_{\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,N}} \psi_1^{p_1} \dots \psi_N^{p_N} \lambda_1^{-\frac{2p_1+3}{2}} \dots \lambda_N^{-\frac{2p_N+3}{2}} \\ = -\frac{1}{N} \sum_{r \in S_N} \frac{\text{Tr} (M(\lambda_{r_1}) \dots M(\lambda_{r_N}))}{\prod_{j=1}^N (\lambda_{r_j} - \lambda_{r_{j+1}})} - \delta_{N2} \frac{\lambda_1^{-\frac{1}{2}} \lambda_2^{-\frac{1}{2}} (\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)}{(\lambda_1 - \lambda_2)^2}, \quad N \geq 2$$

where

$$M = \frac{\lambda^{-\frac{1}{2}}}{2} \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{g=1}^{\infty} \frac{(6g-5)!!}{96^{g-1} \cdot (g-1)!} \lambda^{-3g+2} & 2 \sum_{g=0}^{\infty} \frac{(6g-1)!!}{96^g \cdot g!} \lambda^{-3g} \\ -2 \sum_{g=0}^{\infty} \frac{6g+1}{6g-1} \frac{(6g-1)!!}{96^g \cdot g!} \lambda^{-3g+1} & \frac{1}{2} \sum_{g=1}^{\infty} \frac{(6g-5)!!}{96^{g-1} \cdot (g-1)!} \lambda^{-3g+2} \end{pmatrix}.$$

For  $N = 1$ , it follows easily from (1.4.12) the well-known formula

$$\langle \tau_{3g-2} \rangle_g = \frac{1}{24g \cdot g!} \quad \text{for } g \geq 1.$$

**Example 1.4.5** ( $r = 3$ ). We obtain from Theorem 1.4.3 that the only nontrivial one-point correlators have the following explicit expressions

$$\int_{\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{3m-2,1}} c_W(1) \psi_1^{8m-7} = \frac{1}{6^{6m-4} (m-1)! \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)_m}, \quad m \geq 1 \\ \int_{\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{3m,1}} c_W(2) \psi_1^{8m-2} = \frac{1}{6^{6m} m! \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)_m}, \quad m \geq 1.$$

For  $N \geq 2$ , Witten's 3-spin correlators can be computed from the formulae

$$F_{i_1, \dots, i_N}^{3\text{-spin}}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_N) = -\frac{1}{N} \sum_{s \in S_N} \frac{\text{Tr} \left( M_{i_{s_1}}(\lambda_{s_1}) \dots M_{i_{s_N}}(\lambda_{s_N}) \right)}{\prod_{j=1}^N (\lambda_{s_j} - \lambda_{s_{j+1}})} - \delta_{N2} \eta_{i_1 i_2} \frac{\lambda_1^{-\frac{i_1}{h}} \lambda_2^{-\frac{i_2}{h}} (i_1 \lambda_1 + i_2 \lambda_2)}{(\lambda_1 - \lambda_2)^2}$$

with explicit formulae of  $M_a(\lambda)$  given in Appendix A.

**Organization of the paper.** In Sect. 2 we introduce the definition of tau-function and prove Thm 1.3.1. In Sect. 3 we define the essential series of  $\mathfrak{g}$ . In Sect. 4, we prove Thm. 1.3.2.

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## 2 Tau-function of Drinfeld–Sokolov hierarchy

### 2.1 Fundamental lemma

Let  $\mathfrak{g}$  be a simple Lie algebra of rank  $n$ ,  $L(\mathfrak{g})$  its loop algebra. Fix  $\mathfrak{h}$  a Cartan subalgebra of  $\mathfrak{g}$ . We denote by  $\rho^\vee \in \mathfrak{h}$  the *Weyl co-vector* of  $\mathfrak{g}$ , which is uniquely determined by the following equations

$$\alpha_i(\rho^\vee) = 1, \quad i = 1, \dots, n. \quad (2.1.1)$$

Here  $\alpha_i \in \mathfrak{h}^*$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$  are simple roots. We define the *principal* grading operator  $\text{gr}$  on  $L(\mathfrak{g})$  by

$$\text{gr} = h\lambda \frac{d}{d\lambda} + \text{ad}_{\rho^\vee}.$$

It follows that  $\deg a = j \in \mathbb{Z}$  iff  $\text{gr } a = j a$ ,  $\forall a \in \mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{g})$ . Decompose

$$L(\mathfrak{g}) = \bigoplus_{j \in \mathbb{Z}} L(\mathfrak{g})^j, \quad a \in L(\mathfrak{g})^j \Leftrightarrow \text{gr } a = j a, \quad j \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

$\forall a \in L(\mathfrak{g})$ , we will denote the principal decomposition of  $a$  by

$$a = \sum_{j \in \mathbb{Z}} a^{[j]}, \quad a^{[j]} \in L(\mathfrak{g})^j.$$

The following lemma is elementary but it will be frequently used.

**Lemma 2.1.1.** *Let  $x, y$  be any two elements in  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g} \otimes 1$  satisfying  $\text{gr } x = k_1 x$ ,  $\text{gr } y = k_2 y$ . If  $k_1 + k_2 \neq 0$ , then we have  $(x | y) = 0$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose  $k_1 \neq 0$ . By definition,  $\text{gr } x = k_1 x$  implies  $[\rho^\vee, x] = k_1 x$ . So we have

$$(x | y) = \frac{1}{k_1}([\rho^\vee, x] | y) = -\frac{1}{k_1}(x | [\rho^\vee, y]) = -\frac{k_2}{k_1}(x | y) \Rightarrow \frac{k_1 + k_2}{k_1}(x | y) = 0.$$

The lemma is proved. □

**Lemma 2.1.2** (fundamental lemma, [19]). *Let  $q = q(x)$  be a  $\mathfrak{b}$ -valued smooth function, where  $\mathfrak{b} := \mathfrak{g}^{\leq 0}$ . Let  $\mathcal{L} = \partial_x + \Lambda + q(x)$ . Then there exists a unique pair  $(U, H)$  of the form*

$$U = \sum_{k \geq 1} U^{[-k]}(\lambda; q; q_x, \dots) \in \mathcal{A}^q \otimes \text{Im } \text{ad}_\Lambda, \quad (2.1.2)$$

$$H = \sum_{j \in E_+} H^{[-j]}(\lambda; q; q_x, \dots) \in \mathcal{A}^q \otimes \text{Ker } \text{ad}_\Lambda, \quad (2.1.3)$$

where  $\text{Im}, \text{Ker}$  are taken in  $\mathfrak{g}((\lambda^{-1}))$ , and  $E_+ := \{j \geq 0 \mid j \in E\}$  such that

$$e^{-\text{ad}_U} \mathcal{L} = \partial_x + \Lambda + H. \quad (2.1.4)$$

*Proof.* Eq. (2.1.4) is equivalent to

$$e^{-U} \circ \partial_x \circ e^U + e^{-\text{ad}U} (q + \Lambda) = \partial_x + \Lambda + H.$$

More explicitly this reads

$$\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-\text{ad}U)^j}{j!} \left( \frac{U_x}{j+1} + q + \Lambda \right) = \Lambda + H. \quad (2.1.5)$$

Comparing components with principal degree  $-k$  of both sides of (2.1.5) we obtain

$$H^{[-k]} + [U^{[-k-1]}, \Lambda] = G_k \left( \lambda; q; U^{[-1]}, \dots, U^{[-k]}; \partial_x(U^{[-1]}), \dots, \partial_x(U^{[-k]}) \right), \quad k \geq 0. \quad (2.1.6)$$

Here,  $G_k \in L(\mathfrak{g})$ ,  $k \geq 0$ . Moreover, entries of  $G_k$  are polynomials in the entries of

$$q, U^{[-1]}, \dots, U^{[-k]}, \partial_x(U^{[-1]}), \dots, \partial_x(U^{[-k]})$$

whose coefficients are polynomials in  $\lambda$ . The proof proceeds by induction on the principal degree. First, for  $k = 0$  eq. (2.1.6) reads

$$H^{[0]} + [U^{[-1]}, \Lambda] = q^{[0]}. \quad (2.1.7)$$

Observe that an element  $x \in \mathfrak{g}$  has zero principal degree *iff*  $x \in \mathfrak{h}$ . So  $q^{[0]}$  belongs to  $\mathfrak{h}$ . Let us show that  $\mathfrak{h} \subset \text{Im ad}_\Lambda$ . This is equivalent to orthogonality

$$(x | \Lambda_{m_a}) = 0 \quad \text{for any } x \in \mathfrak{h}, \quad a = 1, \dots, n. \quad (2.1.8)$$

Indeed, by Lemma 2.1.1, any element  $y \in \mathfrak{g}$  of nonzero principal degree is orthogonal to  $\mathfrak{h}$ . It remains to recall that any  $\Lambda_{m_a}$  has the form  $\Lambda_{m_a} = L_{m_a} + \lambda K_{m_a-h}$ , where  $L_{m_a}$  and  $K_{m_a-h}$  belong to  $\mathfrak{g}$  and have nonzero principal degree. This proves orthogonality (2.1.8). So we have  $H^{[0]} = 0$ . Noting that the map  $\text{ad}_\Lambda : \text{Im ad}_\Lambda \rightarrow \text{Im ad}_\Lambda$  is invertible, and we have

$$U^{[-1]} = \text{ad}_\Lambda^{-1}(q^{[0]}) \in \text{Im ad}_\Lambda. \quad (2.1.9)$$

The second step of the induction clearly follows from eq. (2.1.6) and the decomposition

$$L(\mathfrak{g}) = \text{Ker ad}_\Lambda \oplus \text{Im ad}_\Lambda.$$

The lemma is proved. □

**Example 2.1.3.** Looking at equation (2.1.5) with principal degree  $-1$ , we have

$$H^{[-1]} - [U^{[-2]}, \Lambda] = \frac{1}{2} [U^{[-1]}, [U^{[-1]}, \Lambda]] + \partial_x(U^{[-1]}) - [U^{[-1]}, q^{[0]}] + q^{[-1]}.$$

Since  $U^{[-2]}$  is assumed to be orthogonal to  $\text{Ker ad}_\Lambda$ , this equation uniquely determines  $H^{[-1]}$  and  $U^{[-2]}$  as indicated in the above proof.

## 2.2 $\mathfrak{g}$ -valued resolvents

**Definition 2.2.1.** Let  $q = q(x) \in \mathfrak{b}$ . An element  $R \in \mathcal{A}^q \otimes \mathfrak{g}((\lambda^{-1}))$  is called a **resolvent** of  $\mathcal{L}$  if

$$[\mathcal{L}, R] = 0. \quad (2.2.1)$$

The set of all resolvents of  $\mathcal{L}$  is denoted by  $\mathcal{M}_\mathcal{L}$ , called the resolvent manifold.

**Lemma 2.2.2** ([19]). *We have*

$$\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{L}} = e^{\text{ad}_U} (\text{Ker ad}_\Lambda),$$

where we note that the kernel is taken in  $L(\mathfrak{g})$ , namely,  $\text{Ker ad}_\Lambda = \bigoplus_{j \in E} \mathbb{C}\Lambda_j$ .

*Proof.* Lemma 2.1.2 reduces the problem to considering the resolvent manifold of  $\partial_x + \Lambda + H$ . So, let us look at the following equation for  $R_H \in \mathcal{A}^q \otimes \mathfrak{g}((\lambda^{-1}))$ :

$$[R_H, \partial_x + \Lambda + H] = 0.$$

Decompose

$$R_H = R_H^{\text{ker}} + R_H^{\text{im}}, \quad R_H^{\text{ker}} \in \mathcal{A}^q \otimes \text{Ker ad}_\Lambda, \quad R_H^{\text{im}} \in \mathcal{A}^q \otimes \text{Im ad}_\Lambda.$$

It follows that

$$\frac{\partial R_H^{\text{ker}}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial R_H^{\text{im}}}{\partial x} = [R_H^{\text{im}}, \Lambda + H].$$

The RHS of the above equation is in the image of  $\text{ad}_\Lambda$ , so we have

$$\frac{\partial R_H^{\text{ker}}}{\partial x} = 0, \tag{2.2.2}$$

$$\frac{\partial R_H^{\text{im}}}{\partial x} = [R_H^{\text{im}}, \Lambda + H]. \tag{2.2.3}$$

Equation (2.2.2) implies that  $R_H^{\text{ker}}$  can only depend on  $\lambda$ . The rest is to show that  $R_H^{\text{im}}$  must vanish. If it does not vanish, then there exists an integer  $d$  such that

$$R_H^{\text{im}} = \sum_{i=-\infty}^d R_H^{\text{im},[i]}, \quad R_H^{\text{im},[d]} \neq 0.$$

Noting that  $\deg H < 0$ , then looking at the highest degree term on both sides of eq. (2.2.3) we obtain

$$[\Lambda, R_H^{\text{im},[d]}] = 0.$$

So we have  $R_H^{\text{im},[d]} = 0$ . This produces a contradiction. The lemma is proved.  $\square$

**Proposition 2.2.3.**  $\forall a = 1, \dots, n$ , there exists a unique solution to the following system of equations

$$[\mathcal{L}, R] = 0, \quad R \in \mathcal{A}^q \otimes \mathfrak{g}((\lambda^{-1})), \tag{2.2.4}$$

$$R(\lambda; q, q_x, \dots) = \Lambda_{m_a} + \text{lower order terms w.r.t. deg}, \tag{2.2.5}$$

$$(R_a(\lambda; q, q_x, \dots) \mid R_b(\lambda; q, q_x, \dots)) = h \eta_{ab} \lambda. \tag{2.2.6}$$

This unique system of solutions  $R_1, \dots, R_n$  is called in Sect. 1 the basic resolvents of the operator  $\mathcal{L}$ .

*Proof.* The existence follows from the fact that  $e^{\text{ad}_U}(\Lambda_{m_a})$  is a solution, where (2.2.6) is due to (1.1.6), and (2.2.5) is due to (2.1.2). The uniqueness follows from Lemma 2.2.2.  $\square$

**Corollary 2.2.4.** *Let  $U$  be defined as in Lemma 2.1.2. Then the basic resolvents  $R_a$  satisfy*

$$R_a = e^{\text{ad}_U}(\Lambda_{m_a}), \quad a = 1, \dots, n.$$

**Definition 2.2.5.** *Define  $P_{m_a+hk} := \lambda^k R_a = e^{\text{ad}_U}(\Lambda_{m_a+hk})$ ,  $a = 1, \dots, n$ ,  $k \geq 0$ .*

The pre-DS hierarchy can be written as

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial T_k^a} = [(P_{m_a+kh})_+, \mathcal{L}], \quad a = 1, \dots, n, k \geq 0.$$

As customary in the literature, we will sometimes write  $T_k^a$  as  $T_{m_a+kh}$ ,  $a = 1, \dots, n, k \geq 0$ .

**Lemma 2.2.6.**  $\forall i, j \in E_+$ , we have

$$\frac{\partial P_j}{\partial T_i} = [(P_i)_+, P_j], \quad (2.2.7)$$

$$\frac{\partial (P_i)_+}{\partial T_j} - \frac{\partial (P_j)_+}{\partial T_i} + [(P_i)_+, (P_j)_+] = 0. \quad (2.2.8)$$

*Proof.* Using the fundamental lemma 2.1.2 we have

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial T_i} = [(P_i)_+, \mathcal{L}] \Rightarrow \left[ \partial_{T_i} - (P_i)_+, \mathcal{L} \right] = 0 \Rightarrow \left[ \partial_{T_i} + S_i, \partial_x + \Lambda + H \right] = 0$$

where  $S_i := \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k}{(k+1)!} \text{ad}_U^k \left( \frac{\partial U}{\partial T_i} \right) - e^{-\text{ad}_U} [(P_i)_+]$ . Clearly,  $S_i$  takes values in  $\mathcal{A}^q \otimes L(\mathfrak{g})$ . Decompose

$$S_i = S_i^{\text{ker}} + S_i^{\text{im}}, \quad S_i^{\text{ker}} \in \mathcal{A}^q \otimes \text{Ker ad}_\Lambda, \quad S_i^{\text{im}} \in \mathcal{A}^q \otimes \text{Im ad}_\Lambda.$$

Then we have

$$\frac{\partial H}{\partial T_i} - \frac{\partial S_i}{\partial x} + [S_i, \Lambda + H] = 0 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \frac{\partial H}{\partial T_i} - \frac{\partial S_i^{\text{ker}}}{\partial x} = 0, \\ \frac{\partial S_i^{\text{im}}}{\partial x} = [S_i^{\text{im}}, \Lambda + H]. \end{cases}$$

Using the same argument as in the proof of Lemma 2.2.2 we find from the above equation for  $S_i^{\text{im}}$  that  $S_i^{\text{im}}$  must vanish. So  $S_i$  belongs to  $\mathcal{A}^q \otimes \text{Ker ad}_\Lambda$ . On another hand,

$$\frac{\partial P_j}{\partial T_i} = [(P_i)_+, P_j] \Leftrightarrow [\partial_{T_i} - (P_i)_+, P_j] = 0 \Leftrightarrow [\partial_{T_i} - S, \Lambda_j] = 0.$$

Hence eq. (2.2.7) is proved. Clearly eq. (2.2.7) implies eq. (2.2.8); this is because

$$\text{l.h.s. of eq. (2.2.8)} = [(P_j)_+, P_i]_+ - [(P_i)_+, P_j]_+ + [(P_i)_+, (P_j)_+] = 0.$$

□

**Lemma 2.2.7.**  $\forall a = 1, \dots, n$  we have

$$\nabla_a(\lambda) R_b(\mu) = \frac{[R_a(\lambda), R_b(\mu)]}{\lambda - \mu} - [Q_a, R_b(\mu)], \quad Q_a := \text{Coef}(R_a(\lambda), \lambda^1). \quad (2.2.9)$$

*Proof.* We have

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_a(\lambda) R_b(\mu) &= \sum_{k \geq 0} \frac{\partial T_k^a R_b(\mu)}{\lambda^{k+1}} = \sum_{k \geq 0} \frac{[(\mu^k R_a(\mu))_+, R_b(\mu)]}{\lambda^{k+1}} \\ &= - \sum_{k \geq 0} \frac{[\text{res}_{\rho=\infty} \frac{\rho^k R_a(\rho)}{\rho - \mu} d\rho, R_b(\mu)]}{\lambda^{k+1}} \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{-1}} \oint_{|\mu| < |\rho| < |\lambda|} d\rho \frac{[R_a(\rho), R_b(\mu)]}{(\lambda - \rho)(\rho - \mu)} \\ &= \frac{[R_a(\lambda), R_b(\mu)]}{\lambda - \mu} - [\text{Coef}(R_a(\lambda), \lambda^1), R_b(\mu)]. \end{aligned}$$

□

### 2.3 Two-point correlation functions

Recall that in Def. 1.2.1, the two-point correlation functions  $\Omega_{a,k;b,\ell}$  was defined by

$$\sum_{k,\ell \geq 0} \frac{\Omega_{a,k;b,\ell}}{\lambda^{k+1} \mu^{\ell+1}} = \frac{(R_a(\lambda) | R_b(\mu))}{(\lambda - \mu)^2} - \eta_{ab} \frac{m_a \lambda + m_b \mu}{(\lambda - \mu)^2}. \quad (2.3.1)$$

**Lemma 2.3.1.** *Def. 1.2.1, i.e. the above formula (2.3.1) is well-posed.*

*Proof.* Noting that<sup>1</sup>

$$R_b(\mu) = R_b(\lambda) + R'_b(\lambda)(\mu - \lambda) + (\mu - \lambda)^2 \partial_\lambda \left( \frac{R_b(\lambda) - R_b(\mu)}{\lambda - \mu} \right) \quad (2.3.2)$$

and using eqs. (1.1.6) we have

$$\frac{(R_a(\lambda) | R_b(\mu))}{(\lambda - \mu)^2} = \eta_{ab} \frac{h \lambda}{(\lambda - \mu)^2} - \frac{(R_a(\lambda) | R'_b(\lambda))}{\lambda - \mu} + \left( R_a(\lambda) \left| \partial_\lambda \left( \frac{R_b(\lambda) - R_b(\mu)}{\lambda - \mu} \right) \right. \right).$$

In the above formulae, prime, “'”, denotes derivative w.r.t. the spectral parameter. Since  $R_a(\lambda) = \mathcal{O}(\lambda^1)$ ,  $a = 1, \dots, n$ , it follows that the third term in the above identity has the form as the l.h.s. of (1.2.1). Therefore it remains to show

$$\eta_{ab} \frac{h \lambda}{(\lambda - \mu)^2} - \frac{(R_a(\lambda) | R'_b(\lambda))}{\lambda - \mu} - \eta_{ab} \frac{m_a \lambda + m_b \mu}{(\lambda - \mu)^2}$$

has the form as the l.h.s. of (1.2.1). We will actually prove the above expression vanishes. Indeed,

$$\partial_x (R_a(\lambda) | R'_b(\lambda)) = ([R_a(\lambda), \Lambda + q] | R'_b(\lambda)) + (R_a(\lambda) | [R'_b(\lambda), \Lambda + q] + [R_b(\lambda), \Lambda']) = 0. \quad (2.3.3)$$

Here we have used the ad-invariance of the Cartan–Killing form and the commutativity between resolvents. Noting that  $R_a \in \mathcal{A}^q \otimes \mathfrak{g}((\lambda^{-1}))$ , we find that (2.3.3) implies that  $(R_a(\lambda) | R'_b(\lambda))$  does not depend on  $q, q_x, q_{2x}, \dots$ , i.e. it is just a function of  $\lambda$ . Hence

$$(R_a(\lambda) | R'_b(\lambda)) = (R_a(\lambda) | R'_b(\lambda))_{q(x) \equiv 0} = (\Lambda_{m_a} | \Lambda'_{m_b}).$$

The second equality uses (2.2.6). To compute  $(\Lambda_{m_a} | \Lambda'_{m_b})$ , as before, write

$$\Lambda_{m_a} = L_{m_a} + \lambda K_{m_a-h}, \quad L_{m_a} \in \mathfrak{g}^{m_a}, \quad K_{m_a-h} \in \mathfrak{g}^{m_a-h}, \quad a = 1, \dots, n.$$

Using Lem. 2.1.1 we have

$$(\Lambda_{m_a} | \Lambda'_{m_b}) = (L_{m_a} | K_{m_b-h}).$$

Note that  $(\Lambda_{m_a} | \Lambda_{m_b}) = \eta_{ab} h \lambda$  implies that

$$(L_{m_a} | K_{m_b-h}) + (L_{m_b} | K_{m_a-h}) = \eta_{ab} h. \quad (2.3.4)$$

The commutativity  $[\Lambda_{m_a}, \Lambda_{m_b}] = 0$  implies that

$$[K_{m_a-h}, L_{m_b}] + [L_{m_a}, K_{m_b-h}] = 0.$$

---

<sup>1</sup>We would like to thank Anton Mellit for bringing our attention to the useful formula (2.3.2).

Applying  $(\rho^\vee | \cdot)$  to the above equation and using the ad-invariance of  $(\cdot | \cdot)$  we have

$$([\rho^\vee, K_{m_a-h}] | L_{m_b}) + ([\rho^\vee, L_{m_a}] | K_{m_b-h}) = 0 \Rightarrow (m_a - h)(K_{m_a-h} | L_{m_b}) + m_a(L_{m_a} | K_{m_b-h}) = 0.$$

Combining eqs. (2.3.4) and the above equation we obtain

$$(L_{m_a} | K_{m_b-h}) = \eta_{ab} m_b, \quad \forall a, b = 1, \dots, n. \quad (2.3.5)$$

Hence

$$\eta_{ab} \frac{h \lambda}{(\lambda - \mu)^2} - \frac{(R_a(\lambda) | R'_b(\lambda))}{\lambda - \mu} - \eta_{ab} \frac{m_a \lambda + m_b \mu}{(\lambda - \mu)^2} = 0.$$

The lemma is proved.  $\square$

**Proposition 2.3.2.** *The following formulae hold true*

$$\sum_{k \geq 0} \frac{\Omega_{a,k;b,0}}{\lambda^{k+1}} = (R_a(\lambda) | Q_b) - \eta_{ab} m_b, \quad a, b = 1, \dots, n. \quad (2.3.6)$$

In particular, we have

$$\sum_{k \geq 0} \frac{\Omega_{a,k;1,0}}{\lambda^{k+1}} = (R_a(\lambda) | E_{-\theta}) - \eta_{a1}, \quad a = 1, \dots, n. \quad (2.3.7)$$

*Proof.* Taking in (2.3.1) the residue w.r.t.  $\mu$  at  $\mu = \infty$  we obtain (2.3.6). Noticing that

$$R_1(\mu) = \mu E_{-\theta} + I_+ + \text{terms with principal degree lower than 1}$$

we must have  $Q_1 = \text{Coef}(R_1(\mu), \mu^1) = E_{-\theta}$ . This proves (2.3.7).  $\square$

## 2.4 Tau-function: Proof of Lemmata 1.2.2, 1.2.3

We are ready to introduce our definition of tau-function. We begin with the proof of Lemma 1.2.2.

*Proof* of Lemma 1.2.2. First of all we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k, \ell \geq 0} \frac{\Omega_{a,k;b,\ell}}{\lambda^{k+1} \mu^{\ell+1}} &= \frac{(R_a(\lambda) | R_b(\mu))}{(\lambda - \mu)^2} - \eta_{ab} \frac{m_a \lambda + m_b \mu}{(\lambda - \mu)^2} = \frac{(R_b(\mu) | R_a(\lambda))}{(\mu - \lambda)^2} - \eta_{ba} \frac{m_b \mu + m_a \lambda}{(\mu - \lambda)^2} \\ &= \sum_{k, \ell \geq 0} \frac{\Omega_{b,k;a,\ell}}{\mu^{k+1} \lambda^{\ell+1}} = \sum_{k, \ell \geq 0} \frac{\Omega_{b,\ell;a,k}}{\mu^{\ell+1} \lambda^{k+1}} \end{aligned}$$

where we have used the symmetry property of  $\eta_{ab}$  and  $(\cdot | \cdot)$ . It follows  $\Omega_{a,k;b,\ell} = \Omega_{b,\ell;a,k}$ .

Secondly, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k, \ell, m \geq 0} \frac{\partial_{T_m^c} \Omega_{a,k;b,\ell}}{\xi^{m+1} \lambda^{k+1} \mu^{\ell+1}} &= \nabla_c(\xi) \sum_{k, \ell \geq 0} \frac{\Omega_{a,k;b,\ell}}{\lambda^{k+1} \mu^{\ell+1}} \\ &= \frac{(\nabla_c(\xi) R_a(\lambda) | R_b(\mu))}{(\lambda - \mu)^2} + \frac{(R_a(\lambda) | \nabla_c(\xi) R_b(\mu))}{(\lambda - \mu)^2} \\ &= \frac{([R_c(\xi), R_a(\lambda)] | R_b(\mu))}{(\lambda - \mu)^2 (\xi - \lambda)} - \frac{([Q_c, R_a(\lambda)] | R_b(\mu))}{(\lambda - \mu)^2} \\ &\quad + \frac{(R_a(\lambda) | [R_c(\xi), R_b(\mu)])}{(\lambda - \mu)^2 (\xi - \mu)} - \frac{(R_a(\lambda) | [Q_c, R_b(\mu)])}{(\lambda - \mu)^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Clearly the two terms with negative signs give a zero contribution due to the ad-invariance of the Cartan–Killing form. The remaining two terms simplify to

$$\frac{([R_c(\xi), R_a(\lambda)] | R_b(\mu))}{(\lambda - \mu)^2} \left( \frac{1}{\xi - \lambda} - \frac{1}{\xi - \mu} \right) = -\frac{([R_c(\xi), R_a(\lambda)] | R_b(\mu))}{(\lambda - \mu)(\mu - \xi)(\xi - \lambda)}.$$

So we have

$$\sum_{k, \ell, m \geq 0} \frac{\partial_{T_m^c}(\Omega_{a, k; b, \ell})}{\xi^{m+1} \lambda^{k+1} \mu^{\ell+1}} = -\frac{([R_c(\xi), R_a(\lambda)] | R_b(\mu))}{(\lambda - \mu)(\mu - \xi)(\xi - \lambda)}.$$

This gives also

$$\sum_{k, \ell, m \geq 0} \frac{\partial_{T_k^a}(\Omega_{c, m; b, \ell})}{\lambda^{k+1} \xi^{m+1} \mu^{\ell+1}} = -\frac{([R_a(\lambda), R_c(\xi)] | R_b(\mu))}{(\xi - \mu)(\mu - \lambda)(\lambda - \xi)}.$$

Hence

$$\partial_{T_m^c}(\Omega_{a, k; b, \ell}) = \partial_{T_k^a}(\Omega_{c, m; b, \ell}) \quad (2.4.1)$$

due to skew-symmetry of the Lie bracket. The lemma is proved.  $\square$

*Proof of Lemma 1.2.3.* Thirdly, we show the compatibility between (1.2.5) and (1.2.4), namely, to show that

$$\frac{\partial \Omega_{a, k; b, \ell}}{\partial T^{1,0}} = -\frac{\partial \Omega_{a, k; b, \ell}}{\partial x}. \quad (2.4.2)$$

Taking  $c = 1, m = 0$  in the already proved identity (2.4.1) we have

$$\partial_{T_k^a}(\Omega_{1, 0; b, \ell}) = \partial_{T_0^1}(\Omega_{a, k; b, \ell}).$$

Hence (2.4.2) is equivalent to

$$\frac{\partial \Omega_{1, 0; b, \ell}}{\partial T^{a, k}} = -\frac{\partial \Omega_{a, k; b, \ell}}{\partial x}.$$

Now we make a generating function: the above identity is equivalent to

$$\sum_{k, \ell} \frac{\partial \Omega_{1, 0; b, \ell}}{\partial T^{a, k}} z^{-k-1} w^{-\ell-1} = -\sum_{k, \ell} \frac{\partial \Omega_{a, k; b, \ell}}{\partial x} z^{-k-1} w^{-\ell-1}.$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} -RHS &= \frac{B(\partial_x R_a(z), R_b(w))}{(z-w)^2} + \frac{B(R_a(z), \partial_x R_b(w))}{(z-w)^2} \\ &= \frac{B([R_a(z), \Lambda(z) + q] | R_b(w))}{(z-w)^2} + \frac{B(R_a(z), [R_b(w), \Lambda(w) + q])}{(z-w)^2} \\ &= \frac{B(\Lambda(z) + q, [R_b(w), R_a(z)])}{(z-w)^2} - \frac{B(\Lambda(w) + q, [R_b(w), R_a(z)])}{(z-w)^2} \\ &= \frac{B(\Lambda(z) - \Lambda(w), [R_b(w), R_a(z)])}{(z-w)^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Recall that

$$\Lambda(z) = I_+ + zE_{-\theta}, \quad \Lambda(w) = I_+ + wE_{-\theta}.$$

So we have

$$-RHS = \frac{B((z-w)E_{-\theta}, [R_b(w), R_a(z)])}{(z-w)^2} = \frac{B(E_{-\theta}, [R_b(w), R_a(z)])}{(z-w)}.$$

On another hand, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
LHS &= \nabla(z) \sum_l \Omega_{1,0;b,l} w^{-l-1} \\
&= \nabla(z) [B(E_{-\theta}, R_b(w)) + \text{const}] \\
&= B(E_{-\theta}, \nabla(z) [R_b(w)]) \\
&= \frac{B(E_{-\theta}, [R_a(z), R_b(w)])}{z-w} + B(E_{-\theta}, [Q_a, R_b(w)]).
\end{aligned}$$

We note that the second term of the last expression must be zero because

$$\deg Q_a + h \leq m_a \quad \Rightarrow \quad [E_{-\theta}, Q_a] = 0. \quad (2.4.3)$$

The lemma is proved.  $\square$

Hence we have arrived at our definition of tau-function, i.e. Def. 1.2.4. In the next subsection, we will prove the gauge invariant property of our definition.

## 2.5 Gauge invariance

The change of the Lax operator

$$\mathcal{L} = \partial_x + \Lambda + q(x) \quad \mapsto \quad \tilde{\mathcal{L}} = e^{\text{ad}_{N(x)}} \mathcal{L} = \partial_x + \Lambda + \tilde{q}(x), \quad N(x) \in \mathfrak{n} \quad (2.5.1)$$

is called a *gauge transformation*  $q \mapsto \tilde{q}$ . It will also be convenient to deal with the infinitesimal form of (1.1.14),  $\tilde{\mathcal{L}} = \mathcal{L} + \delta\mathcal{L}$ ,

$$\delta\mathcal{L} = [N(x), \mathcal{L}] = [N(x), q(x) + I_+] - \frac{\partial N(x)}{\partial x}. \quad (2.5.2)$$

Let  $\tilde{R}_a$ ,  $a = 1, \dots, n$  be the basic resolvents of  $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}$ . It is not difficult to verify that  $\forall a = 1, \dots, n$ ,  $\tilde{R}_a = e^{\text{ad}_{N(x)}} R_a$ .

**Lemma 2.5.1.** *The gauge transformations (1.1.14) are symmetries of the pre-DS hierarchy.*

*Proof.* We have to prove the commutativity

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial s} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial T} = \frac{\partial}{\partial T} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial s}$$

between the  $j$ -th flow of the pre-DS hierarchy

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial T_j} = [(P_j)_+, \mathcal{L}], \quad j \in E_+$$

and the flow given by the infinitesimal gauge transformation

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial s} = [N, \mathcal{L}]$$

for some  $\mathfrak{n}$ -valued function  $N = N(x)$ . Using (1.1.15) we derive

$$\frac{\partial P_j}{\partial s} = [N, P_j].$$

So, after simple calculations with the help of the Jacobi identity we compute the difference between the mixed derivatives

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial s} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial T} - \frac{\partial}{\partial T} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial s} = [[N, P_j]_+, - [N, (P_j)_+], \mathcal{L}] = 0.$$

$\square$

The two-point correlation functions  $\tilde{\Omega}_{a,k;b,\ell}$ ,  $k, \ell \geq 0$  associated to  $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}$  are defined by

$$\sum_{k,\ell \geq 0} \frac{\tilde{\Omega}_{a,k;b,\ell}}{\lambda^{k+1} \mu^{\ell+1}} = \frac{\left( \tilde{R}_a(\lambda) \mid \tilde{R}_b(\mu) \right)}{(\lambda - \mu)^2} - \eta_{ab} \frac{m_a \lambda + m_b \mu}{(\lambda - \mu)^2}. \quad (2.5.3)$$

**Lemma 2.5.2.**  $\forall a, b \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ ,  $k, \ell \geq 0$ , we have  $\tilde{\Omega}_{a,k;b,\ell} = \Omega_{a,k;b,\ell}$ .

*Proof.*  $\left( \tilde{R}_a(\lambda) \mid \tilde{R}_b(\mu) \right) = \left( e^{\text{ad}_{N(x)} R_a(\lambda)} \mid e^{\text{ad}_{N(x)} R_b(\mu)} \right) = \left( R_a(\lambda) \mid R_b(\mu) \right)$ .  $\square$

In a similar way one can easily prove that  $\forall N \geq 2$  the correlation functions  $\langle\langle \tau_{a_1 k_1} \dots \tau_{a_N k_N} \rangle\rangle^{DS}$  are gauge invariant.

Now we are ready to prove Lemma 1.2.6.

*Proof of Lemma 1.2.6.* The lemma easily can be proved by applying Lem. 2.5.2 and Def. 1.2.4.  $\square$

Due to Lemma 1.2.6 it is clear that  $\forall N \geq 3$  the correlation functions  $\langle\langle \tau_{a_1 k_1} \dots \tau_{a_N k_N} \rangle\rangle^{DS}$  are gauge invariant.

## 2.6 Gauge fixing and Drinfeld–Sokolov hierarchy

We consider in this section a particular family of gauges [19, 5, 23].

**Definition 2.6.1.** A linear subspace  $\mathcal{V} \subset \mathfrak{b}$  is called a gauge of DS-type if  $\mathfrak{b} = \mathcal{V} \oplus [I_+, \mathfrak{n}]$ .

Let  $\mathcal{V}$  be a gauge of DS-type. The fact that  $\text{ad}_{I_+} : \mathfrak{n} \rightarrow \mathfrak{b}$  is injective implies  $\dim_{\mathbb{C}} \mathcal{V} = n$ . Write

$$\mathcal{V} = \bigoplus_{j=-(h-1)}^0 \mathcal{V}^j, \quad \mathcal{V}^j \subset \mathfrak{g}^j.$$

Denote  $\mathfrak{b}^j = \mathfrak{b} \cap \mathfrak{g}^j$ . We have  $\mathfrak{b}^j = \mathcal{V}^j \oplus [I_+, \mathfrak{b}^{j-1}]$ ,  $j = -(h-1), \dots, 0$ . Clearly,  $\mathcal{V}^{-(h-1)} = \mathbb{C}E_{-\theta}$ . Noticing that for  $j = -(h-1), \dots, 0$ , the dimension  $\dim \mathfrak{b}^j$  can be different from  $\dim \mathfrak{b}^{j-1}$  iff  $-j$  is an exponent of  $\mathfrak{g}$  [47, 19], we find that  $\mathcal{V}^j$  is a null space unless  $(-j)$  is an exponent. Thus

$$\mathcal{V} = \bigoplus_{a=1}^n V_a, \quad \dim_{\mathbb{C}} V_a = 1$$

where non-zero elements in  $V_a$  have principal degree  $-m_a$ . We now take a basis  $\{X^1, \dots, X^n\}$  of  $\mathcal{V}$  satisfying  $\deg X^a = -m_a$ . It has been proved in [19] that for any Lax operator  $\mathcal{L} = \partial_x + \Lambda + q(x)$ , there exists a *unique*  $\mathfrak{n}$ -valued function  $N^{can}(x)$  such that

$$e^{\text{ad}_{N^{can}(x)}} \mathcal{L} = \partial_x + \Lambda + q^{can}(x) =: \mathcal{L}^{can}, \quad \text{for some } \mathcal{V}\text{-valued function } q^{can}. \quad (2.6.1)$$

Write  $q^{can} = \sum_{a=1}^n w_a X^a = (w_1, \dots, w_n)$ . The DS-flows of  $q^{can}$ , or say of  $w_a$ , can be written as

$$\frac{\partial q^{can}}{\partial T_k^a} = \left[ \left( \lambda^k R_a^{can} \right)_+, \mathcal{L} \right] + \left[ \frac{\partial e^{N^{can}}}{\partial T_k^a} e^{-N^{can}}, \mathcal{L} \right]. \quad (2.6.2)$$

A priori the RHS of (2.6.2) has a dependence in  $q$ , as we can see from the second term that it contains flow of components of  $\mathfrak{n}$ . However, Lem. 2.5.1 says that the gauge transformation is a symmetry of the pre-DS hierarchy. So RHS of (2.6.2) depends only on  $q^{can}$ , i.e.  $w_a$ ,  $a = 1, \dots, n$  satisfy equations of the form

$$\frac{\partial w_a}{\partial T_k^b} = G_{a,b,k}(q^{can}, q_x^{can}, q_{xx}^{can}, \dots), \quad k \geq 0. \quad (2.6.3)$$

**Definition 2.6.2.** Equations (2.6.3) are called the **DS hierarchy of  $\mathfrak{g}$ -type** associated to  $\mathcal{V}$ .

Let  $R_a^{can}$  be the basic resolvents of  $\mathcal{L}^{can}$ , and  $\Omega_{a,k;b,\ell}^{can}$  the two-point correlations functions of  $\mathcal{L}^{can}$ , i.e.

$$\sum_{k,\ell \geq 0} \frac{\Omega_{a,k;b,\ell}^{can}}{\lambda^{k+1} \mu^{\ell+1}} = \frac{(R_a^{can}(\lambda) | R_b^{can}(\mu))}{(\lambda - \mu)^2} - \eta_{ab} \frac{m_a \lambda + m_b \mu}{(\lambda - \mu)^2}. \quad (2.6.4)$$

**Corollary 2.6.3.** Let  $\tau(\mathbf{T})$  be a tau-function of the DS hierarchy. The following formulae hold true

$$\frac{\partial^2 \log \tau}{\partial T_k^a \partial T_\ell^b} = \Omega_{a,k;b,\ell}^{can}, \quad \forall a, b = 1, \dots, n, \quad k, \ell \geq 0.$$

*Proof.* By gauge invariance of two-point correlation functions. □

We also call  $\tau(\mathbf{T})$  a tau-function of the solution  $q^{can}(\mathbf{T}) = (w^1(\mathbf{T}), \dots, w^n(\mathbf{T}))$ .

## 2.7 Proof of Theorem 1.3.1

The proof will be almost identical to the proof for the case  $\mathfrak{g} = A_1$  case [7]. Let  $\mathcal{V}$  be any gauge of DS-type. Fix  $X^1, \dots, X^n$  a basis of  $\mathcal{V}$  satisfying  $\deg X^a = -m_a$ .

**Lemma 2.7.1.** Let  $\mathcal{L}^{can} = \partial_x + \Lambda + q^{can}$ ,  $q^{can} = \sum_{a=1}^n w_a X^a$ . For every  $a = 1, \dots, n$  a solution to

$$\begin{aligned} [\mathcal{L}^{can}, R^{can}] &= 0, & R^{can} &\in \mathcal{A}^w \otimes L(\mathfrak{g}), \\ R^{can}(\lambda; w; w_x, w_{2x}, \dots) &= \Lambda_{m_a} + \text{lower order terms w.r.t. deg}, \\ R^{can}(\lambda; 0; 0, \dots, 0) &= \Lambda_{m_a} \end{aligned} \quad (2.7.1)$$

exists and is unique. Here  $w = (w_1, \dots, w_n)$ .

*Proof.* The lemma is a particular case of Prop. 2.2.3. □

*Proof.* of Thm. 1.3.1. For any permutation  $s = [s_1, \dots, s_p] \in S_p$ ,  $p \geq 2$ , define

$$P(s) := - \prod_{j=1}^p \frac{1}{\lambda_{s_j} - \lambda_{s_{j+1}}}, \quad \lambda_{s_{p+1}} \equiv \lambda_{s_1}.$$

We first prove the generating formula of multi-point correlation functions of a solution of the pre-DS hierarchy, then we use the ad-invariance of  $B$  for the gauge-fixed case.

Let  $\mathcal{L} = \partial_x + \Lambda + q(x)$ ,  $q(x) \in \mathfrak{b}$  be a linear operator,  $R_a$  the basic resolvents of  $\mathcal{L}$ . For an arbitrary solution  $q(x, \mathbf{T})$  to the pre-DS hierarchy (1.1.13), let  $\tau(\mathbf{T})$  be the corresponding tau-function, and  $F_{a_1, \dots, a_N}(\mathbf{T})$ ,  $N \geq 1$  the generating series of  $N$ -point correlations functions of  $\tau(\mathbf{T})$ .

We now use mathematical induction to prove formula (1.3.4) with  $R^{can}$  replaced by  $R$ . For  $N = 2$ , the formula is true by definition. Suppose it is true for  $N = p$  ( $p \geq 2$ ), then for  $N = p + 1$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} F_{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{p+1}}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_{p+1}; \mathbf{T}) &= \nabla_{\alpha_{p+1}}(\lambda_{p+1}) F_{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_p}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_p; \mathbf{T}) \\ &= -\frac{1}{2h^\vee p} \nabla_{\alpha_{p+1}}(\lambda_{p+1}) \sum_{s \in S_p} \frac{B(R_{\alpha_{s_1}}(\lambda_{s_1}), \dots, R_{\alpha_{s_p}}(\lambda_{s_p}))}{\prod_{j=1}^p (\lambda_{s_j} - \lambda_{s_{j+1}})} \\ &= -\frac{1}{2h^\vee p} \sum_{s \in S_p} \sum_{q=1}^p \frac{B(R_{\alpha_{s_1}}(\lambda_{s_1}), \dots, \left[ \frac{R_{\alpha_{p+1}}(\lambda_{p+1})}{\lambda_{p+1} - \lambda_{s_q}} + Q_{\alpha_{p+1}}, R_{\alpha_{s_q}}(\lambda_{s_q}) \right], \dots, R_{\alpha_{s_p}}(\lambda_{s_p}))}{\prod_{j=1}^p (\lambda_{s_j} - \lambda_{s_{j+1}})}. \end{aligned}$$

Recall that the elements  $Q_\alpha \in \mathfrak{g}$  were defined in eq. (2.2.9). Now we observe that the terms containing the commutator with  $Q_{\alpha_{p+1}}$  sum up to zero due to the ad-invariance of  $B$ , namely due to the formula

$$\sum_{q=1}^p (X_1, \dots, [A, X_q], X_{q+1}, \dots, X_p) = 0, \quad \forall X_1, \dots, X_p, A \in \mathfrak{g}.$$

Thus we are left with

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{1}{2h^\vee p} \sum_{s \in S_p} P(s) \sum_{q=1}^p \left( \frac{B \left( R_{\alpha_{s_1}}(\lambda_{s_1}), \dots, R_{\alpha_{s_{q-1}}}(\lambda_{s_{q-1}}), R_{\alpha_{p+1}}(\lambda_{p+1}), R_{\alpha_{s_q}}(\lambda_{s_q}), \dots, R_{\alpha_{s_p}}(\lambda_{s_p}) \right)}{\lambda_{p+1} - \lambda_{s_q}} \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \frac{B \left( R_{\alpha_{s_1}}(\lambda_{s_1}), \dots, R_{\alpha_{s_{q-1}}}(\lambda_{s_{q-1}}), R_{\alpha_{p+1}}(\lambda_{p+1}), R_{\alpha_{s_q}}(\lambda_{s_q}), \dots, R_{\alpha_{s_p}}(\lambda_{s_p}) \right)}{\lambda_{p+1} - \lambda_{s_{q-1}}} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2h^\vee p} \sum_{s \in S_p} P(s) \sum_{q=1}^p (\lambda_{s_q} - \lambda_{s_{q-1}}) \\ &\quad \frac{B \left( R_{\alpha_{p+1}}(\lambda_{p+1}), R_{\alpha_{s_q}}(\lambda_{s_q}), \dots, R_{\alpha_{s_p}}(\lambda_{s_p}), R_{\alpha_{s_1}}(\lambda_{s_1}), \dots, R_{\alpha_{s_{q-1}}}(\lambda_{s_{q-1}}) \right)}{(\lambda_{p+1} - \lambda_{s_q})(\lambda_{p+1} - \lambda_{s_{q-1}})} \\ &= \frac{1}{2h^\vee p} \sum_{q=1}^p \sum_{s \in S_p} P([p+1, s_q, \dots, s_p, s_1, \dots, s_{p-1}]) \\ &\quad B \left( R_{\alpha_{p+1}}(\lambda_{p+1}), R_{\alpha_{s_q}}(\lambda_{s_q}), \dots, R_{\alpha_{s_p}}(\lambda_{s_p}), R_{\alpha_{s_1}}(\lambda_{s_1}), \dots, R_{\alpha_{s_{q-1}}}(\lambda_{s_{q-1}}) \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2h^\vee} \sum_{s \in S_p} P([p+1, s]) B \left( R_{\alpha_{p+1}}(\lambda_{p+1}), R_{\alpha_{s_1}}(\lambda_{s_1}), \dots, R_{\alpha_{s_p}}(\lambda_{s_p}) \right). \end{aligned}$$

For any gauge  $\mathcal{V}$  of DS-type, there exists a unique  $\mathfrak{n}$ -valued smooth function  $N(x)$  such that

$$e^{\text{ad}_{N(x)}} \mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}^{\text{can}}.$$

Observing that  $\tilde{R}_a = e^{\text{ad}_{N(x)}} R_a$  and using the Ad-invariance of  $B$  we obtain

$$F_{a_1, \dots, a_N}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_N; \mathbf{T}) = - \sum_{s \in S_N} \frac{B \left( R_{a_{s_1}}^{\text{can}}(\lambda_{s_1}), \dots, R_{a_{s_N}}^{\text{can}}(\lambda_{s_N}) \right)}{2N h^\vee \prod_{j=1}^N (\lambda_{s_j} - \lambda_{s_{j+1}})} - \delta_{N2} \eta_{a_1 a_2} \frac{m_{a_1} \lambda_1 + m_{a_2} \lambda_2}{(\lambda_1 - \lambda_2)^2}.$$

Finally,  $F_{a_1, \dots, a_N}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_N; \mathbf{T}) \in \mathcal{A}^{q^{\text{can}}} [[\lambda_1^{-1}, \dots, \lambda_N^{-1}]]$  due to Lem. 2.7.1. The theorem is proved.  $\square$

**Corollary 2.7.2.** *For an arbitrary solution  $q^{\text{can}}$  to the DS hierarchy of  $\mathfrak{g}$ -type associated to  $\mathcal{V}$  let  $\tau$  be a tau-function of this solution. The following formulae hold true*

$$\sum_{k \geq 0} \frac{\langle \langle \tau_{a,k} \tau_{b,0} \rangle \rangle^{DS}}{\lambda^{k+1}} = (R_a^{\text{can}}(\lambda) | Q_b^{\text{can}}) - \eta_{ab} m_b, \quad a, b = 1, \dots, n. \quad (2.7.2)$$

In particular, we have

$$\sum_{k \geq 0} \frac{\langle \langle \tau_{a,k} \tau_{1,0} \rangle \rangle^{DS}}{\lambda^{k+1}} = (R_a^{\text{can}}(\lambda) | E_{-\theta}) - \eta_{a1}, \quad a = 1, \dots, n. \quad (2.7.3)$$

*Proof.* Taking in (1.3.4) with  $N = 2$  the residue w.r.t.  $\mu$  at  $\mu = \infty$  we obtain (2.7.2). To show (2.7.3), we only need to notice that for  $b = 1$ ,  $\text{Coeff}(R_1^{can}(\mu), \mu^1) = E_{-\theta}$ . Indeed,

$$R_1^{can}(\mu) = \lambda E_{-\theta} + I_+ + \dots$$

Here, the dots denote terms with principal degree lower than 1 which contain no more  $\lambda^1$ -power.  $\square$

More explicitly, let  $(U^{can}, H^{can})$  be the unique pair associated to  $\mathcal{L}^{can}$ . Note that

$$R_a^{can} = e^{\text{ad}_{U^{can}}} \Lambda_{m_a}. \quad (2.7.4)$$

Also note that Eq. (2.1.2) implies that  $U^{can}$  must have the following decomposition

$$U^{can} = \sum_{k \geq 0} U_{-k}^{can} \lambda^{-k}, \quad U_0^{can} \in \mathfrak{n}, U_{-k}^{can} \in \mathfrak{g}, k \geq 1.$$

Hence we have

$$Q_b^{can} = \text{Coeff}(R_b^{can}(\mu), \mu^1) = e^{\text{ad}_{U_0^{can}}} K_{m_b-h}, \quad b = 1, \dots, n. \quad (2.7.5)$$

Before ending this section, we consider taking a faithful irreducible matrix realization  $\pi$  of  $\mathfrak{g}$ . Let  $\chi$  be the unique constant satisfying

$$(a|b) = \chi \text{Tr}(\pi(a)\pi(b)), \quad \forall a, b \in \mathfrak{g}. \quad (2.7.6)$$

For simplicity we will write  $\pi(a)$  just as  $a$ , for  $a \in \mathfrak{g}$ . Similarly as Thm. 1.3.1 we have

**Proposition 2.7.3.** *Let  $\mathcal{V}$  be a gauge of DS-type,  $\mathcal{L}^{can}$  the gauge fixed Lax operator (2.6.1), and  $R_a^{can}$ ,  $a = 1, \dots, n$  the basic resolvents of  $\mathcal{L}^{can}$ . For an arbitrary solution  $q^{can}(\mathbf{T})$  to the DS hierarchy associated to  $\mathcal{V}$ , we have*

$$F_{a_1, \dots, a_N}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_N; \mathbf{T}) = -\frac{1}{\chi \cdot N} \sum_{s \in S_N} \frac{\text{Tr} R_{a_{s_1}}^{can}(\lambda_{s_1}) \cdots R_{a_{s_N}}^{can}(\lambda_{s_N})}{\prod_{j=1}^N (\lambda_{s_j} - \lambda_{s_{j+1}})} - \delta_{N2} \eta_{a_1 a_2} \frac{m_{a_1} \lambda_1 + m_{a_2} \lambda_2}{(\lambda_1 - \lambda_2)^2}. \quad (2.7.7)$$

**Remark 2.7.4.** *The r.h.s. of (1.3.4) and the r.h.s. of (2.7.7) coincide. However, this does not mean the summands coincide with each other.*

## 2.8 An algorithm for writing the DS-hierarchy

Let  $\mathcal{V}$  be any gauge of DS-type,  $\{X^1, \dots, X^n\}$  a basis of  $\mathcal{V}$  s.t.  $\deg X^a = -m_a$  and let

$$\mathcal{L}^{can} = \partial_x + \Lambda + q^{can}(x), \quad q^{can}(x) = \sum_{a=1}^n w_a(x) X^a.$$

Recall that there exists a unique  $\mathfrak{n}$ -valued function  $N^{can}(x)$  s.t.

$$e^{\text{ad}_{N^{can}}} \mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}^{can}.$$

Denote by  $R_a^{can}$ ,  $a = 1, \dots, n$  the basic resolvents of  $\mathcal{L}^{can}$ . The corresponding DS-hierarchy will be defined as in (2.6.2). Although we know that RHS of (2.6.2) depends only on  $q^{can}, q_x^{can}, \dots$ , the second term of RHS of (2.6.2) contains evolution of general components in  $\mathfrak{n}$ .

So the following question is under consideration:

*For any given gauge  $\mathcal{V}$ , can we write down the DS-hierarchy for  $q^{can}$  using only the information of  $R_a^{can}$ ?*

Let us give a positive answer to this question by using our definition of tau-function.

1. Compute the basic resolvents  $R_a^{can}$ ,  $a = 1, \dots, n$ .
2. Calculate the Miura transformation  $w_a \mapsto r_a$  from eq. (2.7.3). Recall that the normal coordinates are defined by  $r_a := \langle \langle \tau_{a,0} \tau_{1,0} \rangle \rangle^{DS}$ .
3. Calculate  $\langle \langle \tau_{b,k} \tau_{a,0} \rangle \rangle^{DS}$  from eqs. (2.7.2). Note that the DS-flows for the normal coordinates  $r_a$  are

$$\frac{\partial r_a}{\partial T^{b,k}} = -\partial_x \langle \langle \tau_{b,k} \tau_{a,0} \rangle \rangle^{DS}, \quad a, b = 1, \dots, n, k \geq 0. \quad (2.8.1)$$

The r.h.s of eqs. (2.8.1) are differential polynomials in  $w$ . Substituting  $w_a \mapsto r_a$  in the r.h.s. of eqs. (2.8.1) we obtain the DS hierarchy for  $r_a$ .

4. Substitute the inverse Miura transformation to the DS hierarchy for  $r_a$  we obtain the DS hierarchy.

### 3 Computational aspect of resolvents

#### 3.1 The lowest weight gauge

Recall that there is a particular choice of a gauge of DS-type [5], called the *lowest weight gauge*. Let us review its construction. Write the Weyl co-vector as  $\rho^\vee = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i H_i$ ,  $x_i \in \mathbb{C}$  and define

$$I_- = 2 \sum_{i=1}^n x_i F_i. \quad (3.1.1)$$

Then  $I_+, I_-, \rho^\vee$  generate an  $sl_2(\mathbb{C})$  Lie subalgebra of  $\mathfrak{g}$ :

$$[\rho^\vee, I_+] = I_+, \quad [\rho^\vee, I_-] = -I_-, \quad [I_+, I_-] = 2\rho^\vee. \quad (3.1.2)$$

According to [43, 5] there exist elements  $\gamma^1, \dots, \gamma^n \in \mathfrak{g}$  such that

$$\text{Ker ad}_{I_-} = \text{Span}_{\mathbb{C}}\{\gamma^1, \dots, \gamma^n\}, \quad [\rho^\vee, \gamma^i] = -m_i \gamma^i.$$

Since  $\gamma^n \in \mathbb{C}E_{-\theta}$  we could and will normalize it to be

$$\gamma^n = E_{-\theta}. \quad (3.1.3)$$

The subspace  $\text{Ker ad}_{I_-} \subset \mathfrak{b}$  is a gauge of DS-type, which is called the lowest weight gauge. Denote by

$$\mathcal{L}^{can} = \partial_x + \Lambda + q^{can}(x)$$

the gauge fixed Lax operator associated to  $\text{Ker ad}_{I_-}$ , where  $q^{can}(x) := \sum_{a=1}^n u_a(x) \gamma^a$ .

**Definition 3.1.1.** *The functions  $u_a$ ,  $a = 1, \dots, n$  are called the lowest weight coordinates.*

#### 3.2 Extended principal gradation

**Definition 3.2.1.** *Define the extended principal degree by the following degree assignments*

$$\text{deg}^e \partial_x = 1, \quad \text{deg}^e \lambda = h, \quad (3.2.1)$$

$$\text{deg}^e u_i = m_i + 1, \quad (3.2.2)$$

$$\text{deg}^e E_i = 1, \quad \text{deg}^e F_i = -1, \quad i = 1, \dots, n. \quad (3.2.3)$$

It is easy to see that, if  $a \in L(\mathfrak{g})^j$  then  $\deg^e a = \deg a = j$ . Namely, the extended principal degree coincides with the principal degree for any loop algebra element. In particular,

$$\deg^e \gamma^i = -m_i, \quad \deg^e \text{ad}_{I_+}^j \gamma^i = -m_i + j, \quad j = 0, \dots, 2m_i. \quad (3.2.4)$$

**Lemma 3.2.2.** *For the gauge-fixed Lax operator  $\mathcal{L}^{can}$ , we have  $\deg^e \mathcal{L}^{can} = 1$ .*

Let  $(U^{can}, H^{can})$  be the unique pair associated to  $\mathcal{L}^{can}$ , and  $R_a^{can}$  the basic resolvents.

**Lemma 3.2.3.** *The following formulae hold true*

$$\deg^e U^{can} = 0, \quad \deg^e H^{can} = 1, \quad \deg^e R_a^{can} = m_a, \quad a = 1, \dots, n. \quad (3.2.5)$$

*Proof.* By using the recursion procedure (2.1.6) and by the mathematical induction.  $\square$

**Corollary 3.2.4.** *The  $N$ -point ( $N \geq 2$ ) generating series of correlation functions  $F_{a_1, \dots, a_N}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_N; \mathbf{T})$  are homogenous of degree  $-Nh + \sum_{\ell=1}^N m_{a_\ell}$  w.r.t. the extended principal gradation.*

### 3.3 Essential series of the Drinfeld–Sokolov hierarchy

Recall that the simple Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$  admits the lowest weight decomposition [5]

$$\mathfrak{g} = \bigoplus_{a=1}^n \mathfrak{L}^a, \quad \mathfrak{L}^a = \text{Span}_{\mathbb{C}}\{\gamma^a, \text{ad}_{I_+} \gamma^a, \dots, \text{ad}_{I_+}^{2m_a} \gamma^a\}$$

where each  $\mathfrak{L}^a$  is an  $sl_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module w.r.t. the  $sl_2(\mathbb{C})$  Lie subalgebra generated by  $I_+, I_-, 2\rho^\vee$ , called a lowest weight module. It is then clear that any  $\mathfrak{g}$ -valued function  $R(\lambda)$  can be uniquely written as

$$R(\lambda) = \sum_{a=1}^n \sum_{m=0}^{2m_a} K_{am}(\lambda) \text{ad}_{I_+}^m \gamma^a.$$

**Theorem 3.3.1.** *Let  $\mathcal{L}^{can} = \partial_x + \Lambda + q^{can} = \partial_x + \Lambda + \sum_{a=1}^n u_a \gamma^a$  be a Lax operator associated to the lowest weight gauge. Let  $R^{can} \in \mathcal{A}^u \otimes \mathfrak{g}((\lambda^{-1}))$  be any resolvent of  $\mathcal{L}^{can}$ . Write*

$$R^{can} = \sum_{i=1}^n \mathcal{R}_i \text{ad}_{I_+}^{2m_i} \gamma^i + \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{m=0}^{2m_i-1} K_{im} \text{ad}_{I_+}^m \gamma^i. \quad (3.3.1)$$

We have 1)  $\forall i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ ,  $m \in \{0, 1, \dots, 2m_i - 1\}$ ,  $K_{im}$  has the following expression

$$K_{im} = \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{\ell=0}^{2m_i-m} \left( s_{i,\ell,0}^j + \lambda s_{i,\ell,1}^j \right) \partial_x^\ell (\mathcal{R}_j),$$

where the coefficients  $s_{i,\ell,0}^j, s_{i,\ell,1}^j$  belong to  $\mathcal{A}^u$ , and they do not depend on the choice of the resolvent.

2) The ODE  $[\mathcal{L}^{can}, R^{can}] = 0$  is equivalent to  $n$  scalar linear ODEs for  $\mathcal{R}_1, \dots, \mathcal{R}_n$ .

3) The following formulae hold true for the degrees of the coefficients (3.3.1) of the basic resolvents

$$\deg^e \mathcal{R}_{a;i} = m_a - m_i, \quad \deg^e K_{a;im} = m_a + m_i - m, \quad i, a = 1, \dots, n; m = 0, \dots, 2m_i - 1. \quad (3.3.2)$$

*Proof* of Thm. 3.3.1 Write

$$R^{can}(\lambda; u; u_x, \dots) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{m=0}^{2m_i} K_{im}(\lambda; u; u_x, \dots) \text{ad}_{I_+}^m \gamma^i, \quad K_{i,2m_i} := \mathcal{R}_i.$$

Substituting the above expressions into (2.2.4) we obtain

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{m=0}^{2m_i} \frac{\partial K_{im}}{\partial x} \text{ad}_{I_+}^m \gamma^i + \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{m=1}^{2m_i} K_{i,m-1} \text{ad}_{I_+}^m \gamma^i + \left[ \lambda \gamma^n + \sum_{\ell=1}^n u_\ell \gamma^\ell, \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{m=0}^{2m_i} K_{im} \text{ad}_{I_+}^m \gamma^i \right] = 0. \quad (3.3.3)$$

Introduce the lowest weight structure constants  $c_{lij}^m$  by

$$[\gamma^\ell, \text{ad}_{I_+}^m \gamma^i] = \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{s=0}^{2m_j} c_{lij}^m \text{ad}_{I_+}^s \gamma^j, \quad i, \ell = 1, \dots, n, m = 0, \dots, 2m_i. \quad (3.3.4)$$

Substituting (3.3.4) into (3.3.3) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{m=0}^{2m_i} \frac{\partial K_{im}}{\partial x} \text{ad}_{I_+}^m \gamma^i + \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{m=1}^{2m_i} K_{i,m-1} \text{ad}_{I_+}^m \gamma^i \\ & + \sum_{\ell=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{m=0}^{2m_i} \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{s=0}^{2m_j} \tilde{u}_\ell K_{im} c_{lij}^m \text{ad}_{I_+}^s \gamma^j = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (3.3.5)$$

where  $\tilde{u}_\ell = u_\ell + \lambda \delta_{\ell,n}$ . It follows that

$$K_{j,s-1} + \frac{\partial K_{js}}{\partial x} + \sum_{\ell=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{m=0}^{2m_i} \tilde{u}_\ell K_{im} c_{lij}^m = 0, \quad j = 1, \dots, n, s = 0, \dots, 2m_j. \quad (3.3.6)$$

Here  $K_{j,-1} := 0$ . Noting that the structure constant  $c_{lij}^m$  are zero unless

$$0 \leq m = m_i + m_\ell + s - m_j \leq 2m_i. \quad (3.3.7)$$

Hence we obtain

$$K_{j,s-1} = -\frac{\partial K_{js}}{\partial x} - \sum_{\substack{\ell, i=1 \\ m_i \geq |m_\ell + s - m_j|}}^n \tilde{u}_\ell \cdot K_{i, m_i + m_\ell + s - m_j} c_{lij}^{m_i + m_\ell + s - m_j}, \quad j = 1, \dots, n, s = 0, \dots, 2m_j. \quad (3.3.8)$$

Define an ordering for pairs of integers  $\{(j, s) \mid j = 1, \dots, n, s = 0, \dots, 2m_j\}$ : we say  $(j_1, s_1) > (j_2, s_2)$ , if  $s_1 > s_2$ , or  $s_1 = s_2$  and  $j_1 < j_2$ . Noting that  $K_{i,2m_i} := \mathcal{R}_i$  we can use (3.3.8) to solve out  $K_{j,s-1}$  in terms of  $\mathcal{R}_j$  and their  $x$ -derivatives starting from the largest pair  $(j, s-1) = (n, 2m_n - 1)$  to the smallest pair  $(j, s-1) = (n, 0)$ . This proves Part 1) of the theorem.

Taking  $s = 0$  in (3.3.8) we obtain the system of ODEs for  $\mathcal{R}_1, \dots, \mathcal{R}_n$ , which proves Part 2).

Formulae (3.3.2) follow from Lemma 3.2.3 and eq.(3.3.1), which proves Part 3).  $\square$

**Definition 3.3.2.** We call  $\mathcal{R}_{a;1}, \dots, \mathcal{R}_{a;n}$  the essential series of the DS hierarchy of the  $\mathfrak{g}$ -type.

Using the same argument as in [8], the essential series  $\mathcal{R}_{a;a}$  never vanishes.

**Definition 3.3.3.** We call  $\mathcal{R}_{a;a}$  the fundamental series of the DS hierarchy.

## 4 Proof of Theorem 1.3.2

### 4.1 Relation between normal coordinates and lowest weight coordinates

The concept of normal coordinates was introduced in [26]; see also [24].

**Definition 4.1.1.** We call  $r_a := \langle \langle \tau_{a,0} \tau_{1,0} \rangle \rangle^{DS}$  the normal coordinates of the DS hierarchy.

Recall that

$$\Lambda_{m_a}(\lambda) = L_{m_a} + \lambda K_{m_a-h}, \quad L_{m_a} \in \mathfrak{g}^{m_a}, \quad K_{m_a-h} \in \mathfrak{g}^{m_a-h}.$$

Using the commutativity between  $\Lambda_{m_1}, \dots, \Lambda_{m_n}$  along with the normalization (1.1.6) we have

$$[L_{m_a}, L_{m_b}] = 0, \quad [K_{m_a-h}, K_{m_b-h}] = 0, \quad (4.1.1)$$

$$[K_{m_a-h}, L_{m_b}] + [L_{m_a}, K_{m_b-h}] = 0 \quad (4.1.2)$$

and

$$(L_{m_a} | K_{m_b-h}) = \eta_{ab} m_b, \quad \forall a, b = 1, \dots, n. \quad (4.1.3)$$

Note that  $L_{m_1} = I_+$ , we have in particular

$$[I_+, L_{m_a}] = 0, \quad \forall a = 1, \dots, n. \quad (4.1.4)$$

Therefore the elements  $L_{m_a}$  are the highest weight vectors of the lowest weight module  $\mathcal{L}^a$ , i.e.

$$L_{m_a} = \text{const} \cdot \text{ad}_{I_+}^{2m_a} \gamma^a, \quad \text{const} \neq 0.$$

**Lemma 4.1.2.** The lowest weight vectors  $\gamma^a$  can be normalized such that

$$(\gamma^a | L_{m_a}) = 1. \quad (4.1.5)$$

*Proof.* We know that different irreducible representations of  $sl_2(\mathbb{C})$  are orthogonal w.r.t. to  $(\cdot | \cdot)$  and, hence, the nondegeneracy of  $(\cdot | \cdot)$  implies the nondegeneracy of its restriction to each irreducible representation. Note that

$$(\gamma^a | \text{ad}_{I_-}^k L_{m_a}) = -(I_- | [\gamma^a, \text{ad}_{I_-}^{k-1} L_{m_a}]) = 0, \quad \forall k \in \{1, \dots, 2m_a\}.$$

So  $(\gamma^a | L_{m_a}) \neq 0$  since otherwise we obtain a contradiction with the nondegeneracy of  $(\cdot | \cdot)$ . Hence for  $a = 1, \dots, n-1$ , we can normalize  $\gamma^a$  such that  $(\gamma^a | L_{m_a}) = 1$ . Particular consideration must be addressed for  $\gamma^n$ , since we have already defined  $\gamma^n = E_{-\theta}$ . Taking in (4.1.3)  $a = n, b = 1$  we obtain

$$(L_{m_n} | K_{m_1-h}) = 1 \Rightarrow (L_{m_n} | E_{-\theta}) = 1,$$

which finishes the proof.  $\square$

From now on we fix a choice of  $\gamma^1, \dots, \gamma^n$  satisfying (4.1.5). Then Lemmata 2.1.1, 4.1.2 imply

$$(\gamma^a | L_{m_b}) = \delta_b^a. \quad (4.1.6)$$

Note that for  $D_n$  with  $n$  even, eq. (4.1.6) is valid with a suitable choice of  $\gamma^{n/2}, \gamma^{n/2+1}$ .

According to Cor. 3.2.4 and Thm. 1.3.1,  $\langle \langle \tau_{a,k} \tau_{1,0} \rangle \rangle$  are differential polynomials in  $u$ , homogeneous of degree

$$m_a + 1 + kh$$

w.r.t. to  $\text{deg}^e$ . In particular, we have

$$\text{deg}^e r_a = m_a + 1, \quad a = 1, \dots, n.$$

We arrive at

**Lemma 4.1.3.** *There exists a Miura transformation  $u \rightarrow r$  of the form*

$$r_a = c_a u_a + P_a[u_1, \dots, u_{a-1}], \quad a = 1, \dots, n \quad (4.1.7)$$

for some non-zero constants  $c_a$ , where  $P_a$  are differential polynomials in  $u_1, \dots, u_{a-1}$  satisfying

$$\deg^e P_a[u_1, \dots, u_{a-1}] = m_a + 1. \quad (4.1.8)$$

**Remark 4.1.4.** *For  $D_n$  with  $n$  even, Lemma 4.1.3 is valid with a suitable choice of  $\gamma^{n/2}, \gamma^{n/2+1}$ .*

**Remark 4.1.5.** *The inverse Miura transformation has the form*

$$u_a = c_a^{-1} r_a + \tilde{P}_a([r_1, \dots, r_{a-1}]), \quad (4.1.9)$$

thanks to the triangular nature of the transformation (4.1.7).

**Lemma 4.1.6.** *The constants  $c_a$  in Lemma 4.1.3 have the following explicit expressions*

$$c_a = -\frac{m_a}{h}. \quad (4.1.10)$$

**Proof.** Fix  $a \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ . We are to compute  $r_a|_{u_1, \dots, u_{a-1} \equiv 0}$ . Assume  $u_1 \equiv 0, \dots, u_{a-1} \equiv 0$ . Looking at equation (2.1.5) for the pair  $(U, H)$  we obtain

$$U^{[-1]} = \dots = U^{[-m_a]} = 0 = H^{[-1]} = \dots = H^{[1-m_a]}.$$

The first nontrivial equation arises from the component of principal degree  $-m_a$  in (2.1.5):

$$H^{[-m_a]} + [U^{[-m_a-1]}, \Lambda] = u_a \gamma^a \quad (\text{no summation in } a). \quad (4.1.11)$$

Let us decompose the elements  $H^{[-m_a]}, U^{[-m_a-1]}$  as follows

$$\begin{aligned} H^{[-m_a]} &= \frac{g_a(x)}{\lambda} \Lambda_{h-m_a} = g_a(x) K_{-m_a} + \frac{g_a(x)}{\lambda} L_{h-m_a}, \quad a = 1, \dots, n, \\ U^{[-m_a-1]} &= \frac{1}{\lambda} Y_{h-m_a-1} + W_{-m_a-1}, \quad a = 1, \dots, n-1, \\ U^{[-m_n-1]} &= \frac{1}{\lambda} Y_0. \end{aligned}$$

Substituting these expressions in (4.1.11) and comparing the coefficients of powers of  $\lambda$  we obtain

$$\lambda^{-1}: \quad g_a(x) L_{h-m_a} + [Y_{h-m_a-1}, I_+] = 0, \quad (4.1.12)$$

$$\lambda^0: \quad g_a(x) K_{-m_a} + [Y_{h-m_a-1}, E_{-\theta}] + [W_{-m_a-1}, I_+] = u_a \gamma^a, \quad (4.1.13)$$

$$\lambda^1: \quad [W_{-m_a-1}, E_{-\theta}] = 0 \quad (\text{automatic!}). \quad (4.1.14)$$

Since  $L_{h-m_a}$  is the highest weight vector of the irreducible  $sl_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module  $\mathcal{L}^{n+1-a}$ , the solution to eq. (4.1.12) is

$$Y_{h-m_a-1} = \frac{g_a(x)}{2(h-m_a)} [I_-, L_{h-m_a}] + f(x) L_{h-m_a-1}$$

for some function  $f(x)$  which is a differential polynomial in  $u$ . So we have

$$\begin{aligned} [Y_{h-m_a-1}, E_{-\theta}] &= \frac{g_a(x)}{2(h-m_a)} [I_-, [L_{h-m_a}, E_{-\theta}]] + f(x) [L_{h-m_a-1}, E_{-\theta}] \\ &\stackrel{(4.1.2)}{=} \frac{g_a(x)}{2(h-m_a)} [I_-, [I_+, K_{-m_a}]] + f(x) [L_{h-m_a-1}, E_{-\theta}]. \end{aligned} \quad (4.1.15)$$

Plugging (4.1.15) into (4.1.13) we find

$$g_a(x)K_{-m_a} + \frac{g_a(x)}{2(h-m_a)}[I_-, [I_+, K_{-m_a}]] + [W_{-m_a-1}, I_+] + f(x)[L_{h-m_a-1}, E_{-\theta}] = u_a \gamma^a.$$

Employing the Jacobi identity we obtain

$$g_a(x) \frac{h}{h-m_a} K_{-m_a} + \left[ I_+, \frac{g_a(x)}{2(h-m_a)} [I_-, K_{-m_a}] - W_{-m_a-1} \right] + f(x)[L_{h-m_a-1}, E_{-\theta}] = u_a \gamma^a.$$

Taking the inner products of both sides of the above equation with  $L_{m_a}$  we have

$$\left( L_{m_a} \left| \frac{h g_a(x)}{h-m_a} K_{-m_a} + \left[ I_+, \frac{g_a(x)}{2(h-m_a)} [I_-, K_{-m_a}] - W_{-m_a-1} \right] + f(x)[L_{h-m_a-1}, E_{-\theta}] \right. \right) = u_a (L_{m_a} | \gamma^a). \quad (4.1.16)$$

Noticing that  $L_{m_a}$  is a highest weight vector of the  $sl_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module  $\mathcal{L}^a$ , i.e.

$$[L_{m_a}, I_+] = 0, \quad [L_{m_a}, L_{h-m_a-1}] = 0,$$

and using (4.1.3), (4.1.5) we obtain

$$g_a(x) = \frac{h-m_a}{h \cdot (L_{m_a} | K_{-m_a})} (L_{m_a} | \gamma^a) u_a(x) = \frac{1}{h} u_a(x).$$

Using Def. 4.1.1 and eq. (2.7.3) we have

$$-r_a = \operatorname{res}_{\lambda=\infty} \left( e^U \Lambda_{m_a} e^{-U} \left| E_{-\theta} \right. \right) = \operatorname{res}_{\lambda=\infty} \left( \Lambda_{m_a}(\lambda) \left| E_{-\theta} - [U(\lambda), E_{-\theta}] + \frac{1}{2}[U(\lambda), [U(\lambda), E_{-\theta}]] + \dots \right. \right).$$

The only possible contribution to the residue comes from the terms of principal degree  $-h-m_a$  and the first one in the series is easily seen to be residueless

$$\operatorname{res}_{\lambda=\infty} (\Lambda_{m_a}(\lambda) | E_{-\theta}) d\lambda = 0.$$

Note that we have already shown that  $U$  has the form

$$U = U^{[-m_a-1]} + \sum_{j \leq -m_a-2} U^{[j]}.$$

Therefore only the very next term  $-(\Lambda_{m_a}(\lambda) | [U(\lambda), E_{-\theta}])$  can contribute to the residue. Thus

$$r_a = \operatorname{res}_{\lambda=\infty} (\Lambda_{m_a}(\lambda) | [U(\lambda), E_{-\theta}]) = \operatorname{res}_{\lambda=\infty} \left( \Lambda_{m_a}(\lambda) | [U^{[-m_a-1]}(\lambda), E_{-\theta}] \right). \quad (4.1.17)$$

Now substituting

$$\Lambda_{m_a}(\lambda) = \lambda K_{m_a-h} + L_{m_a}, \quad U^{[-m_a-1]} = \frac{1}{\lambda} Y_{h-m_a-1} + W_{-m_a-1} \quad (4.1.18)$$

in (4.1.17) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} -r_a(x) &= \left( L_{m_a} \left| [Y_{h-m_a-1}, E_{-\theta}] \right. \right) = \left( L_{m_a} \left| \left[ \frac{g_a(x)}{2(h-m_a)} [I_-, L_{h-m_a}] + f(x) L_{h-m_a-1}, E_{-\theta} \right] \right. \right) \\ &= \frac{g_a(x)}{2(h-m_a)} (L_{m_a} | [[E_{-\theta}, L_{h-m_a}], I_-]) \\ &= \frac{g_a(x)}{2(h-m_a)} (L_{m_a} | [[K_{-m_a}, I_+], I_-]) = \frac{g_a(x)}{2(h-m_a)} ([I_+, [I_-, L_{m_a}]] | K_{-m_a}) \\ &= g_a(x) \frac{m_a}{h-m_a} (L_{m_a} | K_{-m_a}) = \frac{m_a}{h} u_a(x). \end{aligned}$$

The lemma is proved.  $\square$

**Remark 4.1.7.** For the  $A_n$  case, a similar lemma on relations between normal coordinates and Wronskian-gauge coordinates was obtained e.g. in [9]; see Lemma 3.1 therein.

## 4.2 Partition function and topological ODE

The partition function of the DS hierarchy of  $\mathfrak{g}$ -type is a particular tau-function specified (up to a constant factor) by the string equation (1.3.5). The compatibility between the string equation and the DS hierarchy follows from the fact that the flow  $\partial_{s_{-1}}$  defined by

$$\partial_{s_{-1}}\tau := \sum_{a=1}^n \sum_{k \geq 0} t_{k+1}^a \frac{\partial \tau}{\partial t_k^a} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{a,b=1}^n \eta_{ab} t_0^a t_0^b \tau - \frac{\partial \tau}{\partial t_0^1}$$

is an additional symmetry of the DS hierarchy.

The function  $u = u(\mathbf{T}) = u(\mathbf{t})$  associated to  $Z(\mathbf{t})$  is called the topological solution to the lowest-weight-gauge DS hierarchy, and  $r = r(\mathbf{t}) = r(\mathbf{T})$  the topological solution in normal coordinates.

**Lemma 4.2.1.** *The normal coordinates associated to the partition function  $Z$  satisfy*

$$r_a(\mathbf{t})|_{t_k^a = \delta_1^a \delta_{k,0} t_0^1} = -\delta_{a,n} \frac{h-1}{h \cdot \kappa} t_0^1, \quad \kappa := \sqrt{-h}^{-h}. \quad (4.2.1)$$

*Proof.* By applying the  $t_0^a$ -derivative on both sides of eq. (1.3.5) we have

$$\frac{\partial^2 \log Z}{\partial t_0^1 \partial t_0^a} \Big|_{t_k^a = \delta_1^a \delta_{k,0} t_0^1} = \delta_{a,n} t_0^1.$$

Hence from (1.3.6) we obtain

$$\frac{\partial^2 \log Z}{\partial T_0^1 \partial T_0^a} \Big|_{t_k^a = \delta_1^a \delta_{k,0} t_0^1} = -\delta_{a,n} \frac{h-1}{h} \sqrt{-h}^h t_0^1.$$

The lemma is proved.  $\square$

**Lemma 4.2.2.** *The topological solution to the lowest-weight-gauge DS hierarchy of  $\mathfrak{g}$ -type satisfies*

$$u_a(\mathbf{t})|_{t_k^a = \delta_1^a \delta_{k,0} t_0^1} = \delta_{a,n} \frac{1}{\kappa} t_0^1. \quad (4.2.2)$$

*Proof.* By applying Lemma 4.1.3, Lemma 4.1.6 and Lemma 4.2.1.  $\square$

**Topological ODE of  $\mathfrak{g}$ -type.** Let  $u = u(\mathbf{T}) = u(\mathbf{t})$  be the topological solution to the lowest-weight-gauge DS hierarchy. Note that

$$t_0^1 = -T_0^1 = x.$$

Define

$$M_a(\lambda, x) = \lambda^{-\frac{m_a}{h}} R_a^{can} \Big|_{t_k^b = x \delta_1^b \delta_{k,0}}, \quad a = 1, \dots, n;$$

then we have

$$\left[ \partial_x + \Lambda + \frac{x}{\kappa} \gamma^n, M_a(\lambda, x) \right] = 0. \quad (4.2.3)$$

Noting that  $\gamma^n = E_{-\theta}$  we have

$$\partial_x (M_a) + \left[ I_+ + \left( \lambda + \frac{x}{\kappa} \right) E_{-\theta}, M_a \right] = 0, \quad a = 1, \dots, n. \quad (4.2.4)$$

**Lemma 4.2.3** (Key Lemma). *The following formulae hold true*

$$\partial_x (M_a) = \frac{1}{\kappa} \partial_\lambda (M_a), \quad a = 1, \dots, n. \quad (4.2.5)$$

*Proof.* Consider the transformation of independent variables  $(\lambda, x) \rightarrow (s, x)$  defined by

$$s = \lambda + \frac{x}{\kappa}, \quad x = x.$$

Then we have

$$\frac{1}{\kappa} \frac{dM_a}{ds} + [I_+ + s E_{-\theta}, M_a] = 0, \quad a = 1, \dots, n. \quad (4.2.6)$$

Note that eq. (4.2.6) for  $M_a$  is the topological ODE of  $\mathfrak{g}$ -type [8]. At  $s = \infty$ ,  $M_a$  is a regular solution satisfying that

$$M_a = s^{-\frac{m_a}{h}} \Lambda_{m_a}(s) + \text{lower order terms w.r.t. } \deg^p. \quad (4.2.7)$$

According to the uniqueness part of Thm. 1.2 in [7] we have

$$M_a(s, x) = M_a(s). \quad (4.2.8)$$

The lemma is proved.  $\square$

*Proof.* of Thm. 1.3.2. Note that  $M_a(\lambda) = M_a(\lambda; x = 0)$ . Substituting eq. (4.2.5) into eq. (4.2.4), and then taking  $x = 0$ . we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} [L, M_a(\lambda)] &= 0, \quad L := \partial_\lambda + \kappa \Lambda, \\ M_a(\lambda) &= \lambda^{-\frac{m_a}{h}} [\Lambda_{m_a}(\lambda) + \text{lower order terms w.r.t. } \deg^p]. \end{aligned}$$

The theorem is proved.  $\square$

*Proof.* of Thm. 1.4.2. By Thm-ADE, Thm-BCFG, Thm. 1.3.1, and by Thm. 1.3.2 we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & (\kappa \sqrt{-h})^N \sum_{g, k_1, \dots, k_N \geq 0} (-1)^{k_1 + \dots + k_N} \prod_{\ell=1}^N \frac{\left(\frac{m_{i_\ell}}{h}\right)_{k_\ell+1}}{\left(\kappa \tilde{\lambda}_\ell\right)^{\frac{m_{i_\ell}}{h} + k_\ell + 1}} \langle \tau_{i_1 k_1} \dots \tau_{i_N k_N} \rangle_g^{\mathfrak{g}} \\ &= -\frac{1}{2N h^\vee} \sum_{s \in \mathcal{S}_N} \frac{B\left(\tilde{M}_{i_{s_1}}(\tilde{\lambda}_{s_1}), \dots, \tilde{M}_{i_{s_N}}(\tilde{\lambda}_{s_N})\right)}{\prod_{j=1}^N (\tilde{\lambda}_{s_j} - \tilde{\lambda}_{s_{j+1}})} \\ & \quad - \delta_{N2} \eta_{i_1 i_2} \frac{\tilde{\lambda}_1^{-\frac{m_{i_1}}{h}} \tilde{\lambda}_2^{-\frac{m_{i_2}}{h}} (m_{i_1} \tilde{\lambda}_1 + m_{i_2} \tilde{\lambda}_2)}{(\tilde{\lambda}_1 - \tilde{\lambda}_2)^2}, \quad N \geq 2. \end{aligned} \quad (4.2.9)$$

where  $\tilde{M}_a = \tilde{M}_a(\tilde{\lambda})$ ,  $a = 1, \dots, n$  are the unique solutions to

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\tilde{M}}{d\tilde{\lambda}} &= \kappa [\tilde{M}, \Lambda(\tilde{\lambda})], \quad \kappa = \left(\sqrt{-h}\right)^{-h}, \\ \tilde{M}_a(\tilde{\lambda}) &= \tilde{\lambda}^{-\frac{m_a}{h}} \left[ \Lambda_{m_a}(\tilde{\lambda}) + \text{lower degree terms w.r.t. } \deg \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Now consider the following conjugation of  $\tilde{M}_a$  together with a rescaling in  $\tilde{\lambda}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} M_a(\lambda) &= \sigma^{\rho^\vee} \tilde{M}_a(\tilde{\lambda}) \sigma^{-\rho^\vee}, \\ \lambda &= \sigma^{-h} \tilde{\lambda} \end{aligned}$$

where  $\sigma := \kappa^{-\frac{1}{h+1}}$ . It is straightforward to check that

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dM}{d\lambda} &= [M, \Lambda(\lambda)], \\ M_a(\lambda) &= \lambda^{-\frac{m_a}{h}} [\Lambda_{m_a}(\lambda) + \text{lower degree terms w.r.t. deg}].\end{aligned}$$

Combining with (4.2.9), this proves the validity of the formula (1.4.9). To prove formula (1.4.8), one further needs to observe the following identity obtained from the string equation (1.3.5)

$$\langle \tau_{a,k+1} \tau_{1,0} \rangle^{FJRW-\mathfrak{g}} = \langle \tau_{ak} \rangle^{FJRW-\mathfrak{g}}, \quad a = 1, \dots, n, k \geq 0.$$

The rest of proving (1.4.8) follows from the identity (2.7.3) and the above conjugation of  $\tilde{M}_a$  with the rescaling in  $\lambda$ .  $\square$

*Proof* of Thm. 1.4.3. The theorem is a particular case of Thm. 1.4.2 with the particular realization of  $A_n$  Lie algebra being consistent with normalization of flows suggested by Witten [52].  $\square$

**Example 4.2.4** (Rationality of Witten's  $r$ -spin intersection numbers.). *It is known that Witten's  $r$ -spin intersection numbers are non-negative rational numbers. Let us verify the rationality through (1.4.12) and (1.4.13). Indeed, our definition of  $N$ -point  $r$ -spin correlators reads*

$$\begin{aligned}F_{a_1, \dots, a_N}^{r\text{-spin}}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_N) &= \left( \kappa^{\frac{1}{r+1}} \sqrt{-r} \right)^N \sum_{k_1, \dots, k_N \geq 0} \prod_{\ell=1}^N \frac{(-1)^{k_\ell} \left( \frac{a_\ell}{r} \right)_{k_\ell+1}}{\left( \kappa^{\frac{1}{r+1}} \lambda_\ell \right)^{\frac{a_\ell}{r} + k_\ell + 1}} \langle \tau_{a_1 k_1} \dots \tau_{a_N k_N} \rangle^{r\text{-spin}} \\ &= \sum_{g \geq 0} (-r)^{g-1+N} \sum_{k_1, \dots, k_N \geq 0} \prod_{\ell=1}^N \frac{(-1)^{k_\ell} \left( \frac{a_\ell}{r} \right)_{k_\ell+1}}{\lambda_\ell^{\frac{a_\ell}{r} + k_\ell + 1}} \langle \tau_{a_1 k_1} \dots \tau_{a_N k_N} \rangle_g^{r\text{-spin}}\end{aligned}$$

where we have used  $\kappa = \sqrt{-r}^{-r}$  and the dimension-degree matching (1.4.5). Clearly, all the coefficients are rational. On the other hand, the r.h.s. of (1.4.12) or of (1.4.13) belongs to  $\mathbb{Q}[[\lambda_1^{-1/r}, \dots, \lambda_N^{-1/r}]]$  as our regular solutions  $M_a(\lambda)$ ,  $a = 1, \dots, n$  to the topological ODEs of  $sl_n(\mathbb{C})$ -type (1.4.11) are of rational coefficients. The rationality of  $r$ -spin correlators is verified.

## A 3-spin

The matrices  $M_i(\lambda)$ ,  $i = 1, 2$  for the Witten's 3-spin invariants have the following explicit expressions. Denote  $M_i(\lambda) = (M_i(\lambda)_b^a)_{a,b=1, \dots, 3}$ . Then we have

$$\begin{aligned}
(M_1)_1^1 &= \sum_{g \geq 0} \frac{(-1)^g 3^{6g} \Gamma(8g + \frac{4}{3})}{108^g g! \Gamma(g + \frac{1}{3})} \lambda^{-\frac{24g+4}{3}} - \frac{1}{72} \sum_{g \geq 0} \frac{(-1)^g 3^{6g} \Gamma(8g + \frac{16}{3})}{108^g g! \Gamma(g + \frac{4}{3})} \lambda^{-\frac{24g+16}{3}} \\
(M_1)_2^1 &= - \sum_{g \geq 0} \frac{(-1)^g 3^{6g} \Gamma(8g + \frac{1}{3})}{108^g g! \Gamma(g + \frac{4}{3})} \lambda^{-\frac{24g+1}{3}} + \frac{1}{24} \sum_{g \geq 0} \frac{(-1)^g 3^{6g} \Gamma(8g + \frac{13}{3})}{108^g g! \Gamma(g + \frac{4}{3})} \lambda^{-\frac{24g+13}{3}} \\
(M_1)_3^1 &= - \frac{1}{12} \sum_{g \geq 0} \frac{(-1)^g 3^{6g} \Gamma(8g + \frac{10}{3})}{108^g g! \Gamma(g + \frac{4}{3})} \lambda^{-\frac{24g+10}{3}} \\
(M_1)_1^2 &= \sum_{g \geq 0} \frac{(-1)^g 3^{6g} \Gamma(8g + \frac{7}{3})}{108^g g! \Gamma(g + \frac{1}{3})} \lambda^{-\frac{24g+7}{3}} - \frac{1}{12} \sum_{g \geq 0} \frac{(-1)^g 3^{6g} \Gamma(8g + \frac{10}{3})}{108^g g! \Gamma(g + \frac{4}{3})} \lambda^{-\frac{24g+7}{3}} - \frac{1}{72} \sum_{g \geq 0} \frac{(-1)^g 3^{6g} \Gamma(8g + \frac{19}{3})}{108^g g! \Gamma(g + \frac{4}{3})} \lambda^{-\frac{24g+19}{3}} \\
(M_1)_2^2 &= \frac{1}{36} \sum_{g \geq 0} \frac{(-1)^g 3^{6g} \Gamma(8g + \frac{16}{3})}{108^g g! \Gamma(g + \frac{4}{3})} \lambda^{-\frac{24g+16}{3}} \\
(M_1)_3^2 &= - \sum_{g \geq 0} \frac{(-1)^g 3^{6g} \Gamma(8g + \frac{1}{3})}{108^g g! \Gamma(g + \frac{4}{3})} \lambda^{-\frac{24g+1}{3}} - \frac{1}{24} \sum_{g \geq 0} \frac{(-1)^g 3^{6g} \Gamma(8g + \frac{13}{3})}{108^g g! \Gamma(g + \frac{4}{3})} \lambda^{-\frac{24g+13}{3}} \\
(M_1)_1^3 &= - \frac{1}{72} \sum_{g \geq 0} \frac{(-1)^g 3^{6g} \Gamma(8g + \frac{22}{3})}{108^g g! \Gamma(g + \frac{4}{3})} \lambda^{-\frac{24g+22}{3}} - \sum_{g \geq 0} \frac{(-1)^g 3^{6g} \Gamma(8g + \frac{1}{3})}{108^g g! \Gamma(g + \frac{4}{3})} \lambda^{-\frac{24g-2}{3}} \\
(M_1)_2^3 &= \sum_{g \geq 0} \frac{(-1)^g 3^{6g} \Gamma(8g + \frac{7}{3})}{108^g g! \Gamma(g + \frac{1}{3})} \lambda^{-\frac{24g+7}{3}} - \frac{1}{12} \sum_{g \geq 0} \frac{(-1)^g 3^{6g} \Gamma(8g + \frac{10}{3})}{108^g g! \Gamma(g + \frac{4}{3})} \lambda^{-\frac{24g+7}{3}} + \frac{1}{72} \sum_{g \geq 0} \frac{(-1)^g 3^{6g} \Gamma(8g + \frac{19}{3})}{108^g g! \Gamma(g + \frac{4}{3})} \lambda^{-\frac{24g+19}{3}} \\
(M_1)_3^3 &= - \sum_{g \geq 0} \frac{(-1)^g 3^{6g} \Gamma(8g + \frac{4}{3})}{108^g g! \Gamma(g + \frac{1}{3})} \lambda^{-\frac{24g+4}{3}} - \frac{1}{72} \sum_{g \geq 0} \frac{(-1)^g 3^{6g} \Gamma(8g + \frac{16}{3})}{108^g g! \Gamma(g + \frac{4}{3})} \lambda^{-\frac{24g+16}{3}}
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
(M_2)_1^1 &= - \frac{1}{6} \sum_{g \geq 0} \frac{(-1)^g 3^{6g} \Gamma(8g + \frac{8}{3})}{108^g g! \Gamma(g + \frac{2}{3})} \lambda^{-\frac{24g+8}{3}} - \frac{1}{144} \sum_{g \geq 0} \frac{(-1)^g 3^{6g} \Gamma(8g + \frac{20}{3})}{108^g g! \Gamma(g + \frac{5}{3})} \lambda^{-\frac{24g+20}{3}} \\
(M_2)_2^1 &= \frac{1}{144} \sum_{g \geq 0} \frac{(-1)^g 3^{6g} \Gamma(8g + \frac{17}{3})}{108^g g! \Gamma(g + \frac{5}{3})} \lambda^{-\frac{24g+17}{3}} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{g \geq 0} \frac{(-1)^g 3^{6g} \Gamma(8g + \frac{5}{3})}{108^g g! \Gamma(g + \frac{2}{3})} \lambda^{-\frac{24g+5}{3}} \\
(M_2)_3^1 &= - \sum_{g \geq 0} \frac{(-1)^g 3^{6g} \Gamma(8g + \frac{2}{3})}{108^g g! \Gamma(g + \frac{2}{3})} \lambda^{-\frac{24g+2}{3}} \\
(M_2)_1^2 &= - \frac{1}{144} \sum_{g \geq 0} \frac{(-1)^g 3^{6g} \Gamma(8g + \frac{23}{3})}{108^g g! \Gamma(g + \frac{5}{3})} \lambda^{-\frac{24g+23}{3}} - \sum_{g \geq 0} \frac{(-1)^g 3^{6g} \Gamma(8g + \frac{2}{3})}{108^g g! \Gamma(g + \frac{2}{3})} \lambda^{-\frac{24g-1}{3}} + \frac{1}{6} \sum_{g \geq 0} \frac{(-1)^g 3^{6g} \Gamma(8g + \frac{11}{3})}{108^g g! \Gamma(g + \frac{2}{3})} \lambda^{-\frac{24g+11}{3}} \\
(M_2)_2^2 &= \frac{1}{3} \sum_{g \geq 0} \frac{(-1)^g 3^{6g} \Gamma(8g + \frac{8}{3})}{108^g g! \Gamma(g + \frac{2}{3})} \lambda^{-\frac{24g+8}{3}} \\
(M_2)_3^2 &= \frac{1}{144} \sum_{g \geq 0} \frac{(-1)^g 3^{6g} \Gamma(8g + \frac{17}{3})}{108^g g! \Gamma(g + \frac{5}{3})} \lambda^{-\frac{24g+17}{3}} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{g \geq 0} \frac{(-1)^g 3^{6g} \Gamma(8g + \frac{5}{3})}{108^g g! \Gamma(g + \frac{2}{3})} \lambda^{-\frac{24g+5}{3}} \\
(M_3)_1^3 &= - \frac{1}{6} \sum_{g \geq 0} \frac{(-1)^g 3^{6g} \Gamma(8g + \frac{14}{3})}{108^g g! \Gamma(g + \frac{2}{3})} \lambda^{-\frac{24g+14}{3}} + \frac{1}{144} \sum_{g \geq 0} \frac{(-1)^g 3^{6g} \Gamma(8g + \frac{17}{3})}{108^g g! \Gamma(g + \frac{5}{3})} \lambda^{-\frac{24g+14}{3}} \\
(M_3)_2^3 &= - \frac{1}{144} \sum_{g \geq 0} \frac{(-1)^g 3^{6g} \Gamma(8g + \frac{23}{3})}{108^g g! \Gamma(g + \frac{5}{3})} \lambda^{-\frac{24g+23}{3}} - \sum_{g \geq 0} \frac{(-1)^g 3^{6g} \Gamma(8g + \frac{2}{3})}{108^g g! \Gamma(g + \frac{2}{3})} \lambda^{-\frac{24g-1}{3}} - \frac{1}{6} \sum_{g \geq 0} \frac{(-1)^g 3^{6g} \Gamma(8g + \frac{11}{3})}{108^g g! \Gamma(g + \frac{2}{3})} \lambda^{-\frac{24g+11}{3}} \\
(M_3)_3^3 &= - \frac{1}{6} \sum_{g \geq 0} \frac{(-1)^g 3^{6g} \Gamma(8g + \frac{8}{3})}{108^g g! \Gamma(g + \frac{2}{3})} \lambda^{-\frac{24g+8}{3}} + \frac{1}{144} \sum_{g \geq 0} \frac{(-1)^g 3^{6g} \Gamma(8g + \frac{20}{3})}{108^g g! \Gamma(g + \frac{5}{3})} \lambda^{-\frac{24g+20}{3}}.
\end{aligned}$$

## B Remark on tau-functions

Let us recall a consistent gauge slice introduced by Hollowood–Miramontes (HM) [35]. It is proven in [35, 36] that for any smooth function  $q(x) \in \mathfrak{b}$ , there exists

$$V(x) = \sum_{k \geq 0} \frac{V_k(x)}{\lambda^k} \in L(\mathfrak{g})_{\leq 0}, \quad V_k(x) \in \mathfrak{g}$$

such that

$$e^{-\text{ad}_V} \mathcal{L} = \partial_x + \Lambda, \quad \mathcal{L} = \partial_x + \Lambda + q. \quad (\text{B.0.1})$$

Note that the functions  $V_k(x)$  in general are not differential polynomials in  $q$  [35, 53]. The HM gauge is characterized by

$$V_0 = 0, \quad \text{i.e. } V \in L(\mathfrak{g})_{<0} = \frac{\mathfrak{g}}{\lambda} \oplus \mathcal{O}(\lambda^{-2}). \quad (\text{B.0.2})$$

It is straightforward to derive from eq. (B.0.1) an infinite sequence of equations

$$\begin{aligned} q(x) &= [V_1, E_{-\theta}], \\ \partial_x(V_1) + [V_1, I_+] + \frac{1}{2}[V_1, [V_1, E_{-\theta}]] &= -[V_2, E_{-\theta}], \end{aligned}$$

etc. Existence of the HM gauge has been proved by Hollowood and Miramontes in [35]. For the DS hierarchy associated to the HM gauge,  $T_0^1$  can be identified with  $-x$  [35].

So now we **assume**  $V_0 = 0$  and denote  $\Phi = e^V$ . Let

$$\mathcal{L}^{HM} = \partial_x + \Lambda + q^{HM}$$

and let  $R_a^{HM}$  be the basic resolvents of  $\mathcal{L}^{HM}$ . Define

$$w = \exp(V) \exp(-\xi), \quad \text{with } \xi := - \sum_{a=1}^n \sum_{k \geq 0} T_k^a \Lambda_{m_a + kh}.$$

Recall that  $w$  is called the wave function associated to the HM gauge,

**Lemma B.0.1** ([35, 36]). *Denote  $\Phi = e^V$ . The DS hierarchy of the HM gauge can be viewed as the compatibility between the linear flows*

$$w_{T_k^a} = \left( \lambda^k R_a^{HM} \right)_+ w. \quad (\text{B.0.3})$$

**Definition B.0.2** (Cafasso–Wu, [13]). *For an arbitrary solution  $q^{HM}$  to the DS hierarchy associated to the HM gauge, the tau-function  $\tau^{CW}$  of this solution is defined by*

$$\frac{\partial \log \tau^{CW}}{\partial T_k^a} = - \operatorname{res}_{\lambda=\infty} \lambda^k \left( \Phi^{-1}(\lambda; \mathbf{T}) \Phi_\lambda(\lambda; \mathbf{T}) \Big| \Lambda_{m_a}(\lambda) \right) d\lambda, \quad a = 1, \dots, n, k \geq 0. \quad (\text{B.0.4})$$

We leave as an exercise to the readers to prove the following

**Proposition B.0.3.** *Up to a factor of the form (1.2.6),  $\tau$  coincides with  $\tau^{CW}$ .*

**Remark B.0.4.** *Eq. (2.3.4) uniquely determines  $\tau^{CW}$  of  $q^{HM}$  only up to a constant; however, the freedom (1.2.6) for  $\tau^{CW}$  of  $q^{HM}$  also exists, because of the non-locality of  $V(x)$ .*

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