

**Exercise 1.1:** Consider the KdV equation;

$$\partial_t u = u \partial_x u + \partial_x^3 u. \quad (1)$$

(a) Show that (1) is invariant under the translational symmetry,

$$x \rightarrow x + a, \quad t \rightarrow t + a.$$

(b) Consider a transformation of the form,

$$x \rightarrow cx, \quad t \rightarrow c^\alpha t, \quad u \rightarrow c^\beta u.$$

Find the values of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  for which the above transformation is a symmetry of (1).

(c) If  $u(x, t)$  is a solution to (1), show that  $u(x + vt, t) + v$ , where  $v$  is a constant, is also a solution. What is the physical interpretation of this symmetry?

**Exercise 1.2:** Consider the following ansatz for a travelling wave solution to (1),

$$u = a \operatorname{sech}^2((x + ct)/b). \quad (2)$$

Derive the relations that  $a$  and  $b$  must satisfy if  $u$  solves (1).

**Exercise 1.3:** Consider a  $2N$  dimensional phase space, with coordinates  $(q_1, \dots, q_N, p_1, \dots, p_N)$ . For any two differential functions,  $f$  and  $g$  on phase space, define the Poisson bracket

$$\{f, g\} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial q_i} \frac{\partial g}{\partial p_i} - \frac{\partial g}{\partial q_i} \frac{\partial f}{\partial p_i}. \quad (3)$$

(a) Let us combine the coordinates on phase space into a single variable  $y_\mu$ , so that we have  $y_\mu = q_\mu$  if  $\mu < N + 1$  and  $y_\mu = p_\mu$  otherwise. Show that the Poisson bracket may then be written in the form,

$$\{f, g\} = \epsilon^{\mu\nu} \frac{\partial f}{\partial y_\mu} \frac{\partial g}{\partial y_\nu}, \quad (4)$$

where the Greek indices take values in the range 1 to  $2N$  and  $\epsilon^{\mu\nu} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & I \\ -I & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ .

Show that the Poisson bracket satisfies the Jacobi identity,

$$\{\{f, g\}, h\} + \{\{g, h\}, f\} + \{\{h, f\}, g\} = 0. \quad (5)$$

(b) Consider a generalisation of the Poisson bracket, defined by

$$\{f, g\} = \omega^{\mu\nu} \frac{\partial f}{\partial y_\mu} \frac{\partial g}{\partial y_\nu}. \quad (6)$$

Show that in order for this generalisation of the Poisson bracket to still satisfy the Jacobi identity,  $\omega^{\mu\nu}$  must satisfy,

$$\partial_\alpha \omega_{\mu\nu} + \partial_\mu \omega_{\nu\alpha} + \partial_\nu \omega_{\alpha\mu} = 0. \quad (7)$$