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D.Baleanu*

KILLING-YANO TENSORS
AND NAMBU MECHANICS

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*After 1st March 1999 at Institute for Space Sciences, POB MG-36,
Bucharest-Magurele, Romania
E-mail: baleanu@thsun1.jinr.ru.; baleanu@roifa.ifa.ro

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1 Introduction

In this paper we found a very interesting connection between Killing-Yano tensors[1] and Nambu tensors. Nambu mechanics is a generalization of classical Hamiltonian mechanics introduced by Yoichiro Nambu[2]. The fundamental principles of a canonical form of Nambu's generalized mechanics, similar to the invariant geometrical form of Hamiltonian mechanics, has been given by Leon Takhtajan [3]. In [4] was demonstrated that several Hamiltonian systems possessing dynamical symmetries can be realized in the Nambu formalism of generalized mechanics. Nambu's generalization of mechanics is based upon a higher order ($n \geq 2$) algebraic structure defined on a phase space M.

Let M be a smooth manifold of dimension n with metric g_{ab} . An r-form field ($1 \leq r \leq n$) $\eta_{a_1 \dots a_r}$ is said to be a Killing-Yano tensor[1] of valence r iff

$$\nabla_{(a_1} \eta_{a_2 \dots a_r)} = 0 \quad (1)$$

here ∇_a denotes the covariant derivative and the parenthesis denote complete symmetrization over the components indices. According to (1) the $(r-1)$ form field

$$l_{a_1 \dots a_{r-1}} = \eta_{a_1 \dots a_{r-1} m} p^m \quad (2)$$

is parallel transported along affine parametrized geodesics with tangent field p^a . A symmetric tensor field $K_{a_1 \dots a_r}$ is called a Killing tensor of valence r iff

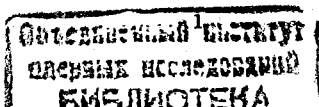
$$\nabla_{(a_1} K_{a_2 \dots a_r)} = 0 \quad (3)$$

This equation (3) ensures that $K_{m_1 \dots m_r} p^{m_1} \dots p^{m_r}$ is a first integral of the geodesic equation. These two generalizations of the Killing vector equation are related. Let $\eta_{a_1 \dots a_r}$ be a Killing-Yano tensor, then tensor field $K_{ab} = \eta_{a m_2 \dots m_r} \eta^{m_2 \dots m_r b}$ is symmetric and proves to be a Killing tensor called the associated Killing tensor. Therefore

$$l_{m_1 \dots m_{r-1}} l^{m_1 \dots m_{r-1} a} \eta^{m_2 \dots m_r b} p^a p^b \quad (4)$$

is the quadratic first integral generated by K_{ab} .

We point out that a Killing-Yano tensor $f_{\mu\nu}$ with covariant derivative zero generate a Nambu tensor and any Killing-Yano tensor of order higher than two is a Nambu tensor. Because of this very important result all Killing-Yano tensors with covariant derivative zero have the same physical and geometrical signification. We found that all Killing-Yano tensors from flat space a Nambu tensors. In the case of Kerr-Newmann metric and Taub-NUT metric we found that all Killing-Yano tensor of rank two generate a Nambu tensor of rank three.



2 Nambu Mechanics

M is called a Nambu-Poisson manifold [3] if there exists a R-multilinear map

$$\{, \dots, \} : [C^\infty]^\otimes \rightarrow C^\infty(M) \quad (5)$$

called a Nambu bracket of order n such that $\forall f_1, f_2, \dots, f_{2n-1}$

$$\{f_1, \dots, f_n\} = (-)^{P(\sigma)} \{f_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, f_{\sigma(n)}\} \quad (6)$$

$$\{f_1 f_2, f_3, \dots, f_{n+1}\} = f_1 \{f_2, f_3, \dots, f_{n+1}\} + \{f_1, f_3, \dots, f_{n+1}\} f_2 \quad (7)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} & \{f_1, \dots, f_{n-1}, f_n\}, f_{n+1}, \dots, f_{2n-1}\} + \{f_n \{f_1, \dots, f_{n-1}, f_{n+1}\}, f_{n+2}, \dots, f_{2n-1}\} \\ & + \dots + \{f_n, \dots, f_{2n-2} \{f_1, \dots, f_{n-1}, \{f_n, \dots, f_{2n-1}\}\} \\ & = \{f_1, \dots, f_{n-1}, \{f_n, \dots, f_{2n-1}\}\} \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

The dynamics on a Nambu-Hamiltonian manifold M (i.e. a phase space) is determined by n-1 so called Nambu-Hamiltonians $H_1, \dots, H_{n-1} \in C^\infty(M)$ and is governed by the following equations of motion

$$\frac{df}{dt} = \{f, H_1, \dots, H_{n-1}\}, \forall f \in C^\infty(M) \quad (9)$$

The Nambu bracket is geometrically realized by the Nambu tensor field $\eta \in \wedge^n TM$, a section of the n-fold exterior power $\wedge^n TM$ of a tangent bundle TM, such that

$$\{f_1, \dots, f_n\} = \eta \{df_1, \dots, df_n\} \quad (10)$$

In local coordinates (x^1, \dots, x^n) it becomes

$$\eta = \eta^{i_1 \dots i_n}(x) \frac{\partial}{\partial x^{i_1}} \wedge \dots \wedge \frac{\partial}{\partial x^{i_n}} \quad (11)$$

The fundamental identity (8) is equivalent to the following algebraic and differential constraints on the Nambu tensor $\eta^{i_1 \dots i_n}$

$$N^{i_1 i_2 \dots i_n j_1 j_2 \dots j_n} + N^{j_1 i_2 i_3 \dots i_n i_1 j_2 j_3 \dots j_n} = 0 \quad (12)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} N^{i_1 i_2 \dots i_n j_1 j_2 \dots j_n} & := \eta^{i_1 i_2 \dots i_n} \eta^{j_1 \dots j_n} + \eta^{j_1 i_2 i_3 \dots i_n} \eta^{j_1 j_2 \dots j_n - i_2} + \dots \\ & + \eta^{j_1 i_2 i_3 \dots i_n - i_1} \eta^{j_1 j_2 \dots j_n - i_1} - \eta^{j_1 i_2 i_3 \dots i_n} \eta^{j_1 j_2 \dots j_n - i_1} \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

and one differential [2]

$$\begin{aligned} D^{i_2 \dots i_n j_1 \dots j_n} & := \eta^{k i_2 \dots i_n} \partial_k \eta^{j_1 j_2 \dots j_n} + \dots + \eta^{j_1 i_2 \dots i_n - 1 k} \partial_k \eta^{j_1 j_2 \dots j_n - i_1} \\ & - \eta^{j_1 j_2 \dots j_n - 1 k} \partial_k \eta^{i_2 i_3 \dots i_n} = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

It has been shown [6] that the algebraic equations (12) and (13) imply that the Nambu tensors are decomposable (as conjectured in [5]) which in particular means that they can be written as determinants of the form

$$\eta^{i_1 \dots i_n} = \epsilon_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_n} v^{i_1 \alpha_1} \dots v^{i_n \alpha_n} \quad (15)$$

3 Nambu and Killing-Yano tensors

In this section we present the connection between Killing-Yano tensors and Nambu tensors.

Theorem 1

If a manifold M of dimension N admits a Killing-Yano tensor $\eta_{\mu\nu}$ with covariant derivative zero then we can construct Killing-Yano tensors of order n

$$\eta^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_r} = \epsilon_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_n} \eta^{\mu_1 \alpha_1} \dots \eta^{\mu_r \alpha_r} \quad (16)$$

with $n = 3, \dots, N-1$

Proof.

Let $\eta_{\mu\nu}$ be a Killing-Yano tensor with covariant zero then we have

$$D_\lambda \eta_{\mu\nu} = 0, D_\lambda \eta^{\mu\nu} = 0 \quad (17)$$

On the other hand $\eta^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_n}$ from (16) is antisymmetric by construction. Then the corresponding Killing-Yano equations are

$$D_\lambda \eta_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_n} + D_{\mu_1} \eta_{\lambda \dots \mu_n} = 0 \quad (18)$$

From (16) and (17) we can deduce immediately (18). For $n = N$ the corresponding Killing-Yano tensor is proportional to $\epsilon_{i_1 \dots i_n}$. QED.

Using the fact that for every Killing-Yano tensors $\eta_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_n}$ we can associate a constant of motion we have the following conserved quantities H, K^3, K^4, \dots, K^N where $K^i = K_{ab}^i p^a p^b$ for $i = 3, \dots, N$.

Theorem 2

If $\eta^{i_1 \dots i_n}$ is a Killing-Yano tensor with covariant derivative zero then it is a Nambu tensor

Proof.

If $\eta_{\mu\nu}$ is a Killing-Yano tensor of order 2 then from Theorem 1 we can construct a Killing-Yano tensor of order r

$$\eta^{i_1 \dots i_r} = \epsilon_{i_1 \dots i_n} \eta^{i_1 i_1} \dots \eta^{i_r i_r} \quad (19)$$

Let suppose that $\nabla_k \eta^{i_1 \dots i_n} = 0$. Then we have the following relations:

$$\frac{\partial \eta^{i_1 \dots i_n}}{\partial x^k} = -\Gamma_{km}^{i_1} \eta^{m \dots i_n} - \dots - \Gamma_{km}^{i_n} \eta^{i_1 \dots m} \quad (20)$$

The fundamental identity have the following form

$$D^{i_2 \dots i_n j_1 \dots j_n} := \eta^{k i_2 \dots i_n} [\Gamma_{km}^{j_1} \eta^{m \dots j_n} + \dots + \Gamma_{km}^{j_n} \eta^{i_1 \dots m}] +$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \dots + \eta^{j_n \dots i_{n-1} k} [\Gamma_{km}^{j_1} \eta^{m \dots i_n} + \dots + \Gamma_{km}^{i_n} \eta^{j_1 \dots m}] \\ & - \eta^{j_1 \dots j_{n-1} k} [\Gamma_{km}^{j_n} \eta^{m i_2 i_3 \dots i_n} + \Gamma_{km}^{i_n} \eta^{j_n \dots m}] \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

On the other hand (12) is becomes zero when $\eta^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_r}$ is given by (16). Using this fact in the case when the background has no torsion we found after calculations that (21) is identically zero. QED

When a Killing-Yano tensor is a Nambu tensor it has the same geometrical interpretation. For every Killing-Yano tensor we can associate a constant of motion $K = K_{ab} p^a p^b$, where $K_{ab} = \eta_{am_2 \dots m_r} \eta^{m_2 \dots m_r b}$.

Using Theorem 2 we put the algebraic constraint (14) in the following form

$$\begin{aligned} D^{i_2 \dots i_n j_1 \dots j_n} : &= \eta^{k i_2 \dots i_n} \nabla \eta^{j_1 j_2 \dots j_n} + \eta^{j_n k i_3 \dots i_n} \nabla_k \eta^{j_1 j_2 \dots j_{n-1} i_2} \\ &+ \dots + \eta^{j_n i_2 i_3 \dots i_{n-1} k} \nabla_k \eta^{j_n i_2 i_3 \dots i_{n-1} k} \\ &- \eta^{j_1 j_2 \dots j_{n-1} k} \nabla_k \eta^{j_n i_2 i_3 \dots i_n} = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (22)$$

4 Examples

4.1 Flat Space

A very interesting example is the flat space.

Let E^{n+1} be a Euclidean space and x^λ ($\lambda = 1 \dots n+1$) an orthogonal coordinate system. Killing-Yano equations have this form:

$$\partial_{(\mu} f_{\nu_1 \nu_2 \dots \nu_n)} = 0 \quad (23)$$

After calculations, from Killing-Yano equations we have the following general solutions

$$f_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_n} = x^\nu g_{\nu \nu_1 \nu_2 \dots \nu_n} + h_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_n} \quad (24)$$

where $g_{\nu \nu_1 \dots \nu_n}$ and $h_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_n}$ are constant antisymmetric tensors. In the flat case all the Killing-Yano tensors are Nambu tensors because relations (12) and (14) are satisfied. In this case the associate Killing tensor is

$$\begin{aligned} K_{ab} &= f_{a \nu_2 \dots \nu_n} f^{\nu_2 \dots \nu_n b} + f_{b \nu_2 \dots \nu_n} f^{\nu_2 \dots \nu_n a} \\ &= x^\alpha x^\beta (g_{\alpha a \nu_2 \dots \nu_n} g^{\nu_2 \dots \nu_n b \beta} + g_{b a \nu_2 \dots \nu_n} g^{\nu_2 \dots \nu_n a \beta}) \\ &+ x^\alpha (g_{\alpha a \nu_2 \dots \nu_n} b^{\nu_2 \dots \nu_n b} + g_{\alpha b \nu_2 \dots \nu_n} b^{\nu_2 \dots \nu_n a} + g_{b a \nu_2 \dots \nu_n} b^{\nu_2 \dots \nu_n a} + g_{a a \nu_2 \dots \nu_n} b^{\nu_2 \dots \nu_n b}) \\ &+ b_{b \nu_2 \dots \nu_n} b^{\nu_2 \dots \nu_n a} + b_{a \nu_2 \dots \nu_n} b^{\nu_2 \dots \nu_n b} \end{aligned} \quad (25)$$

Because euclidean space has dimension n we have $n-2$ Killing-Yano tensors with valence $r = 3 \dots n$. Then we have $n-2$ constants of motions K_{ab}^i with $i = 3, \dots, n$ associated with Killing-Yano tensors. If we take into account and the Hamiltonian H we have $n-1$ constants of motion.

This property is very important and make the natural connection with Nambu mechanics.

4.2 Taub-NUT metric

In the Taub-NUT geometry four Killing-Yano tensors are known to exist [8]. In this case in 2-form notation the explicit expression for the f_i are [8].

$$f_i = 4m(d\psi + \cos \theta d\varphi) \wedge dx_i - \epsilon_{ijk} \left(1 + \frac{2m}{r}\right) dx_j \wedge dx_k \quad (26)$$

$$Y = 4m(d\psi + \cos \theta d\varphi) \wedge dr + 4r(r+m) \left(1 + \frac{r}{m}\right) \sin \theta d\theta \wedge d\varphi \quad (27)$$

The symmetries of extended Taub-NUT metric was investigated in [9]. Let consider $i = 1$ in (26)

From Theorem 1 and Theorem 2 we found that the independent components of Nambu's tensor $\eta^{i_1 i_2 i_3}$ are η^{124} , η^{134} and η^{234}

$$\begin{aligned} \eta^{124} &= 4 \frac{\sin \varphi}{rm \sin \theta (r+2m)^2}, \eta^{134} = -4 \frac{\cos \varphi}{rm \sin^2 \theta (r+2m)^2} \\ \eta^{234} &= -4 \frac{\sin \varphi}{r^2 m (r+2m)^2 \sin \theta} \end{aligned} \quad (28)$$

When $i = 2$ we obtaining the following results.

$$\begin{aligned} \eta^{124} &= -4 \frac{\cos \varphi}{rm \sin \theta (r+2m)^2}, \eta^{134} = 4 \frac{\sin \varphi}{rm \sin^2 \theta (r+2m)^2} \\ \eta^{234} &= -\frac{4 \sin \varphi}{r^2 m (r+2m)^2 \sin \theta} \end{aligned} \quad (29)$$

For $i=3$ the independent components for Nambu tensor of order 3 are η^{134} and η^{234}

$$\eta^{134} = -\frac{4 \cos \theta}{rm \sin^2 \theta (r+2m)^2}, \eta^{234} = -4 \frac{\cos \theta}{r^2 m \sin^2 \theta (r+2m)^2} \quad (30)$$

Killing-Yano tensor Y from (27) has not covariant derivative zero but it generate a Nambu tensor of order 3. In this case we have the following nonzero components for the Nambu tensor

$$\eta^{234} = \frac{2(r^4 + 4r^3 m + 6r^2 m^2 + 4rm^3 + m^4)}{m^3 r^2 [-\sin^2 \theta (r^4 + 16m^4) + 8rm \cos^2 \theta (r^2 + 3rm + 4m^2)]} \quad (31)$$

4.3 Kerr-Newmann metric

The Kerr-Newmann geometry describes a charged spinning black hole; in a standard choice of coordinates the metric is given by the following line element:

$$ds^2 = -\frac{\Delta}{\rho^2} [dt - a \sin^2(\theta) d\varphi]^2 + \frac{\sin^2(\theta)}{\rho^2} [(r^2 + a^2) d\varphi - a dt]^2 + \frac{\rho^2}{\Delta} dr^2 + \rho^2 d\theta^2 \quad (32)$$

Here

$$\Delta = r^2 + a^2 - 2Mr + Q^2, \rho^2 = r^2 + a^2 \cos^2(\theta) \quad (33)$$

with Q the background electric charge, and $J = Ma$ the total angular momentum.

Killing-Yano tensor for the Kerr-Newmann metric is defined by

$$\frac{1}{2} f_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu \wedge dx^\nu = a \cos \theta dr \wedge (dt - a \sin^2 \theta d\phi) + r \sin \theta d\theta \wedge [-a dt + (r^2 + a^2) d\phi] \quad (34)$$

This Killing-Yano tensor have not covariant derivative zero but again generate a Nambu tensor of order 3.

It has the following nenule components

$$\eta^{134} = \frac{\cos^6 \theta \sin \theta a^7 r^3}{\sin^2 \theta (r^2 + a^2)^2}, \eta^{234} = \frac{r^6 \cos^3 \theta a^3}{\sin^2 \theta (r^2 + a^2)^2} \quad (35)$$

A very interesting problem is quantization of Nambu mechanics when Nambu tensor is Killing-Yano tensor. There exist different approaches toward a quantization of Nambu mechanics, such a deformation quantization in the spirit of [8] and Feynman path integral approach, based on the action principle for Nambu mechanics [3].

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