Multiparametric families of solutions to the Johnson equation.

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Abstract. We construct solutions to the Johnson equation in terms of Fredholm determinants.  
We deduce solutions written as a quotient of wronskians of order $2N$. These solutions are called  
solutions of order $N$; they depend on $2N - 1$ parameters.  
They can be written as a quotient of 2 polynomials of degree $2N(N + 1)$ in $x$, $t$ and $4N(N + 1)$  
in $y$ depending on $2N - 2$ parameters.  
We explicitly construct the expressions up to order $5$ and we study the patterns of their modulus  
in plane $(x,y)$ and their evolution according to time and parameters.

Keywords : Fredholm determinants, wronskians, rational solutions, Johnson equation.

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1. Introduction

We consider the Johnson equation (J) which can be written in the form

$$(u_t + 6uu_x + u_{xxx} + \frac{u}{2t})_x - 3\frac{u_{yy}}{t^2} = 0, \quad (1)$$

subscripts $x$, $y$ and $t$ denoting partial derivatives.

Johnson [1] first proposed this equation in 1980. That equation is considered to describe wave  
surfaces in shallow incompressible fluids [2, 3]. This equation was later derived for internal  
waves in a stratified medium [4]. The Johnson equation is a dissipative equation. There is no  
soliton-like solution with a linear front localized along straight lines in the $(x,y)$ plane.  
The first solutions were constructed by Johnson in 1980 [1]. Other types of solutions were found  
by Golinko, Dryuma, and Stepanyants in 1984 [5]. This equation was solved with a new  
approach in 1986 [6] by giving a connection between solutions of the Kadomtsev-Petviashvili (KP)  
[7] and solutions of the Johnson equation. The Darboux transformation [8] gave another types  
of solutions. In 2013, the extension to the elliptic case was considered [9].

In the following, we give the results of the author about the representations of solutions to  
the Johnson equation. We have expressed the solutions in terms of Fredholm determinants of
order $2N$ depending on $2N-1$ parameters. We have also given another representation in terms of wronskians of order $2N$ with $2N-1$ parameters. These representations allow to obtain an infinite hierarchy of solutions to the Johnson equation, depending on $2N-1$ real parameters. We have used these results to build rational solutions to the Johnson equation, when a parameter tends to 0.

Rational solutions of order $N$ depending on $2N-2$ parameters without the presence of a limit have been constructed. These families depending on $2N$ parameters for the $N$-th order can be written as a ratio of two polynomials of degree $2N(N+1)$ in $x$, $t$ and $4N(N+1)$ in $y$ depending on $2N-2$ parameters.

That provides an effective method to build an infinite hierarchy of rational solutions of order $N$ depending on $2N-2$ real parameters. We present here the representations of their modulus in the plane of the coordinates $(x,y)$ and their evolution according to time and the $2N-2$ real parameters $a_i$ and $b_i$ and time $t$ for $N$ an integer such that $1 \leq N \leq 5$.

2. Solutions to the Johnson equation expressed in terms of Fredholm determinants

We need to give some notation in the following. We define first real numbers $\lambda_j$ such that $-1 < \lambda_\nu < 1$, $\nu = 1, \ldots, 2N$; they depend on a parameter $\epsilon$ and can be written as

$$\lambda_j = 1 - 2\epsilon^2 j^2, \quad \lambda_{N+j} = -\lambda_j, \quad 1 \leq j \leq N,$$

Then, we define $\kappa_\nu, \delta_\nu, \gamma_\nu$ and $x_{r,\nu}$; they are functions of $\lambda_\nu$, $1 \leq \nu \leq 2N$ and are defined by the following formulas:

$$\kappa_j = 2\sqrt{1 - \lambda_j^2}, \quad \delta_j = \kappa_j \lambda_j, \quad \gamma_j = \sqrt{1 - \lambda_j^2 / (1 + \lambda_j^2)};$$

$$x_{r,j} = (r-1)\ln \frac{\gamma_j - i}{\gamma_j + i}, \quad r = 1, 3, \quad \tau_j = -12i\lambda_j^2 \sqrt{1 - \lambda_j^2} - 4i(1 - \lambda_j^2) \sqrt{1 - \lambda_j^2},$$

$$\kappa_{N+j} = \kappa_j, \quad \delta_{N+j} = -\delta_j, \quad \gamma_{N+j} = \gamma_j^{-1},$$

$$x_{r,N+j} = -x_{r,j}, \quad \tau_{N+j} = \tau_j \quad j = 1, \ldots, N.$$

Define the following:

$$e_j = 2i \left( \sum_{k=1}^{1/2M-1} a_k(j)e^{2k+1} - i \sum_{k=1}^{1/2M-1} b_k(j)e^{2k+1} \right),$$

$$e_{N+j} = 2i \left( \sum_{k=1}^{1/2M-1} a_k(j)e^{2k+1} + i \sum_{k=1}^{1/2M-1} b_k(j)e^{2k+1} \right), \quad 1 \leq j \leq N,$$

$$a_k, b_k \in \mathbb{R}, \quad 1 \leq k \leq N.$$

Define the following:

$$e_j = 1, \quad e_{N+j} = 0 \quad 1 \leq j \leq N.$$

As usual $I$ is the unit matrix and $D_r = (d_{jk})_{1 \leq j, k \leq 2N}$ the matrix defined by:

$$d_{\nu\mu} = (-1)^\nu \prod_{\eta \neq \mu} \left( \frac{\gamma_\eta + \gamma_\mu}{\gamma_\eta - \gamma_\mu} \right) \exp(\kappa_\nu x + (\frac{\kappa_\nu y}{12} - 2\delta_\nu)yt + 4i\tau_\nu t + x_{r,\nu} + e_\nu).$$

Then we get:

**Theorem 2.1** The function $v$ defined by

$$v(x,y,t) = -2 \frac{|p(x,y,t)|^2}{d(x,y,t)^2}$$

(7)
where

\[ n(x, y, t) = \det(I + D_3(x, y, t)), \quad (8) \]

\[ d(x, y, t) = \det(I + D_1(x, y, t)), \quad (9) \]

and \( D_r = (d_{jk})_{1 \leq j, k \leq 2N} \) the matrix

\[ d_{\nu \mu} = (-1)^{\nu} \prod_{\eta \neq \mu} \left( \frac{\gamma_\eta + \gamma_\nu}{\gamma_\eta - \gamma_\mu} \right) \exp(k_\nu x + (\frac{k_\nu y}{12} - 2\delta_\nu)yt + 4i\tau_\nu t + x_{r, \nu} + e_\nu). \quad (10) \]

is a solution to (1), depending on \( 2N - 1 \) parameters \( a_k, b_k, 1 \leq k \leq N - 1 \) and \( \epsilon \).

A proof of this result is a consequence of previous works of the author [10, 11, 12, 13].

3. Wronskian representation of the solutions to the Johnson equation

We define here the following notations :

\[ \phi_{r, \nu} = \sin \Theta_{r, \nu}, \quad 1 \leq \nu \leq N, \quad \phi_{r, \nu} = \cos \Theta_{r, \nu}, \quad N + 1 \leq \nu \leq 2N, \quad r = 1, 3, \quad (11) \]

with

\[ \Theta_{r, \nu} = \frac{-iK_\nu x}{2} + i(\frac{-K_\nu y}{24} + \delta_\nu)yt - i\frac{x_{3, \nu}}{2} + 2\tau_\nu t + \gamma_\nu w - \frac{i}{2} e_\nu, \quad 1 \leq \nu \leq 2N. \quad (12) \]

\( W_r(w) \) is the wronskian of the functions \( \phi_{r,1}, \ldots, \phi_{r,2N} \) defined by

\[ W_r(w) = \det[\partial_{\mu}^{-1}\phi_{r, \nu}]_{\nu, \mu \in [1, \ldots, 2N]]. \quad (13) \]

We consider the matrix \( D_r = (d_{\nu \mu})_{\nu, \mu \in [1, \ldots, 2N]} \) defined in (10).

Then we have the following result

**Theorem 3.1**

\[ \det(I + D_r) = k_r(0) \times W_r(\phi_{r,1}, \ldots, \phi_{r,2N})(0), \quad (14) \]

where

\[ k_r(y) = \frac{2^{2N} \exp(i \sum_{\nu=1}^{2N} \Theta_{r, \nu})}{\prod_{\nu=2}^{2N} \prod_{\mu=1}^{\nu-1} (\gamma_\nu - \gamma_\mu)}. \]

It is also a consequence of previous works of the author [10, 11, 12, 13].

4. Rational solutions to the Johnson equation

From those two preceding results, we can construct rational solutions to the Johnson equation as a quotient of two determinants.

We use the following notations :

\[ X_\nu = \frac{-iK_\nu x}{2} + i(\frac{-K_\nu y}{24} + \delta_\nu)yt - i\frac{x_{3, \nu}}{2} + 2\tau_\nu t + \gamma_\nu w - \frac{i}{2} e_\nu, \]

\[ Y_\nu = \frac{-iK_\nu x}{2} + i(\frac{-K_\nu y}{24} + \delta_\nu)yt - i\frac{x_{1, \nu}}{2} + 2\tau_\nu t + \gamma_\nu w - \frac{i}{2} e_\nu, \]
for $1 \leq \nu \leq 2N$, with $\kappa_{\nu}$, $\delta_{\nu}$, $x_{r,\nu}$ defined in (3) and parameters $e_{\nu}$ defined by (4).

We define the following functions:

\[
\varphi_{4j+1,k} = \gamma_{j}^{4j-1} \sin X_{k}, \quad \varphi_{4j+2,k} = \gamma_{j}^{4j} \cos X_{k},
\]
\[
\varphi_{4j+3,k} = -\gamma_{j}^{4j+1} \sin X_{k}, \quad \varphi_{4j+4,k} = -\gamma_{j}^{4j+2} \cos X_{k},
\]

for $1 \leq k \leq N$, and

\[
\varphi_{4j+1,N+k} = \gamma_{j}^{2N-4j-2} \cos X_{N+k}, \quad \varphi_{4j+2,N+k} = -\gamma_{j}^{2N-4j-3} \sin X_{N+k},
\]
\[
\varphi_{4j+3,N+k} = -\gamma_{j}^{2N-4j-4} \cos X_{N+k}, \quad \varphi_{4j+4,N+k} = \gamma_{j}^{2N-4j-5} \sin X_{N+k},
\]

for $1 \leq k \leq N$.

We define the functions $\psi_{j,k}$ for $1 \leq j \leq 2N$, $1 \leq k \leq 2N$ in the same way, the term $X_{k}$ is only replaced by $Y_{k}$.

\[
\psi_{4j+1,k} = \gamma_{j}^{4j-1} \sin Y_{k}, \quad \psi_{4j+2,k} = \gamma_{j}^{4j} \cos Y_{k},
\]
\[
\psi_{4j+3,k} = -\gamma_{j}^{4j+1} \sin Y_{k}, \quad \psi_{4j+4,k} = -\gamma_{j}^{4j+2} \cos Y_{k},
\]

for $1 \leq k \leq N$, and

\[
\psi_{4j+1,N+k} = \gamma_{j}^{2N-4j-2} \cos Y_{N+k}, \quad \psi_{4j+2,N+k} = -\gamma_{j}^{2N-4j-3} \sin Y_{N+k},
\]
\[
\psi_{4j+3,N+k} = -\gamma_{j}^{2N-4j-4} \cos Y_{N+k}, \quad \psi_{4j+4,N+k} = \gamma_{j}^{2N-4j-5} \sin Y_{N+k},
\]

for $1 \leq k \leq N$.

The following ratio

\[
q(x, t) := \frac{W_{3}(0)}{W_{4}(0)}
\]

can be written as

\[
q(x, t) = \frac{\Delta_{3}}{\Delta_{1}} = \frac{\det \varphi_{j,k} |_{j,k\in[1,2N]} }{\det \psi_{j,k} |_{j,k\in[1,2N]} }.
\]

The terms $\lambda_{j}$ depending on $\epsilon$ are defined by $\lambda_{j} = 1 - 2j^{2}$. All the functions $\varphi_{j,k}$ and $\psi_{j,k}$ and their derivatives depend on $\epsilon$. They can all be prolonged by continuity when $\epsilon = 0$.

We use the following expansions

\[
\varphi_{j,k}(x, y, t, \epsilon) = \sum_{l=0}^{N-1} \frac{1}{(2l)!} \varphi_{j,N+1}[l] k^{2l} \epsilon^{2l} + O(\epsilon^{2N}), \quad \varphi_{j,1}[l] = \frac{\partial^{2l} \varphi_{j,1}}{\partial \epsilon^{2l}}(x, y, t, 0),
\]
\[
\varphi_{j,1}[0] = \varphi_{j,1}(x, y, t, 0), \quad 1 \leq j \leq 2N, \quad 1 \leq k \leq N, \quad 1 \leq l \leq N - 1,
\]
\[
\varphi_{j,N+k}(x, y, t, \epsilon) = \sum_{l=0}^{N-1} \frac{1}{(2l)!} \varphi_{j,N+1}[l] k^{2l} \epsilon^{2l} + O(\epsilon^{2N}), \quad \varphi_{j,N+1}[l] = \frac{\partial^{2l} \varphi_{j,N+1}}{\partial \epsilon^{2l}}(x, y, t, 0),
\]
\[
\varphi_{j,N+1}[0] = \varphi_{j,N+1}(x, y, t, 0), \quad 1 \leq j \leq 2N, \quad 1 \leq k \leq N, \quad 1 \leq l \leq N - 1.
\]

We have the same expansions for the functions $\psi_{j,k}$.

\[
\psi_{j,k}(x, y, t, \epsilon) = \sum_{l=0}^{N-1} \frac{1}{(2l)!} \psi_{j,N+1}[l] k^{2l} \epsilon^{2l} + O(\epsilon^{2N}), \quad \psi_{j,1}[l] = \frac{\partial^{2l} \psi_{j,1}}{\partial \epsilon^{2l}}(x, y, t, 0),
\]

\[
\psi_{j,1}[0] = \psi_{j,1}(x, y, t, 0), \quad 1 \leq j \leq 2N, \quad 1 \leq k \leq N, \quad 1 \leq l \leq N - 1.
\]
\[ \psi_{j,1}[0] = \psi_{j,1}(x,y,t,0), \quad 1 \leq j \leq 2N, \quad 1 \leq k \leq N, \quad 1 \leq l \leq N - 1, \]

\[ \psi_{j,N+k}(x,t,\epsilon) = \sum_{l=0}^{N-1} \frac{1}{(2l)!} \psi_{j,N+1}[l] k^{2l} \epsilon^{2l} + O(2^N), \quad \psi_{j,N+1}[l] = \frac{\partial^{2l} \psi_{j,N+1}}{\partial \epsilon^{2l}}(x,y,t,0), \]

Then we get the following result:

**Theorem 4.1** The function \( v \) defined by

\[ v(x,y,t) = -2 \frac{\det((n_{jk})_{j,k \in [1,2N]})^2}{\det((d_{jk})_{j,k \in [1,2N]})^2} \]

is a rational solution to the Johnson equation (1), where

\[ n_{j1} = \varphi_{j,1}(x,y,t,0), \quad 1 \leq j \leq 2N \]

\[ n_{jN+1} = \varphi_{j,N+1}(x,y,t,0), \quad 1 \leq j \leq 2N \]

\[ d_{j1} = \psi_{j,1}(x,y,t,0), \quad 1 \leq j \leq 2N \]

\[ d_{jN+1} = \psi_{j,N+1}(x,y,t,0), \quad 1 \leq j \leq 2N \]

The functions \( \varphi \) and \( \psi \) are defined in (15), (16), (17), (18).

5. Study of the patterns of the modulus of the rational solutions to the Johnson equation in function of parameters and time

We have explicitly constructed rational solutions to the Johnson equation of order \( N \) depending on \( 2N - 2 \) parameters for \( 1 \leq N \leq 5 \).

In the following, we only give patterns of the modulus of the solutions in the plane \((x,y)\) of coordinates in function of the parameters \( a_i \), and \( b_i \), for \( 1 \leq i \leq N - 1 \) for \( 2 \leq N \leq 5 \), and time \( t \).

5.1. Case \( N = 1 \)

![Figure 1. Solution of order 1 to (1), on the left for \( t = 0 \); in the center for \( t = 0,0 \); on the right for \( t = 1 \).](image-url)
5.2. Case $N = 2$

**Figure 2.** Solution of order 2 to (1) for $t = 0$, on the left $a_1 = 0, b_1 = 0$; in the center $a_1 = 100, b_1 = 0$; on the right $a_1 = 0, b_1 = 100$.

**Figure 3.** Solution of order 2 to (1) for $t = 0.01$, on the left $a_1 = 0, b_1 = 0$; in the center $a_1 = 10, b_1 = 0$; on the right $a_1 = 10^2, b_1 = 0$.

**Figure 4.** Solution of order 2 to (1) for $t = 0.1$; on the left $a_1 = 0, b_1 = 0$; in the center $a_1 = 10^3, b_1 = 0$; on the right $a_1 = 10^3, b_1 = 10^3$. 
Figure 5. Solution of order 2 to (1) for \( t = 1 \); on the left \( a_1 = 10, b_1 = 0 \); in the center \( a_1 = 10^5, b_1 = 0 \); on the right \( a_1 = 10^5, b_1 = 10^5 \).

Figure 6. Solution of order 2 to (1); on the left for \( t = 10, a_1 = 10^2, b_1 = 0 \); in the center for \( t = 100, a_1 = 10^3, b_1 = 0 \); on the right for \( t = 100, a_1 = 10^3, b_1 = 10^3 \).

5.3. Case \( N = 3 \)

Figure 7. Solution of order 3 to (1), on the left for \( t = 0, a_1 = 0, b_1 = 0, a_2 = 0, b_2 = 0 \); in the center for \( t = 0, a_1 = 1, b_1 = 0, a_2 = 0, b_2 = 0 \); on the right for \( t = 0, a_1 = 10, b_1 = 0, a_2 = 0, b_2 = 0 \).
Figure 8. Solution of order 3 to (1), on the left for $t = 0$, $a_1 = 10^2$, $b_1 = 0$, $a_2 = 0$, $b_2 = 0$; in the center for $t = 0$, $a_1 = 10^3$, $b_1 = 0$, $a_2 = 0$, $b_2 = 0$; on the right for $t = 0$, $a_1 = 10^5$, $b_1 = 0$, $a_2 = 0$, $b_2 = 0$.

Figure 9. Solution of order 3 to (1), on the left for $t = 0$, $a_1 = 10^3$, $b_1 = 0$, $a_2 = 0$, $b_2 = 0$; in the center for $t = 0$, $a_1 = 10^3$, $b_1 = 0$, $a_2 = 0$, $b_2 = 0$; on the right for $t = 0$, $a_1 = 10^5$, $b_1 = 0$, $a_2 = 0$, $b_2 = 0$.

Figure 10. Solution of order 3 to (1), on the left for $t = 0$, $a_1 = 10^2$, $b_1 = 0$, $a_2 = 0$, $b_2 = 0$; in the center for $t = 1$, $a_1 = 0$, $b_1 = 0$, $a_2 = 10^6$, $b_2 = 0$; on the right for $t = 10$, $a_1 = 10^3$, $b_1 = 0$, $a_2 = 0$, $b_2 = 0$.
Figure 11. Solution of order 3 to (1), on the left for \(t = 10\), \(a_1 = 0\), \(b_1 = 0\), \(a_2 = 10^6\), \(b_2 = 0\); in the center for \(t = 100\), \(a_1 = 10^6\), \(b_1 = 0\), \(a_2 = 0\), \(b_2 = 0\); on the right for \(t = 10^3\), \(a_1 = 10^3\), \(b_1 = 10^3\), \(a_2 = 0\), \(b_2 = 0\).

The variation of the configuration of the modulus of the solutions is very fast according to time \(t\). When time \(t\) grows from 0 to 0.01, one passes from a rectilinear structure with a height of 98 to a horseshoe structure with a maximum height equal to 4. The role played by the parameters \(a_i\) and \(b_i\) is the same one for same index \(i\).

5.4. Case \(N = 4\)

Figure 12. Solution of order 4 to (1), on the left for \(t = 0\), \(a_1 = 10\); in the center for \(t = 0\), \(a_2 = 10^4\); on the right for \(t = 0\), \(a_1 = 10\); all other parameters not mentioned equal to 0.

Figure 13. Solution of order 4 to (1), on the left for \(t = 0.01\), \(a_1 = 10^3\); in the center for \(t = 0.01\), \(a_1 = 10^3\); on the right for \(t = 0.01\), \(a_2 = 10^3\); all other parameters not mentioned equal to 0.
In these constructions, we note that the initial rectilinear structure becomes deformed very quickly as time $t$ increases. The heights of the peaks also decrease very quickly according to time $t$ and this for all the various parameters. Because of the structure of the polynomials, one notices that the modulus of these solutions tend towards value 2 when time $t$ and variables $x$ and $y$ tend towards the infinite.

5.5. Case $N = 5$

Not to lengthen the text, in the case of order 5, we do not give the figures of the modulus of the solutions.

Meanwhile, the study of these configurations makes it possible to give the following conclusions. The variation of the configuration of the module of the solutions is very fast according to time $t$. When time $t$ grows from 0 to 0.01, one passes from a rectilinear structure with a height of 242 to a horseshoe structure with a maximum height equal to 4. The role played by parameters $a_i$ and $b_i$ is the same one for same index $i$. Because of the structure of the polynomials, one notices that the modulus of these solutions tend towards value 2 when time $t$ and variables $x$ and $y$ tend towards the infinite.

6. Conclusion

From the previous representations of the solutions to the KPI equation given by the author, we succeed to give solutions to the Johnson equation in terms of Fredholm determinants of order $2N$ depending on $2N − 1$ real parameters and in terms of wronskians of order $2N$ depending on $2N − 1$ real parameters. We finally obtain rational solutions to the Johnson equation depending on $2N − 2$ real parameters. These solutions can be expressed in terms of a ratio of two polynomials of degree $2N(N + 1)$ in $x$, $t$ and $4N(N + 1)$ in $y$ depending on $2N − 2$ parameters. That gives a new approach to find explicit solutions for higher orders and try to describe the structure of those rational solutions.

In the $(x,y)$ plane of coordinates, different structures appear. But, unlike rational solutions of NLS or KP equations, there is none well defined structure which appears according to parameters $a_i$ or $b_i$. So, we cannot make a classification of these solutions here, according to parameters by means of their modulus in the $(x,y)$ plane. It would be important to better understand these last structures.

It will be relevant to go on this study for higher orders.

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