

# On the Structure of Infinitesimal Automorphisms of the Poisson-Lie Group $SU(2, \mathbb{R})$

**Bousselham Ganbouri**

Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Sciences, Ibn Tofail University, Kenitra, Morocco  
Email: [g.busslem@gmail.com](mailto:g.busslem@gmail.com)

Received 6 January 2014; revised 6 February 2014; accepted 15 February 2014

Copyright © 2014 by author and Scientific Research Publishing Inc.  
This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution International License (CC BY).  
<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>



Open Access

---

## Abstract

We study the Poisson-Lie structures on the group  $SU(2, \mathbb{R})$ . We calculate all Poisson-Lie structures on  $SU(2, \mathbb{R})$  through the correspondence with Lie bialgebra structures on its Lie algebra  $su(2, \mathbb{R})$ . We show that all these structures are linearizable in the neighborhood of the unity of the group  $SU(2, \mathbb{R})$ . Finally, we show that the Lie algebra consisting of all infinitesimal automorphisms is strictly contained in the Lie algebra consisting of Hamiltonian vector fields.

## Keywords

Poisson-Lie Structure, Lie Bialgebra, Hamiltonian, Poisson Automorphism, Linearization

---

## 1. Introduction

Let  $G$  be a Lie group. A Poisson-Lie structure on  $G$  is a Poisson structure on  $G$  for which the group multiplication is a Poisson map. Then as is usual in [1]-[3], this is equal to giving an antisymmetric contravariant 2-tensor  $\pi$  on  $G$  which satisfies Jacobi identity and the relation

$$\pi(xy) = l_{x*} \pi(y) + r_{y*} \pi(x), \quad \forall x, y \in G, \quad (1)$$

where  $l_{x*}$  and  $r_{y*}$  respectively denote the left and right translations in  $G$  by  $x$  and  $y$ . We note that a Poisson-Lie structure  $\pi$  has rank zero at a neutral element  $e$  of  $G$ , i.e.,  $\pi(e) = 0$ .

If we choose local coordinates  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  in a neighborhood  $U$  of neutral element  $e$  of  $G$ , the Poisson-Lie structure  $\pi$  reads

$$\pi(x) = \sum \pi_{ij}(x) \partial x_i \wedge \partial x_j, \quad x \in U, \quad (2)$$

where  $\pi_{ij}$  are smooth functions vanishing at  $e$  and

$$\{x_i, x_j\}(x) = \pi_{ij}(x), \quad x \in U, \quad (3)$$

where  $\{.,.\}$  is the Poisson bracket associated to  $\pi$ . By this Poisson bracket,  $C^\infty(G)$  becomes a Lie algebra.

Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be a Lie algebra of  $G$ . The derivative of  $\pi$  at  $e$  defines a skewsymmetric co-commutator map  $\delta: \mathcal{G} \rightarrow \mathcal{G} \wedge \mathcal{G}$  such that:

1) The map  $\delta$  is a 1-cocycle, i.e.,

$$\delta([X, Y]) = ad_X \delta(Y) - ad_Y \delta(X), \quad \forall X, Y \in \mathcal{G}. \quad (4)$$

2) The dual map  $\delta^*: \mathcal{G}^* \wedge \mathcal{G}^* \rightarrow \mathcal{G}^*$  is a Lie bracket on  $\mathcal{G}^*$ .

The map  $\delta$  is said a Lie bialgebra structure associated to  $\pi$ . Conversely, if  $G$  is simply connected, any Lie bialgebra structure  $\delta: \mathcal{G} \rightarrow \mathcal{G} \wedge \mathcal{G}$  on the Lie algebra  $\mathcal{G} = Lie(G)$  can be integrated to define a unique Poisson-Lie structure  $\pi$  on  $G$  such that  $d_e \pi = \delta$ .

The bialgebra structure  $\delta$  is called a *coboundary* one when there exists an skewsymmetric element  $r$  of  $\mathcal{G} \wedge \mathcal{G}$  (the classical r-matrix) such that

$$\delta(S) = ad_S r, \quad \forall S \in \mathcal{G}. \quad (5)$$

Both properties 1) and 2) imply that the element  $r$  has to be a constant solution of the modified classical Yang-Baxter equation (mCYBE) [4]-[6]:

$$ad_S [r, r] = 0, \quad S \in \mathcal{G}. \quad (6)$$

Therefore, a constant solution of mCYBE  $r$  on a given Lie algebra  $\mathcal{G}$  provide a coboundary Poisson-Lie structure  $\pi$  on (connected and simply connected) group  $G$  given by

$$\pi(s) = r_{s_*} r - l_{s_*} r, \quad \forall s \in G, \quad (7)$$

where  $l_{s_*}$  and  $r_{s_*}$  denote respectively the left and right translations in  $G$  by  $s$ .

Finally, recall that for semisimple Lie algebras, all Lie bialgebra structures are coboundaries, and the corresponding Poisson-Lie structures can be fully solved through the classical r-matrices.

In this work, We shall treat the case of the Poisson-Lie group  $SU(2, \mathbb{R})$ . We will calculate, firstly, all Poisson-Lie structures through the correspondence with Lie bialgebra; secondly, we will show that these Poisson-Lie structures are linearizable in a neighborhood of the unity  $e$  of the group  $SU(2, \mathbb{R})$  and, finally, we shall study infinitesimal automorphism of  $SU(2, \mathbb{R})$  with a linear Poisson-Lie structure, and show that the Lie algebra  $\mathcal{A}$ , consisting of all infinitesimal automorphisms is strictly contained in the Lie algebra  $\mathcal{H}$  consisting of Hamiltonian vector fields.

## 2. The Group $SU(2, \mathbb{R})$ and Lie Algebra $su(2, \mathbb{R})$

The special unitary group  $SU(2, \mathbb{R})$  is defined by

$$SU(2, \mathbb{R}) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ -\bar{\beta} & \bar{\alpha} \end{pmatrix} : \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}, \alpha\bar{\alpha} + \beta\bar{\beta} = 1 \right\}.$$

Let  $\alpha = x + iy$  and  $\beta = z + it$ .  $SU(2, \mathbb{R})$  can be identified with the unit sphere  $\mathbb{S}^3$  in  $\mathbb{R}^4$  with the unity  $e = (1, 0, 0, 0)$ .

The Lie algebra  $su(2, \mathbb{R})$  of group  $SU(2, \mathbb{R})$  is defined by

$$su(2, \mathbb{R}) = \{S \in \mathbb{C}^{2 \times 2} : {}^t \bar{S} + S = 0 \text{ and } Tr(S) = 0\}.$$

Let

$$e_1 = \begin{pmatrix} i & 0 \\ 0 & -i \end{pmatrix}; \quad e_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}; \quad e_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

a basis of  $su(2, \mathbb{R})$ . The Lie bracket on  $su(2, \mathbb{R})$  is defined by

$$[e_3, e_1] = 2e_2; \quad [e_3, e_2] = -2e_1; \quad [e_1, e_2] = 2e_3.$$

Through a straightforward computation, the left invariant fields associated to this basis had this local expression

$$\begin{aligned} X &= -y\partial_x + x\partial_y + t\partial_z - z\partial_t, \\ Y &= -z\partial_x - t\partial_y + x\partial_z + y\partial_t, \\ Z &= -t\partial_x + z\partial_y - y\partial_z + x\partial_t. \end{aligned}$$

### 3. The Lie Bialgebra Structure on $su(2, \mathbb{R})$ and the Poisson Lie Structure on $SU(2, \mathbb{R})$

#### 3.1. Lie Bialgebra Structures on $su(2, \mathbb{R})$

Recall that the Lie algebra  $su(2, \mathbb{R})$  is semisimple. Then, all Lie bialgebra structures on  $su(2, \mathbb{R})$  are coboundaries, there exists an skew symmetric element  $r$  of  $su(2, \mathbb{R}) \wedge su(2, \mathbb{R})$  such that the cocommutator  $\delta$  is given by

$$\delta(S) = ad_S r, \quad \forall S \in su(2, \mathbb{R}).$$

We stress that the element  $r$  satisfies the classical Yang-Baxter Equation (CYBE) (6). Through a long but straightforward computation, we show that these solutions are of the form

$$r = k \cdot e_1 \wedge e_2, \quad k \in \mathbb{R}_+^*. \quad (8)$$

So any Lie bialgebra structure of  $su(2, \mathbb{R})$  can be written as

$$\delta(e_1) = -2ke_3 \wedge e_1, \quad \delta(e_2) = 2ke_2 \wedge e_3, \quad \delta(e_3) = 0. \quad (9)$$

#### 3.2. Poisson-Lie Structures on $SU(2, \mathbb{R})$

Since the Lie bialgebra structures  $\delta$  on  $su(2, \mathbb{R})$  are coboundaries, the Poisson-Lie structures on  $SU(2, \mathbb{R})$  corresponding to  $\delta$  are given by

$$\pi(s) = r_{s_*} r - l_{s_*} r, \quad \forall s \in SU(2, \mathbb{R}),$$

where  $r$  is the solution of Yang-Baxter equation given by (8) and  $r_{s_*}$  and  $l_{s_*}$  respectively denote the right and left translations in  $SU(2, \mathbb{R})$  by  $s$ . Then, using  $\alpha = x + iy$ ,  $\beta = z + it$  and  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + t^2 = 1$ , one gets

$$\pi(x, y, z, t) = 2k(xz - yt)Y \wedge Z - 2k(xy + zt)Z \wedge X + 2k(y^2 + z^2)X \wedge Y. \quad (10)$$

Let

$$\pi_1 = 2k(xz - yt); \quad \pi_2 = -2k(xy + zt); \quad \pi_3 = 2k(y^2 + z^2), \quad (11)$$

be the components of  $\pi$  in the basis  $(Y \wedge X, Z \wedge X, X \wedge Y)$  of the bivector field.

### 4. Linearization of Poisson-Lie Structures on $SU(2, \mathbb{R})$

By taking back the formula (2), The Taylor series of the functions  $\pi_{ij}$  reads

$$\pi_{ij}(x) = c_{ij}^k x^k + \theta_{ij}^k(x) x^k, \quad (12)$$

where  $c_{ij}^k = \frac{\partial \pi_{ij}}{\partial x^k}(e)$  are the structure constants of a Lie algebra  $\mathcal{G}^*$ , dual of a Lie algebra  $\mathcal{G}$ , and the  $\theta_{ij}^k$  are smooth functions vanishing at  $e$ .

The term  $c_{ij}^k x^k$  of (12) defines a linear Poisson structure, called the linear part of  $\pi$ . The *linearization*

problem for a structure  $\pi$  around  $e$  is the following [7] [8]:

**Linearization problem.** Are there new coordinates where the functions  $\theta_{ij}^k$  vanish identically, so that the Poisson structure is linear in these coordinates?

Let us notice that the Lie bialgebra structure  $\delta$  associated to  $\pi$  defines a linear Poisson-Lie structure on the additive group  $\mathcal{G}$  ( $\mathcal{G} = \mathbb{R}^n$ ) that can be expressed as follows

$$\delta(a) = \sum c_{ij}^k a_k \partial_i \wedge \partial_j, \quad a = (a_1, \dots, a_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n, \quad (13)$$

where  $(\partial_1, \dots, \partial_n)$  is the canonical basis of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

Let us notice that (13) coincides with the linear part of  $\pi$ , so, the linearization problem would be the following:

There is a local Poisson diffeomorphism  $\varphi: G \rightarrow \mathcal{G}$  of a neighborhood in  $e$  of  $G$  to a neighborhood of 0 in  $\mathcal{G}$ ?

If  $(\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_n)$  are the components of  $\varphi$ , then  $\varphi$  is solution of the system of equations

$$\{\varphi_i, \varphi_j\} = \sum c_{ij}^k \varphi_k, \quad 1 \leq i < j \leq n. \quad (14)$$

For the Poisson-Lie structure on  $SU(2, \mathbb{R})$  given by (10), the system of equations (14) would be

$$\{\varphi_1, \varphi_2\} = 0, \quad \{\varphi_2, \varphi_3\} = 2k\varphi_2, \quad \{\varphi_3, \varphi_1\} = -2k\varphi_1. \quad (15)$$

With the identification of the subgroups of the singular points and the symplectic leaves of  $SU(2, \mathbb{R})$  and  $su(2, \mathbb{R})$ , we have:

**Proposition 1.** The map  $\varphi = (\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \varphi_3): \varphi(x, y, z, t) = \left( y, z, \text{Arctan} \frac{t}{x} \right)$  is a diffeomorphism in the neighborhood of  $e = (1, 0, 0, 0)$  such that  $\varphi(e) = 0$  and

$$\{\varphi_1, \varphi_2\} = 0, \quad \{\varphi_2, \varphi_3\} = 2k\varphi_2, \quad \{\varphi_3, \varphi_1\} = -2k\varphi_1.$$

So, the Poisson-Lie structure  $\pi$  on  $SU(2, \mathbb{R})$  is linear in the new variables

$$u = y; \quad v = z; \quad w = \text{Arctan} \frac{t}{x}, \quad (16)$$

and will be written

$$\pi(u, v, w) = 2kv \cdot \partial_v \wedge \partial_w - 2ku \cdot \partial_w \wedge \partial_u. \quad (17)$$

The Poisson bracket associated to  $\pi$  reads

$$\{u, v\} = 0, \quad \{v, w\} = 2kv, \quad \{w, u\} = -2ku. \quad (18)$$

## 5. Casimir Functions and Infinitesimal Automorphisms on $SU(2, \mathbb{R})$

Recall that for  $f \in C^\infty(SU(2, \mathbb{R}))$ ,  $\{f, \cdot\}$  defines a derivation of  $C^\infty(SU(2, \mathbb{R}))$ . Hence there corresponds a vector field  $\chi_f$ , which we call the Hamiltonian vector field. We denote by  $\mathcal{H}$  the Lie algebra of Hamiltonian vector fields.

A Casimir function on  $SU(2, \mathbb{R})$  is a function  $C$  such that  $\{C, f\} = 0$  for all function  $f$ . On the other words,  $C$  is an element of the center of the Lie algebra  $C^\infty(SU(2, \mathbb{R}))$ . By simple consideration, we know

that for each Casimir function  $C$  there exists a function  $\phi$  of one variable such that  $C(u, v, w) = \phi\left(\frac{u}{v}\right)$ .

Each symplectic leaf is the common level manifold of casimir functions. So, these have for equation:

$$\lambda u + \mu v = 0 \quad (\lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R}; (\lambda, \mu) \neq (0, 0)),$$

and hence are spheres.

By an automorphism of  $SU(2, \mathbb{R})$ , we mean a smooth vector field  $\xi$  on  $SU(2, \mathbb{R})$  such that

$$\mathcal{L}_\xi \pi = 0, \quad (19)$$

where  $\mathcal{L}_\xi$  denotes the Lie derivative along  $\xi$ .

If we denote by  $\mathcal{A}$  the Lie algebra consisting of all infinitesimal automorphism, it is easy to see that  $\mathcal{H}$  is an ideal of  $\mathcal{A}$ . Let  $\xi = f\partial_u + g\partial_v + h\partial_w$  be a vector field of  $\mathcal{A}$ . Then three function  $f, g$  and  $h$  must satisfy:

$$\begin{cases} f = u\partial_u f + v\partial_v f + u\partial_w h; \\ g = u\partial_u g + v\partial_v g + v\partial_w h; \\ v\partial_w f = u\partial_w g. \end{cases} \quad (20)$$

Now we shall clarify the gap between  $\mathcal{H}$  and  $\mathcal{A}$ .  
We consider the vector field

$$\mathcal{U} = \pi_1[Y, Z] + \pi_2[Z, X] + \pi_3[X, Y], \quad (21)$$

where  $(\pi_1, \pi_2, \pi_3)$  are the components of the structure  $\pi$  in the basis  $(Y \wedge Z, Z \wedge X, X \wedge Y)$  given by (11).

In the local coordinates  $(u, v, w)$  given by (14), this vector field reads

$$\mathcal{U} = -4kv\partial_u + 4ku\partial_v. \quad (22)$$

A simple check shows that the components of  $\mathcal{U}$  satisfy the relations (20). So, the vector field  $\mathcal{U}$  belongs to  $\mathcal{A}$ . In other hand,  $\mathcal{U}$  is locally Hamiltonian if and only if there exist a smooth function  $F$  in a neighborhood of the unity  $e$  of the group  $SU(2, \mathbb{R})$  such that  $\mathcal{U} = \chi_F$ , this is translated by the fact that  $F$  is a solution of the following system of equations

$$\begin{cases} u\partial_w = -v, \\ v\partial_w = u \\ u\partial_u + v\partial_v = 0. \end{cases} \quad (23)$$

It is easy to see that (23) does not admit solutions. Hence  $\mathcal{U}$  does not belong  $\mathcal{H}$ . Thus we have proved:

**Proposition 2.** The ideal  $\mathcal{H}$  is strictly contained in the Lie algebra  $\mathcal{A}$ .

In terms of Poisson cohomology [9], recall that the first Poisson cohomology group  $H_\pi^1(SU(2, \mathbb{R}))$  is the quotient of the Lie algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  by its ideal  $\mathcal{H}$ . Then, by Proposition 2, we show that the vector field  $\mathcal{U}$  defines a non trivial class  $[\mathcal{U}] \in H_\pi^1(SU(2, \mathbb{R}))$ . On the other hand, this result shows that the classical result due to Conn [10] [11] stating that for a Poisson structure formally linearizable around a singular point any local Poisson automorphism is Hamiltonian, and not just in the  $C^\infty$  category.

## References

- [1] Drinfeld's, V.G. (1983) Hamiltonian Structures on Lie Groups, Lie Bialgebras and the Geometric Meaning of the Classical Yang-Baxter Equations. *Soviet Mathematics—Doklady*, **27**, 68-71.
- [2] Drinfeld, V.G. (1986) Quantum Groups, *Proceedings of the International Congress of Mathematicians*, Berkley, 3-11 August 1986, 789-820.
- [3] Lu, J.H. and Weinstein, A. (1990) Poisson-Lie Group, Dressing Transformations and Bruhat Decomposition. *Journal of Differential Geometry*, **31**, 301-599.
- [4] Semenov-Tian-Shasky, M.A. (1983) What Is a Classical r-Matrix. *Functional Analysis and Its Applications*, **17**, 259-272. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/BF01076717>
- [5] Chari, V. and Pressley, A. (1994) A Guide to Quantum Groups. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.
- [6] Belavin, A.A. and Drinfeld, V.G. (1983) Solution of the Classical Yang-Baxter Equation for Simple Lie Algebras. *Functional Analysis and Its Applications*, **16**, 159-180. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/BF01081585>
- [7] Chloup-Arnould, V. (1997) Linearization of Some Poisson-Lie Tensor. *Journal of Geometry and Physics*, **24**, 145-195.
- [8] Dufour, J.P. (1990) Linarisation de certaines structures de Poisson. *Journal of Differential Geometry*, **32**, 415-428.
- [9] Vaisman, I. (1990) Remarks on the Lichnerowicz-Poisson Cohomology. *Annales de l'Institut Fourier*, **40**, 951-963. <http://dx.doi.org/10.5802/aif.1243>
- [10] Conn, J. (1984) Normal Forms for Analytic Poisson Structures. *Annals of Mathematics*, **119**, 576-601. <http://dx.doi.org/10.2307/2007086>
- [11] Conn, J. (1985) Normal Forms for Smooth Poisson Structures. *Annals of Mathematics*, **121**, 565-593. <http://dx.doi.org/10.2307/1971210>