

## Three classes of Ermakov systems and nonlocal symmetries

F. I. Arunaye,  
Department of Mathematics and Computer Science  
Delta State University, Abraka, Nigeria

### Abstract

---

---

*Ermakov systems have attracted enormous treatments in recent times particularly in symmetry analysis. In this paper we consider three classes of the Ermakov systems by using a simple algebraic reduction process with imposed conditions on the magnitude of the angular momentum of each system class to obtain new generalized symmetries. We note that this imposed condition transforms the Kepler-Ermakov systems to the generalized Ermakov systems.*

---

---

### Keywords

Reduction process, Dynamical systems, Ermakov systems, Nonlocal, generalized, symmetries.

AMS Subject classifications: 34C14, 37C80, 37J15, 70S10 and 76M60

## 1.0 Introduction

The possession of first integral and three Lie point symmetry generators of the algebra  $sl(2, R)$  that are characteristics of Ermakov systems of second-order ordinary differential equations are well known in the literature [5], [6], [7], [8], [9], [10], [13] and [22]. The insufficient number of Lie point symmetries for the Kepler problem in the context of complete symmetry group of dynamical systems brought to the fore the introduction of the nonlocal symmetries of dynamical systems by [12]. Nucci [20] introduced her concept of reduction order combined with the Lie algorithm for obtaining the classical symmetries of differential equations to obtain the complete symmetry group of the Kepler problem according to [12] and as well voided the earlier assertions of [12] that these nonlocal symmetries could not be obtained by Lie algorithm. The Nucci [20] reduction process became so famous in the literature hitherto [1] announced a simpler reduction process for reducing dynamical systems to systems of oscillator and equation of motion which admits Lie algorithm for the computation of their infinitesimal vector fields, meanwhile it is already established in [15] that the Ermanno-Bernoulli constants of dynamical systems are most suitable for reducing dynamical systems to systems of oscillator and equation of motion. [2] reported alternative constants which were constructed from the Hamilton vector of dynamical systems that are equivalent to the Ermanno-Bernoulli constants in two dimensions and which seemed to provide less cumbersome reduction variables in three-dimensions than the Ermanno-Bernoulli constants.

---

---

### Correspondence address:

Department of Mathematics and Computer Science,

The central feature of the Ermakov systems is their property of always having first integrals [9], [20] and that this invariant plays a central role in the linearization of Ermakov systems [5], [9] and [21]. The Kepler-Ermakov systems referred to the perturbations of the classical Kepler problem or an autonomous Ermakov system was investigated by [11] and found that these systems are the usual Ermakov systems with frequency function depending on the dynamical variables. Leach and Karasu (Kalkanli) [14] supplemented the analysis of [11] by correcting some results as well as carried out investigation on the same dynamics in which an equivalent transformation of the Kepler-Ermakov systems to new time and rescaled radial distance so that in the discussion of the Kepler-Ermakov systems it suffices to study its polar equivalent system. The paper of [14] considered the Ermakov's superintegrable-toy for its nonlocal symmetries and asserted the insufficient Lie point symmetries and the unstable algebra  $sl(2, R)$  for the complete specification of the system. Also the method of Nucci reduction process brought the representation of the complete symmetry group to the fore, four of which are nonlocal symmetries and the algebra is the direct sum of a one-dimensional Abelian algebra and the semidirect sum of a solvable algebra with a two-dimensional Abelian algebra  $[A_1 \oplus \{A_2 \oplus, 2A_1\}]$  in the notation of the Mubarrakzhanov classification scheme [3], [16] and [17] considered the reduction of three classes of the Ermakov systems by the method of Arunaye [1] and obtained some new nonlocal symmetry for these classes of Ermakov systems. In this paper we utilized the results of [4] and imposed certain conditions on the magnitude of the angular momentum (which is not constant in these circumstances) and with a specific function,  $H$  acting as a Kernel transformation on the radial component of motion of the Kepler-Ermakov systems. The paper is organized as following. Section 2 recalled the reduction of the three classes of the Ermakov systems to systems of linear second order and conservation law. Section 3 is devoted to the symmetry analysis and finally section 4 is conclusions.

### 1.1 Classes of Ermakov systems

The three classes of the Ermakov systems under consideration are given by

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{1} w^2(t)x &= -\frac{x}{r^3} H + \frac{1}{x^3} f\left(\frac{y}{x}\right) \\ \textcircled{2} w^2(t)y &= -\frac{y}{r^3} H + \frac{1}{y^3} g\left(\frac{y}{x}\right); \end{aligned} \quad (1.1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{3} w^2(t)x &= \frac{1}{yx^2} f\left(\frac{y}{x}\right), \\ \textcircled{4} w^2(t)y &= \frac{1}{xy^2} g\left(\frac{y}{x}\right), \end{aligned} \quad (1.2)$$

and  $\textcircled{5} w^2(t)x = \frac{1}{x^3}$ ,

$$\textcircled{6} w^2(t)y = \frac{1}{y^3} \quad (1.3)$$

where  $f$  and  $g$  are arbitrary functions of their arguments,  $H$  is a function of unspecified form of dependence upon  $x$ ,  $y$  and  $r$ , denoted specifically by  $H = \frac{1}{4}Cr^3 - \frac{1}{r\cos\theta}h(\cot\theta)$  where  $C$  is an arbitrary constant [16]. Systems (1.1), (1.2) and (1.3) are known as Kepler-Ermakov systems, generalized Ermakov systems and the Ermakov-toy systems respectively. In the symmetry

analysis parlance, [13] and [14] established the plane polar coordinates of (1.1), (1.2) and (1.3) for their generalized symmetry analysis where  $x = r \cos \theta$ ,  $y = r \sin \theta$ .

## 1.0 On the reduction of classes of Ermakov systems

In the following subsections we highlight the reduction process for reducing dynamical systems to systems of second order linear equation and an equation of motion. The method of [1] is applied to these three classes of Ermakov systems (1.1), (1.2) and (1.3) in order to utilize the Lie point symmetry analysis method to these classes of dynamical systems and obtain their generalized symmetries.

### 2.1 Reduction process of the Kepler-Ermakov systems

The so called Kepler-Ermakov systems studied by Leach and Karasu (Kalkanli) (2005) in polar system have the radial and transversal components of the motion respectively given by

$$r \ddot{\theta} = \frac{1}{r^3 \cos \theta} h(\cot \theta) + \frac{1}{r^3} \{ \sec^2 \theta f(\tan \theta) + \cos ec^2 \theta g(\tan \theta) \}, \quad (2.1)$$

$$r^4 \ddot{r} + 2r\dot{r}\dot{\theta} = -\frac{1}{r^3} \{ \sec^2 \theta \tan \theta f(\tan \theta) - \cos ec^2 \theta \cot \theta g(\tan \theta) \} \quad (2.2)$$

Now from (2.2) we have that [3].

$$(r^4 \dot{\theta})' = 2 \{ \cos ec^2 \theta \cot \theta g(\tan \theta) - \sec^2 \theta \tan \theta f(\tan \theta) \} \dot{\theta},$$

$$r^4 \dot{\theta} = L_0 + 2 \int \{ \cos ec^2 \theta \cot \theta g(\tan \theta) - \sec^2 \theta \tan \theta f(\tan \theta) \} r^{-2} L dt.$$

i.e. 
$$L^2 = L_0 + \alpha(\theta) \quad (2.3)$$

where  $L_0$  is a constant, and  $L = r^2 \dot{\theta}$  defined the angular momentum of the motion which is not constant in this dynamics.

Now by setting  $u = r^{-1}$ ;  $\dot{r} = -Lu_\theta$ ;  $\ddot{r} = -L^2 u^2 u_{\theta\theta}$  and substituting into (2.1) we have that [1], [3] and [4].

$$u_{\theta\theta} + [1 + \cos ec \theta h(\cot \theta) + \{ \sec^2 \theta f(\tan \theta) + \cos ec^2 \theta g(\tan \theta) \} L^{-2}] u = 0.$$

i.e. 
$$u_{\theta\theta} + \omega^2(\theta) u = 0 \quad (2.4)$$

On taking  $L_0 = u_2$  and  $u = u_1$  and imposing the conditions

$$f(\tan \theta) = \sin \theta \cos \theta = g(\tan \theta) = L^{-1} \quad (2.5)$$

such that  $x = r \cos(\frac{1}{2} \sin^{-1}(2L^{-1}))$ ,  $y = r \sin(\frac{1}{2} \sin^{-1}(2L^{-1}))$ ; and that  $h(\cot \theta) \equiv 0$ ,

when  $H$  is a kernel transformation on the radial component of the motion. Then (2.4) and (2.3) respectively become

$$u_{1,\theta\theta} + 2u_1 = 0, \quad (2.6)$$

$$u_{2,\theta} = 0,$$

this is the reduced system for the Kepler-Ermakov systems.

The radial and transversal components of the motion for the generalized Ermakov systems (1.2) are given by

$$r \ddot{\theta} = \frac{1}{r^3} \{ \sec^2 \theta f(\tan \theta) + \cos ec^2 \theta g(\tan \theta) \}, \quad (2.7)$$

$$r^4 \ddot{r} + 2r\dot{r}\dot{\theta} = -\frac{1}{r^3} \{ \sec^2 \theta \tan \theta f(\tan \theta) - \cos ec^2 \theta \cot \theta g(\tan \theta) \} \quad (2.8)$$

Similarly, we obtain the reduced system for the generalized Ermakov systems given by

$$u_{1,\theta\theta} + 2u_1 = 0, \quad (2.9)$$

$$u_{2,\theta} = 0$$

where the condition (2.5) is also assumed, with  $L_0$  and  $\alpha(\theta)$  defined by (2.3).

The radial and transversal components of the motion for the Ermakov-toy systems (1.3) are given by

$$r\ddot{\theta} = \frac{1}{r^3}(\tan\theta + \cot\theta)^2, \quad (2.10)$$

$$r\ddot{r} + 2r\dot{\theta}^2 = -\frac{1}{2r^3}(\tan\theta - \cot\theta)'$$

where prime implies derivation with respect to  $\theta$ . Similarly the same reduction procedure above produced

$$r^4\ddot{\theta} = L_0 - \int \{\sec^2\theta - \csc^2\theta\} r^{-2} L dt.$$

i.e. 
$$L^2 = L_0 + \alpha(\theta). \quad (2.12)$$

And on imposing the condition that the magnitude of the angular momentum satisfies  $L = \tan\theta + \cot\theta$  with  $2\theta = \sin^{-1}(2L^{-1})$  one similarly obtains the reduced system

$$u_{1,\theta\theta} + 2u_1 = 0, \quad (2.13)$$

$$u_{2,\theta} = 0$$

where  $L_0 = u_2$  and  $u = u_1$ , for the Ermakov-toy systems (1.3).

## 2.0 Lie point symmetries of the reduced three classes of Ermakov systems

We shall utilize (2.13) as hypothetical illustrative example of these classes of Ermakov systems under investigation to present the nonlocal symmetries of the Ermakov-toy systems and note that it is easy to deduce the nonlocal symmetries of the Kepler-Ermakov systems and generalized Ermakov systems from the following. Now we note that (2.13) is a system of second order linear equation and a conservation law. The system (2.13) has nine Lie point symmetries (well known in the literature). They are

$$\Gamma_1 = 2u_1\partial_1 + u_2\partial_2; \quad \Gamma_2 = \partial_\theta; \quad \Gamma_3 = u_1\partial_1; \quad \Gamma_{4\pm} = e^{\pm\sqrt{2i}\theta}\partial_1;$$

$$\Gamma_{6\pm} = e^{\pm 2\sqrt{2i}\theta}[\partial_\theta \pm iu_1\partial_1]; \quad \Gamma_{8\pm} = e^{\pm\sqrt{2i}\theta}[u_1\partial_\theta \pm iu_1^2\partial_1]. \quad (3.1)$$

### 3.1 Generalized symmetries of the three classes of Ermakov systems

Substituting back for the original variables in the symmetries (3.1) of the Ermakov-toy systems we obtained the following generalized symmetries:

$$V_1 = [L^2 + \int \{\sec^2\theta - \csc^2\theta\} r^{-2} L dt]\partial_t - 2r^{-3}\partial_r; \quad V_2 = r^{-2}L\partial_t;$$

$$V_3 = -r^{-3}\partial_r; \quad V_{4\pm} = -e^{\pm\sqrt{2i}\theta}r^{-2}\partial_r; \quad V_{6\pm} = e^{\pm 2\sqrt{2i}\theta}[r^{-2}L\partial_t \mu ir^{-3}\partial_r];$$

$$V_{8\pm} = e^{\pm\sqrt{2i}\theta}[r^{-2}L\partial_t \mu ir^{-4}\partial_r]; \quad V_{10} = \partial_t$$

where  $L^2 = L_0 + \alpha(\theta)$  as in (2.12) is obtained from (2.11) similarly as in (2.3) and  $\theta = \int r^{-2} L dt$ . The symmetry  $V_{10}$  is introduced as the symmetry responsible for the reduction of order by the change of independent variable from  $t$  to  $\theta$ .

The following generalized symmetries for the generalized Ermakov systems are obtained:

$$V_1 = [L^2 + 2 \int \{ \sec^2 \theta \tan \theta f'(\tan \theta) - \cos e c^2 \theta \cot \theta g(\tan \theta) \} r^{-2} L dt] \partial_t - 2r^{-3} \partial_r;$$

$$V_2 = r^{-2} L \partial_t; \quad V_3 = -r^{-3} \partial_r; \quad V_{4\pm} = -e^{\pm\sqrt{2i}\theta} r^{-2} \partial_r;$$

$$V_{6\pm} = e^{\pm 2\sqrt{2i}\theta} [r^{-2} L \partial_t \mu i r^{-3} \partial_r];$$

$$V_{8\pm} = e^{\pm\sqrt{2i}\theta} [r^{-2} L \partial_t \mu i r^{-4} \partial_r]; \quad V_{10} = \partial_t$$

where  $L^2 = L_0 + \alpha(\theta)$  as in (2.12) is obtained from (2.8) similarly as in (2.3) and  $\theta = \int r^{-2} L dt$ . The symmetry  $V_{10}$  is introduced as the symmetry responsible for the reduction of order by the change of independent variable from  $t$  to  $\theta$ .

We observe that these generalized symmetries are absolutely different from those obtained by [4], [11], [13] and [14], consequences of their reduced systems. We also note that the imposed conditions on the magnitude of the angular momentum with a specific function  $H$  defining Kernel transformation on the radial component of motion influence the reduction of the Kepler-Ermakov systems to the generalized Ermakov systems.

### 3.0 Conclusion

In the forgoing, the reduction of three classes of the Ermakov systems to systems of two equations - one second order linear equation and an equation of motion was shown [3, 4] after assuming certain conditions on the magnitude of the angular momentum of the motion. We note the variation in the reduced system (2.6), (2.9) and (2.13) from the usual reduced system of oscillator and conservation law. The application of Lie point symmetry algorithm to the corresponding reduced system of each class of the Ermakov systems produced the same nine point symmetries for each set of reduced systems however the backward transformation to original variables produced new generalized symmetries. Although the generalized symmetries obtained in this case may not be identical to those from Nucci reduction process, the variety is a consequence of the fact that nonlocal symmetries are infinite and have no unique algorithm for their general determination. We note [4] the improvement on the number of symmetries from five obtained in [14] to ten in this reduction process. We also observe that the conditions on the magnitude of the angular momentum of these dynamics may have some geometric implications on the dynamics, which may also affect the algebra of the complete symmetry group of these classes of Ermakov systems. This and exact symmetry transformations of these classes of Ermakov systems are subject for further discussion.

### References

- [1] Arunaye, F.I. 2007. On the reduction process of Nucci-REDUCE algorithm for computing nonlocal symmetries of dynamical systems: A case study of the Kepler problem. arXiv0709.1936 (September 2007), e-pub.
- [2] Arunaye, F.I., and H. White. 2007. On the Ermanno-Bernoulli and Quasi-Ermanno-Bernoulli constants for linearizing dynamical systems. Int. J. Appl. Math. and Informatics 1 (2): 55-60.
- [3] Arunaye, F.I. 2009a. Symmetries of differential equations: Topics in nonlocal symmetries of dynamical systems. Ph.D. Thesis U.W.I. Mona. Jamaica.
- [4] Arunaye, I.F. 2009b. On the Ermakov systems and Nonlocal symmetries.e-pub. arXiv:0903.2412.
- [5] Athorne, C. 1991. Kepler-Ermakov problems. J. Phys. A: Math. Gen. 24: L1385-L1389.
- [6] Ermakov, V. 1880. Second-order differential equations: Condition of Complete Integrability. Universita Izvestia Kiev ser III 30: 1-25.
- [7] Goedert, J., and F. Hass. 1998. On the Lie symmetries of a class of generalized Ermakov systems. Phys. Lett. A 239: 348-352.

- [8] Goodall, R., and P. G. L. Leach. 2005. Generalised Symmetries and the Ermakov-Lewis Invariant. *J. Nonlinear Math. Phys.* 12 (1): 15-26 (LETTER).
- [9] Hass, F., and J. Goedert. 1999. On the linearization of the generalized Ermakov systems. *Phys. A: Math. Gen.* 32: 2835-2844.
- [10] Harin A O, Second-order differential equations: Condition of Complete integrability, *Appl. Anal. Discrete Math.* 2 (2008), 123–145. doi:10.2298/AADM0802123E
- [11] Karasu (Kalkanli), A., and H. Yildirim. 2002. On the Lie symmetries of Kepler-Ermakov systems. *J. Nonlinear Math. Phys.* 9 (4): 475-482.
- [12] Krause, J. 1994. On the complete symmetry group of the classical Kepler Systems. *J. Math. Phys.* 35 (11): 5734-5748.
- [13] Leach, P.G.L., and A. Karasu (Kalkanli). 2004. The Lie algebra  $sl(2, \mathbb{R})$  and so-called Kepler-Ermakov systems. *J. Nonlinear Math. Phys.* 11 (2): 269-275.
- [14] Leach, P.G.L., A. Karasu (Kalkanli), M.C. Nucci, and K. Andriopoulos. 2005. Ermakov's Superintegrable Toy and Nonlocal Symmetries. *SIGMA* 1 (2005), Paper 018, 15 pages.
- [15] Leach, P.G.L., K. Andriopoulos, and M.C. Nucci. 2003. The Ermanno-Bernoulli constants and representations of the complete symmetry group of the Kepler problem. *J. Math. Phys.* 44(9): 4090-4106.
- [16] Morozov, V.V. 1958. Classification of six-dimensional nilpotent Lie algebras. *Izv. Vys. Uchebn. Zaved Matematika*, 4(5): 161-171.
- [17] Mubarakzyanov, G.M. 1963a. On solvable Lie algebras. *Izv. Vys. Uchebn. Zaved Matematika*, 1(32):14-123.
- [18] Mubarakzyanov, G.M. 1963b. Classification of real structures of five-dimensional Lie algebras. *Izv. Vys. Uchebn. Zaved Matematika*, 1(32):114-123.
- [19] Mubarakzyanov, G.M. 1963c. Classification of solvable Lie algebras of sixth-order with a non-nilpotent Lie algebras. *Izv. Vys. Uchebn. Zaved Matematika*, 3(34): 99-106.
- [20] Nucci, M.C. 1996. The complete Kepler group can be derived by Lie group analysis. *J. Math. Phys.* 37 (4): 1772-1775.
- [21] Ray, J.R., and J.L. Reid. 1979. More Exact Invariants for the time dependent harmonic Oscillator. *Phys. Lett. A* 71: 317-318.
- [22] Simic, S.S. 2000. A note on generalization of the Lewis invariant and the Ermakov systems. *J. Phys. A: Math. Gen.* 33: 5435-5447.