ON THE UNFOLDING OF FOLDED SYMPLECTIC STRUCTURES

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ABSTRACT. A folded symplectic structure is a closed 2-form which is nondegenerate except on a hypersurface, and whose restriction to that hypersurface has maximal rank. We show how a compact manifold equipped with a folded symplectic structure can sometimes be broken apart, or "unfolded", into honest compact symplectic orbifolds.

A folded symplectic structure induces a spin-c structure which is canonical (up to homotopy). We describe how the index of the spin-c Dirac operator behaves with respect to unfolding.

1. INTRODUCTION

Two manifolds can be summed along diffeomorphic submanifolds, provided that we are given an orientation-reversing isomorphism of the normal bundles of the submanifolds. When the submanifolds are single points, the sum is the usual connected sum.

The sum operation is more subtle in a symplectic setting. Let (M_1, ω_1) and (M_2, ω_2) be compact symplectic manifolds of dimension 2d and with orientations induced by the symplectic forms. In [1] Audin showed that, with some rare exceptions, there is no way of equipping the connected sum $M_1 \# M_2$ with a symplectic structure that is compatible with ω_1 and ω_2 . (She showed even more: there is no almost complex structure on $M_1 \# M_2$ which is compatible with ω_1 and ω_2 .) On the other hand, connected sums of the form $M = M_1 \# M_2$, where $\overline{M_2}$ has the opposite of the symplectic orientation, can sometimes be performed symplectically; for instance, in dimension 4, $M_1 \# \overline{\mathbb{CP}^2}$ is the (complex) blow-up of M_1 at a point.

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Grossberg and Karshon proved that $M = M_1 \# \overline{M_2}$ can be equipped with a spin-c structure that is compatible with ω_1 in the usual sense and with ω_2 under the negative orientation (see [6]). One of the goals of this paper is to show that the Grossberg-Karshon result is related to the existence of a certain type of *presymplectic structure* on M which is compatible with the ω_i 's.

A folded symplectic form¹ on a compact 2*d*-dimensional manifold, M, is a closed two-form, ω , which is symplectic except along a hypersurface, Z, (called the folding hypersurface) and, for $p \in Z$, is equal to the two-form

$$x_1 dx_1 \wedge dy_1 + dx_2 \wedge dy_2 + \ldots + dx_d \wedge dy_d \tag{1.1}$$

in an appropriate Darboux coordinate system. (Thus, in particular, Z is defined in this coordinate system by the equation $x_1 = 0$.) The basic facts about folded symplectic forms (most of which are well-known) are collected in §2; and in §3 we will give some examples of these forms, the simplest of which exist on the even-dimensional spheres.

In §5 we will prove that if M is oriented and the cohomology class $[\omega]$ is the image in $H^2(M; \mathbb{R})$ of an integer cohomology class, there is a natural way of associating with ω a spin-c structure. More explicitly, in §4 we will prove the following: Let \mathcal{U} be a neighborhood of Z and let J_0 be a complex structure on the tangent bundle $T(M \setminus \mathcal{U})$ (i.e. an almost complex structure on $M \setminus \mathcal{U}$) which is compatible with ω . Then the complex structure

$$J_0 \oplus (\text{rotation by } 90^0)$$
 (1.2)

on the vector bundle

 $T(M \setminus \mathcal{U}) \oplus \mathbb{R}^2$,

extends over M. In other words, there exists a complex structure, J, on the real vector bundle $TM \oplus \mathbb{R}^2$, whose restriction to $M \setminus \mathcal{U}$ is the complex structure (1.2). It is not hard to see that ω and J give rise in a natural way to a spin-c structure on M (see §5 for details) and in §6 we will show that the Grossberg-Karshon result can be regarded as a consequence of this fact by proving that a connected sum, $M_1 \# \overline{M_2}$, of two symplectic manifolds possesses a folded symplectic structure.

The folding hypersurface, Z, in the definition above is equipped with a canonical null-foliation whose leaves are one-dimensional. In §7 we

¹The term "folded" is due to Melrose [15]. Many folded symplectic forms arise as pull-backs of symplectic forms under maps with only folding singularities.

will prove the result below (which is one of the two main results of this paper):

If the leaves of the null-foliation are closed submanifolds of Z, the folded symplectic structure on M can be "unfolded".

By this we mean the following: Let W_i^0 , $i = 1, \ldots, N$, be the connected components of $M \setminus Z$ and let W_i be the closure of W_i^0 . From W_i one gets a topological space, M_i , by identifying points, p_1 and p_2 , on the boundary of W_i if p_1 and p_2 are on the same leaf of the null-foliation. We will prove that M_i is a compact orbifold and that the folded symplectic structure on M induces a symplectic structure (of the usual kind) on M_i . The "unfolding" of M is, by definition, the operation $M \to \bigsqcup M_i$. For example, let M be the connected sum of compact connected 2d-dimensional symplectic manifolds,

$$M = M_1 \# \overline{M_2} . \tag{1.3}$$

Then by unfolding one recovers M_1 and M_2 .

Coming back to the spin-c structure on M which we described above, let ∂ be the spin-c Dirac operator. Since the index of this operator only depends on ω , we will denote it by $\operatorname{Ind}(M)$. The second main result of this paper is the following formula for this index:

$$\operatorname{Ind}(M) = \sum (-1)^{\sigma_i} \int_{M_i} \exp(\omega_i) \operatorname{Todd}(M_i) , \qquad (1.4)$$

where we orient the M_i 's symplectically, $\sigma_i = 0$ if the orientation induced on M_i by M agrees with its symplectic orientation and $\sigma_i = 1$ if not. For example, for the connected sum (1.3), this formula reduces to

$$\operatorname{Ind}(M) = \operatorname{Ind}(M_1) - \operatorname{Ind}(M_2) .$$

We will prove the formula above in §8. For the connected sum (1.3), an equivariant version of this formula is closely related to the equivariant index theorem proved by Grossberg and Karshon in [6, §12].

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Cannas, Karshon and Tolman have recently proved in [3] an analogue for spin-c manifolds of the "quantization commutes with reduction" theorems of [4], [7], [13, 14] and [16, 17], and there is some overlap between their results and the results reported on here. The proof of (1.4) is partly modeled on Meinrenken's proof of a similar result in [14]. Allen Knutson alerted us for a serious sign mistake on an earlier version of this paper. Finally, we are indebted to Michèle Vergne for her kindness to us during our stay at the École

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2. Folded Symplectic Structures

Let M be a 2*d*-dimensional manifold and $\omega \in \Omega^2(M)$ a closed twoform. Let Z be the set of points where ω^d is zero. If ω^d intersects the zero section of $\wedge^{2d}T^*M$ tranversally, Z will be a codimension one submanifold of M. Let us assume that ω^d has this property. We denote by ι the inclusion map of Z into M.

Definition. If the form $(\iota^*\omega)^{d-1} \in \Omega^{2d-2}(Z)$ is non-vanishing, ω is said to be a folded symplectic form and Z its folding hypersurface.

For a proof that this definition is equivalent to the definition in §1, see the comments at the end of this section or see [11, p.157].

It is clear that the property of being folded is an *open* property: if ω_0 is folded and ω is a closed two-form which is C^1 -close to ω_0 , then ω is also folded. However, this property is far from being generic: In dimension 4 it is generically true that ω^2 is transverse to zero, but not that $\iota^*\omega$ is non-vanishing; in dimensions 6 and higher even the first assertion is false. (In particular, the set Z is not a manifold generically except in dimension 4. See [11] for a discussion of generic singularities of closed two-forms.)

Suppose now that M is oriented. Then Z acquires from M a canonical orientation in the following manner: Let M^+ be the set of points, p, where $\omega_p^d > 0$ and M^- the set where $\omega_p^d < 0$. Then

$$M \setminus Z = M^+ \cup M^- \tag{2.1}$$

and by the tubular neighborhood theorem one gets from (2.1) an orientation of the normal bundle of Z and hence of Z itself.

Let $E \to Z$ be the rank 2 vector bundle whose fiber at z is the annihilator of ω in $T_z M$. From the (2d - 2)-form ω^{d-1} one gets an orientation of the quotient bundle $(\iota^*TM)/E$, and hence, from the orientation of TM, an orientation of E. Moreover, from the orientations of E and of TZ, one gets an orientation of the intersection of these two bundles, which is a rank-one subbundle, F, of TZ. Let v be an oriented non-vanishing section of F (i.e. a vector field with the property that

 $v_z \in F_z^+$ for all $z \in Z$) and let $\alpha \in \Omega^1(Z)$ be a one-form for which $i_v \alpha = 1$. We will need in §8 the following global variant of (1.1).

Theorem 1. Suppose that Z is compact. Then there exists a neighborhood, \mathcal{U} , of Z and an orientation preserving diffeomorphism,

$$\varphi: Z \times (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon) \longrightarrow \mathcal{U} , \qquad (2.2)$$

such that

$$\varphi \circ \iota_0 = \iota \tag{2.3}$$

and

$$\varphi^*\omega = \pi^*\iota^*\omega + d(t^2\pi^*\alpha) , \qquad (2.4)$$

 ι_0 being the inclusion map $z \mapsto (z,0)$, π the projection $(z,t) \mapsto z$, and t the coordinate function on $(-\varepsilon, \varepsilon)$.

Proof. Let w be a vector field on M such that, for all $z \in Z$, (w_z, v_z) is an oriented basis of E_z , and for the moment let the map φ in (2.2) be the map which takes lines (z, t), $-\varepsilon < t < \varepsilon$ onto the integral curves of w. If we require that (2.3) hold, this φ will be unique. (It will not be the φ that we want, but will turn out to be a good first approximation to it.) Via φ we can identify \mathcal{U} with $Z \times (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon)$ and w with the vector field $\frac{\partial}{\partial t}$. Moreover, we can extend v to all of \mathcal{U} via the inclusion $T_z Z \hookrightarrow T_{(z,t)} \mathcal{U}$. Let π as above be the projection of \mathcal{U} onto Z which maps (z, t) to z. We will prove the theorem by applying the "Moser trick" to the forms

$$\omega_0 := \pi^* \iota^* \omega + d(t^2 \pi^* \alpha) \tag{2.5}$$

and

$$\omega_1 := \omega . \tag{2.6}$$

For this we will need the following "folding" criterion:

Lemma 2.7. Let $t\mu$ be a closed two-form on \mathcal{U} . Then the form $\pi^*\iota^*\omega + t\mu$ is a folded symplectic form on a possibly smaller open neighborhood, $\mathcal{U}_1 = Z \times (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon)$, of Z if and only if $\mu(w, v)$ is nonvanishing on Z.

Proof of Lemma 2.7. This follows from the fact that the *d*-th exterior power of this form is

$$(d-1)t(\pi^*\iota^*\omega)^{d-1}\wedge\mu+O(t^2),$$

so this form is folded if and only if $(\pi^* \iota^* \omega)^{d-1} \wedge \mu$ is nonvanishing on Z. However, the annihilator of $\pi^* \iota^* \omega_z$ in $T_z \mathcal{U}$ is spanned by w_z and v_z ;

so the nonvanishing of this form is equivalent to the nonvanishing of $\mu(w, v)$.

It is clear from (2.5) that ω_0 is of the form above, i.e.

$$\omega_0 = \pi^* \iota^* \omega + t \mu_0$$

where

$$\mu_0 := 2dt\pi^*\alpha + td(\pi^*\alpha) ; \qquad (2.8)$$

and the same is also true of ω . To see this note that, since $w = \frac{\partial}{\partial t}$, $\iota_w \pi^* \iota^* \omega = 0$. On the other hand, $\iota_w \omega = 0$ on Z, so $\omega - \pi^* \iota^* \omega$ is zero at all points of Z. Since Z is defined by the equation t = 0, we conclude that $\omega - \pi^* \iota^* \omega = t \mu_1$, for $\mu_1 \in \Omega^2(\mathcal{U})$.

By (2.8), $\mu_0(w, v) = 2$ on Z; so, by Lemma 2.7, ω_0 is folded. Moreover, since ω is folded, $\mu_1(w, v)$ is nonvanishing on Z. In fact, because of the orientation conventions discussed above, $\mu_1(w, v)$ is *positive* on Z.

We will next show that ω_0 can be deformed into ω_1 by a "folded" homotopy:

Lemma 2.9. For $0 \le s \le 1$, the form

$$\omega_s := (1-s)\omega_0 + s\omega_1$$

is folded (with folding hypersurface Z).

Proof of Lemma 2.9. ω_s is of the form $\omega_s = \pi^* \iota^* \omega + t \mu_s$ where $\mu_s = (1-s)\mu_0 + s\mu_1$. Hence, the function $\mu_s(w,v)$ is positive on Z, and so, by Lemma 2.7, ω_s is folded.

Therefore, $\iota_v \omega_s$ and $\iota_w \omega_s$ vanish on Z, and the following is an easy corollary of Lemma 2.9.

Lemma 2.10. Given $\nu \in \Omega^1(\mathcal{U})$, one can find a vector field, u, with the property

 $\iota_u \omega_s = \nu$

if and only if $\iota_v \nu$ and $\iota_w \nu$ vanish on Z.

Remark. Since ω_s is symplectic on the complement of Z, this vector field, if it exists, is unique.

To prove Theorem 1, recall that by the "Moser trick" the proof can be reduced to finding a vector field, v_s , on \mathcal{U} which vanishes on Z, depends smoothly on s, and satisfies

$$D_{v_s}\omega_s = -\dot{\omega_s} = \omega_0 - \omega_1 . \qquad (2.11)$$

Indeed, if such a vector field exists, one can integrate the equation

$$\frac{d\varphi_s}{ds} \circ \varphi_s^{-1} = v_s$$

with φ_0 equal to the identity and $\varphi_s \circ \iota_0 = \iota_0$, to get a diffeomorphism, φ_s , satisfying $\varphi_s^* \omega_s = \omega_0$. To solve (2.11), one observes that $\omega_0 - \omega_1$ is closed and vanishes on Z. Therefore, since Z is a deformation retract of \mathcal{U} , there exists a one-form, ν , which satisfies $d\nu = \omega_0 - \omega_1$ and vanishes to the *second* order on Z. Hence, (2.11) is equivalent to

$$d\iota_{v_s}\omega_s = d\nu$$

so it suffices to solve

$$i_{v_s}\omega_s = \nu \tag{2.12}$$

and, by Lemma 2.10, there exists a unique v_s satisfying (2.12) (and v_s has to vanish to first order on Z.)

Remarks.

- 1. From Theorem 1 and the classical Darboux theorem, one gets another proof of (1.1). (By the classical Darboux theorem, $i^*\omega = dx_2dy_2 + \ldots + dx_ddy_d$. Now apply Theorem 1 with $x_1 = t$ and $\alpha = dy_1$.)
- 2. Let G be a compact Lie group. If G acts on M and this action preserves ω , one can arrange for α to be G-invariant and the map (2.2) to be G-equivariant.
- 3. If Z is not compact, the assertion of Theorem 1 is still true provided we replace ε by an appropriate continuous function $\varepsilon: Z \to \mathbb{R}^+$.

3. Examples

1. If we regard the even-dimensional sphere S^{2d} as the set of unit vectors in \mathbb{R}^{2d+1} , we obtain a folded symplectic form on S^{2d} by restricting to S^{2d} the form

$$dx_1 \wedge dy_1 + \ldots + dx_d \wedge dy_d$$
.

The folding hypersurface is the equator $S^{2d} \cap \{x_{d+1} = 0\}$.

Alternatively, this folded symplectic form on S^{2d} may be obtained by doubling a 2*d*-dimensional disk equipped with the standard symplectic form, $dx_1 \wedge dy_1 + \ldots + dx_d \wedge dy_d$, i.e. gluing two 2*d*-dimensional disks equipped with standard symplectic forms along their sphere boundaries, after reversing the orientation on one of the disks.

Yet a third way to construct this folded symplectic structure on S^{2d} justifies the name "folded". Consider the folding map from the sphere to the disk,

$$\pi: S^{2d} \to D^{2d} ,$$

folding along the equator. Let $\nu = dx_1 \wedge dy_1 + \ldots + dx_d \wedge dy_d$ be the standard symplectic form on D^{2d} . Then $\omega = \pi^* \nu$ is a folded symplectic form on S^{2d} .

2. Let (M_1, ω_1) and (M_2, ω_2) be compact symplectic manifolds of dimension 2d and with orientations induced by the symplectic forms. Let

$$M = M_1 \# \overline{M_2}$$

be the connected sum, where $\overline{M_2}$ has the opposite of the symplectic orientation. Then M has a folded symplectic form which coincides with the ω_i 's away from a tubular neighborhood of the surgery. To see this, concentrate on the small annuli $A_i \simeq S^{2d-1} \times I$, i = 1, 2, where the surgery occurs. The symplectic form ω_i restricted to A_i is diffeomorphic to $d(r_i \wedge \pi^* \alpha)$, i = 1, 2, where r_i is a coordinate on I, π is the projection $S^{2d-1} \times I \to S^{2d-1}$ and α is the standard contact one-form on S^{2d-1} . Choose coordinates t_1, t_2 such that $r_i = 1 + t_i^2$ for $t_i > \varepsilon$. Finally, extend ω across the connected sum by defining it to be

$$\omega = d[(1+t^2) \wedge \pi^* \alpha] ,$$

where $t = -t_1$ on the interval $t < -\varepsilon$ and $t = t_2$ on the interval $t > \varepsilon$. The folding hypersurface of ω is given by t = 0. For a generalization of this folding construction, see §6.

3. The product of any contact manifold with the circle admits a folded symplectic form. This can be seen by doubling a symplectization of the contact manifold (cf. [2]).

In particular, since Martinet [10] proved that any orientable 3manifold admits a contact form, we conclude that the product of any orientable 3-manifold with the circle admits a folded symplectic form.

More generally, given a contactomorphism ψ of a contact manifold X, consider the mapping torus $M_{\psi} = X \times [0,1]/\sim$, where $(p,0) \sim (\psi(p),1)$. The symplectization $X \times [0,1]$ has a ω -concave boundary, say $X \times \{0\}$, and a ω -convex boundary, say $X \times \{1\}$. There is a folded symplectic form on M_{ψ} obtained by gluing $X \times [0,1]$ to $\overline{X \times [0,1]}$ under the identification by ψ of the ω convex boundaries and the identity identification of the ω -concave boundaries.

4. The notion of folded symplectic form holds for arbitrary evendimensional manifolds, not necessarily orientable. For instance, the folded symplectic form on S^{2d} which we first described is invariant under the involution $x \mapsto -x$, and hence induces a folded symplectic form on the real even-dimensional projective spaces, \mathbb{RP}^{2d} .

It follows that the real blow-up of a folded symplectic manifold at a point (away from the folding hypersurface) admits a folded symplectic form. In fact, the real blow-up at a point of a 2*d*dimensional manifold M amounts to taking the connected sum of M with \mathbb{RP}^{2d} .

4. STABLE COMPLEX STRUCTURES

Let \mathcal{U} be a neighborhood of the folding hypersurface in M as in Theorem 1. Since ω is symplectic on $M \setminus \mathcal{U}$, there exists an almost complex structure, J_0 , on $M \setminus \mathcal{U}$ which is compatible with ω , in the sense that, for all $p \in M \setminus \mathcal{U}$, the map

$$r, s \in T_pM \longmapsto \omega_p(Jr, s)$$

is a positive definite symmetric bilinear form. It is clear from the orientation considerations that J_0 cannot be extended to all of M; however, we will prove that one can add a trivial \mathbb{R}^2 bundle to TM and extend the complex structure

$$J_0 \oplus (\text{rotation by } 90^0)$$
 (4.1)

to all of M:

Theorem 2. There exists a complex structure, J, on the real (2d+2)dimensional vector bundle $TM \oplus \mathbb{R}^2$, and a \mathbb{C} -linear isomorphism

$$(TM \oplus \mathbb{R}^2)_{M \setminus \mathcal{U}} \simeq T(M \setminus \mathcal{U}) \oplus \mathbb{C}$$
.

Moreover, $TM \oplus \mathbb{R}^2$ has a structure of symplectic vector bundle which is canonical up to homotopy, and the homotopy class of J is unique provided J is compatible with the symplectic structure on $TM \oplus \mathbb{R}^2$.

Proof. Let E be the vector subbundle of $T\mathcal{U}$ spanned by the vector fields w and v, as in §2. This is a symplectic subbundle of $T\mathcal{U}$, and we will denote by E^{\perp} its symplectic orthocomplement. Without loss of generality, one can assume that J_0 extends over the set $|t| \geq \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$, and, on this set, is the sum of complex structures on E and E^{\perp} . One can also assume that the complex structure on E^{\perp} extends over all of \mathcal{U} and that on the set $t \leq -\frac{\varepsilon}{2}$ the complex structure on E is given by

$$J_0 w = -v \quad \text{and} \quad J_0 v = w \tag{4.2}$$

and on the set $t \geq \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$ by

$$J_0 w = v \quad \text{and} \quad J_0 v = -w \;. \tag{4.3}$$

Consider, for $0 \le \theta \le \pi$, the 4×4 matrix:

$$A_{\theta} := \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \cos \theta & 0 & \sin \theta \\ -\cos \theta & 0 & \sin \theta & 0 \\ 0 & -\sin \theta & 0 & \cos \theta \\ -\sin \theta & 0 & -\cos \theta & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

It is easy to check that $A_{\theta}^2 = -\mathrm{Id}$, $A_{\theta}^t = -A_{\theta}$ and $A_0 = -A_{\pi}$. Let $B_t = A_{\theta}$ where $\theta = \frac{\pi}{\varepsilon}t + \frac{\pi}{2}$. By (4.2) and (4.3), B_t defines a complex structure on the bundle $E \oplus \mathbb{R}^2$ over the set $|t| \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$, which agrees with the complex structure (4.1) on $|t| = \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$ provided one identifies \mathbb{R}^2 with \mathbb{C} over $t \leq -\frac{\varepsilon}{2}$ by the map $(x, y) \mapsto x + iy$, and over $t \geq \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$ by the map $(x, y) \mapsto x + iy$. (This structure can be made to depend smoothly on t by modifying the parametrization slightly in the vicinity of $t = \pm \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$.) Since the complex structure on E^{\perp} is already defined on all of \mathcal{U} , this concludes the proof of the first assertion of Theorem 2.

Let Ω_0 be the standard symplectic structure on \mathbb{R}^2 . Over $M \setminus \mathcal{U}$, the canonical symplectic structure, Ω , on $TM \oplus \mathbb{R}^2$ is

$$\Omega = \begin{cases} \omega \oplus \Omega_0 & \text{on } M^+ \setminus \mathcal{U} \\ \omega \oplus (-\Omega_0) & \text{on } M^- \setminus \mathcal{U} \end{cases}$$

On \mathcal{U} consider the splitting (canonically unique up to homotopy)

$$T\mathcal{U} \oplus \mathbb{R}^2 = E^\perp \oplus E \oplus \mathbb{R}^2$$
.

On E^{\perp} , the form Ω is the restriction of ω , and E^{\perp} is Ω -orthogonal to $E \oplus \mathbb{R}^2$. Let (w, v, e, f) be an oriented orthonormal basis of $E \oplus \mathbb{R}^2$ with respect to a metric $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$. We can assume that for $t \leq -\frac{\varepsilon}{2}$ the

canonical symplectic structure on $E \oplus \mathbb{R}^2$ is given relative to this basis by

$$\Omega(a,b) = \langle A_0 a, b \rangle ,$$

and on the set $t \geq \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$ by

$$\Omega(a,b) = \langle A_{\pi}a,b\rangle ,$$

where A_{θ} is as above. When $|t| \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$, we declare the canonical symplectic structure on $E \oplus \mathbb{R}^2$ to be given by

$$\Omega(a,b) = \langle B_t a, b \rangle ,$$

where $B_t = A_{\theta}$ for $\theta = \frac{\pi}{\varepsilon}t + \frac{\pi}{2}$. (In order to have smoothness in t we need to modify the parametrization slightly in the vicinity of $t = \pm \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$.) This defines a canonical symplectic structure on the vector bundle $TM \oplus \mathbb{R}^2$, which is unique up to homotopy.²

The set of all J's compatible with a symplectic structure on $TM \oplus \mathbb{R}^2$ is contractible (see, for instance, [12, p.67]). \Box

Remark. The Z-tangent bundle of M, ${}^{Z}TM$, is the vector bundle over M whose sections are the vector fields on M which are tangent to Z. The Z-tangent bundle of M is stably isomorphic to TM, where the isomorphism is canonical up to homotopy. A folded symplectic form on M induces a structure of complex vector bundle on ${}^{Z}TM$ which is canonical up to homotopy (see [2]).

A canonical stable complex structure on TM induced by the folded symplectic form is homotopic to a canonical stable almost complex structure induced by the stable isomorphism $^{Z}TM \simeq_{s} TM$. For more details, see [2].

5. Spin-c Structures

We will next describe how Theorem 2 can be used to define a spin-c structure on M. Recall that a spin-c structure is defined as follows. The spin group is the connected double covering

$$\operatorname{Spin}(2d) \xrightarrow{p} \operatorname{SO}(2d)$$

with kernel $\mathbb{Z}_2 = \{1, -1\}$. One takes the central extension of this:

$$\operatorname{Spin}^{c}(2d) := \operatorname{Spin}(2d) \times_{\mathbb{Z}_{2}} \operatorname{U}(1)$$

²Since $\pi_1(SO(4)) = \mathbb{Z}_2$, there are two non-homotopic paths connecting A_0 to A_π ; the other choice is given by matrices analogous to the A_θ 's but with opposite signs along the anti-diagonal. We are declaring the *canonical* path A_θ to be as above.

U(1) being the group of complex numbers of modulus one, and \mathbb{Z}_2 the subgroup generated by (-1, -1). The map $(A, \lambda) \mapsto (p(A), \lambda^2)$ defines a double covering

$$\operatorname{Spin}^{c}(2d) \xrightarrow{\xi} \operatorname{SO}(2d) \times \operatorname{U}(1)$$
. (5.1)

Suppose now that the manifold M is oriented, and is equipped with a riemannian metric and a hermitian line bundle. From the orientation and the metric, one gets a principal SO(2d) bundle, $P_{\text{SO}(2d)}$, namely the bundle of oriented orthonormal frames, and from the hermitian line bundle one gets an associated circle bundle, $P_{\text{U}(1)}$.

Definition. A spin-c structure is a principal $\operatorname{Spin}^{c}(2d)$ -bundle, $P_{\operatorname{Spin}^{c}(2d)} \to M$, and a double covering³

$$P_{\mathrm{Spin}^{c}(2d)} \longrightarrow P_{\mathrm{SO}(2d)} \times P_{\mathrm{U}(1)}$$

which is equivariant with respect to (5.1).

Let us now see how the complex structure on $TM \oplus \mathbb{R}^2$ enables us to get such a double covering.⁴ By [8, appendix D], there are canonical morphisms of Lie groups



 ξ being the standard two-fold covering of SO(2d+2)×U(1) by Spin^c(2d+2), ρ the map "inclusion × det" and j its canonical lifting to Spin^c(2d+2) (loc. cit., formula D.10).

Let H be a hermitian inner product on $TM \oplus \mathbb{R}^2$ which is compatible with J and let $P_{U(d+1)}$ be the corresponding unitary frame bundle. Setting

$$P_{U(1)} := P_{U(d+1)} \times_{det} U(1) ,$$

$$P_{SO(2d+2)} := P_{U(d+1)} \times_{inclusion} SO(2d+2) , \quad and$$

$$P_{Spin^{c}(2d+2)} := P_{U(d+1)} \times_{j} Spin^{c}(2d+2) ,$$
(5.3)

³The product \times is the *fiber* product here and elsewhere in the paragraphs below. ⁴A similar argument is contained in [3]. one gets from (5.2) morphisms of bundles



On the other hand, by restricting $\operatorname{Re} H$ to TM, one gets a riemannian metric on M and a bundle of oriented orthonormal frames, $P_{\operatorname{SO}(2d)}$. Moreover, there is a natural inclusion

$$\eta: P_{\mathrm{SO}(2d)} \times P_{\mathrm{U}(1)} \longrightarrow P_{\mathrm{SO}(2d+2)} \times P_{\mathrm{U}(1)}$$

Let $P_{\text{Spin}^c(2d)}$ be the set of all pairs (z, w), z in $P_{\text{SO}(2d)} \times P_{\text{U}(1)}$ and w in $P_{\text{Spin}^c(2d+2)}$, such that $\eta(z) = \xi(w)$, and let κ be the map

$$P_{\mathrm{Spin}^{c}(2d)} \longrightarrow P_{\mathrm{SO}(2d)} \times P_{\mathrm{U}(1)}$$
 (5.4)

mapping (z, w) to z. This map is a double covering. Furthermore, because of the commutativity of the maps

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \operatorname{Spin}^{c}(2d) & \xrightarrow{\operatorname{incl}} & \operatorname{Spin}^{c}(2d+2) \\ & & & \downarrow \xi \end{array} \\ \operatorname{SO}(2d) \times \operatorname{U}(1) & \xrightarrow{\operatorname{incl}} & \operatorname{SO}(2d+2) \times \operatorname{U}(1) \end{array}$$

the action of $\operatorname{Spin}^{c}(2d)$ on $P_{\operatorname{Spin}^{c}(2d+2)}$ leaves $P_{\operatorname{Spin}^{c}(2d)}$ fixed (as a set) and makes $P_{\operatorname{Spin}^{c}(2d)}$ into a principal $\operatorname{Spin}^{c}(2d)$ -bundle. Thus (5.4) defines a spin-c structure on M. By (5.3), the line bundle associated with this spin-c structure, i.e. the line bundle corresponding to $P_{\mathrm{U}(1)}$, is

$$\bigwedge_{\mathbb{C}}^{d+1} (TM \oplus \mathbb{R}^2) . \tag{5.5}$$

From this spin-c structure one can get other spin-c structures by twisting with line bundles. The general principle is the following: Let G be a Lie group which contains U(1) as a central subgroup, and let $P_G \to M$ be a principal G-bundle and $L_{\alpha} \to M$ an hermitian line bundle. Let $P_{\mathrm{U}(1)}^{\alpha}$ be the circle bundle associated with L_{α} . On the fiber product

$$P_G \times P_{\mathrm{U}(1)}^{\alpha}$$

G acts by its action on the left factor and U(1) acts by its diagonal action. The U(1)-action commutes with the action of G, so the quotient

$$Q_G^{\alpha} := (P_G \times P_{\mathrm{U}(1)}^{\alpha}) / \mathrm{U}(1)$$

has a residual G-action which makes it into a principal G-bundle. We will call this the **twisting** of P_G by L_{α} .

One can apply this construction to $P_{\text{Spin}^{c}(2d)}$, since $\text{Spin}^{c}(2d)$ contains U(1) as a central subgroup. Let $P_{U(1)}^{2\alpha}$ be the circle bundle corresponding to the line bundle L_{α}^{2} , and let $Q_{U(1)}^{2\alpha}$ be the twisting of $P_{U(1)}$ by $P_{U(1)}^{2\alpha}$. The double covering (5.4) is equivariant with respect to the homomorphism

$$\gamma : \mathrm{U}(1) \longrightarrow \mathrm{U}(1) , \quad \gamma(a) = a^2 .$$

The double covering

$$P_{\mathrm{U}(1)}^{\alpha} \longrightarrow P_{\mathrm{U}(1)}^{2\alpha}$$

is also equivariant with respect to γ . By taking the quotient of each side of the four-fold covering

$$P_{\mathrm{Spin}^{c}(2d)} \times P_{\mathrm{U}(1)}^{\alpha} \longrightarrow (P_{\mathrm{SO}(2d)} \times P_{\mathrm{U}(1)}) \times P_{\mathrm{U}(1)}^{2\alpha}$$

by the diagonal action of U(1) via γ , one gets a double covering

$$Q^{\alpha}_{\text{Spin}^{c}(2d)} \longrightarrow P_{\text{SO}(2d)} \times Q^{2\alpha}_{\text{U}(1)}$$
 (5.6)

We will call this the **twisting** of the spin-c structure (5.4) by L_{α} . Note that, by (5.5), the line bundle defined by $Q_{U(1)}^{2\alpha}$ is the tensor product

$$\bigwedge_{\mathbb{C}}^{d+1} (TM \oplus \mathbb{R}^2) \otimes L^2_{\alpha}$$

In particular, if the folded symplectic form that we started with is integral, i.e. $[\omega]$ is the image in $H^2(M;\mathbb{R})$ of a cohomology class $\alpha \in H^2(M;\mathbb{Z})$ and L_{α} is the line bundle whose Chern class is α , we will call (5.6) the **canonical** spin-c structure on our folded symplectic manifold M. Since this structure depends on J, H, etc., this definition is a bit of a misnomer. However, it is to some extent justified by the following result.

Theorem 3. If ∂ is the spin-c Dirac operator associated with this spinc structure, the index of ∂ is given by the formula

$$\int_{M} \exp(\omega) \operatorname{Todd}(TM \oplus \mathbb{R}^{2}, J) .$$
(5.7)

Proof. This is just a special case of the Atiyah-Singer formula for the spin-c Dirac operator. (See, for instance, [8], formula D.20.) \Box

Note that the Todd class of $TM \oplus \mathbb{R}^2$ sits in the rational cohomology of M, so it is unchanged by smooth isotopies of J. Therefore, since Jis determined up to isotopy by ω , it only depends on ω and hence so does the expression (5.7). Thus the index of ∂ is a *folded symplectic* invariant of M.

6. Folding

Let $W = W^{2d}$ be a compact manifold with boundary equipped with a symplectic form, ω . Theorem 1, the normal form theorem for folded symplectic forms, has the following analogue for manifolds with boundary. Let $t: W \to \mathbb{R}^+$ be a defining function for the boundary, i.e.

$$p \in \partial W \Leftrightarrow t(p) = 0$$
 and $dt_p \neq 0$, $\forall p \in \partial W$, (6.1)

and let v be the hamiltonian vector field associated with t. By (6.1), v is tangent to the boundary and on the boundary is nonvanishing. Let α be a one-form on ∂W with the property $i(v)\alpha = 1$.

Theorem 4. There exists a collar neighborhood, $\mathcal{U} = \partial W \times [0, \varepsilon)$, of ∂W on which ω is diffeomorphic to

$$\pi^* \iota^* \omega + d(t \pi^* \alpha) , \qquad (6.2)$$

 ι being the inclusion map of ∂W into W and π the projection $(p, t) \mapsto p$.

Proof. The boundary ∂W is a coisotropic submanifold of W, and (6.2) has the same restriction to ∂W as ω , so this is a consequence of the coisotropic imbedding theorem of Gotay [5] and Weinstein [18]. \Box

Remark. Though t and v are not canonically defined, the orientation of the normal bundle of ∂W defined by dt is canonically defined and hence so is the orientation of the null-foliation of ∂W defined by v.

We will now describe a folding result which one can obtain from this theorem. Let W_1 and W_2 be compact oriented 2*d*-dimensional manifolds with boundary. Suppose that $\sigma : \mathcal{U}_1 \to \mathcal{U}_2$ is an orientationreversing diffeomorphism of collar neighborhoods of the boundaries, $\mathcal{U}_i \simeq \partial W_i \times I$, i = 1, 2, inducing an orientation-reversing diffeomorphism ρ of the boundaries. Let M be the compact oriented manifold (without boundary) that one gets from

 $W_1 \sqcup \overline{W_2}$

by identifying \mathcal{U}_1 with $\overline{\mathcal{U}_2}$ via σ , where $\overline{W_2}$ denotes the manifold W_2 equipped with the opposite orientation. Let ω_i be a symplectic form on W_i . We orient W_1 and W_2 by their symplectic orientations; the orientations in $W_1 \sqcup \overline{W_2}$ patch together to define an orientation of M. Let ι_i be the inclusion of Z into W_i and suppose that

$$\iota_1^*\omega_1 = \rho^*\iota_2^*\omega_2 = \mu \; .$$

Suppose also that the two orientations of the null-foliation agree. By Theorem 4, we may assume that the collar neighborhoods are of the form $\mathcal{U}_i \simeq Z \times [0, \varepsilon_i)$, and that, on \mathcal{U}_i, ω_i is diffeomorphic to

$$\pi^* \mu + d(t_i \pi^* \alpha)$$
, $i = 1, 2$

Define a folded symplectic form, ω , on M by setting $\omega = \omega_i$ on $W_i \setminus \mathcal{U}_i$ and setting

$$\omega = \pi^* \mu + d(t^2 \pi^* \alpha)$$

on $Z \times (-\delta_2, \delta_1)$, where $\delta_i^2 = \varepsilon_i$ and t is a coordinate function on the interval $(-\delta_2, \delta_1)$, which satisfies

$$t^2 = t_1$$
 on $\frac{\delta_1}{2} < t < \delta_1$

and

$$t^2 = t_2$$
 on $-\delta_2 < t < -\frac{\delta_2}{2}$.

Since \mathcal{U}_1 and \mathcal{U}_2 can be chosen to be arbitrarily small, we have proved:

Theorem 5. For every neighborhood, \mathcal{U} , of Z, there exists a folded symplectic form on M with folding hypersurface Z such that $\omega = \omega_i$ on $W_i \setminus \mathcal{U}$.

The construction we have just described will be called **folding**. We will next describe an analogous "unfolding" construction.

7. Unfolding

Let (M, ω) be a compact oriented folded symplectic manifold, and let Z be its folding hypersurface. For the moment we will assume that M and Z are connected and hence that $M \setminus Z$ consists of two connected components. We will denote their closures by W_1 and W_2 . These are manifolds-with-boundary with the common boundary Z. Let $\mathcal{U} = Z \times (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon)$ be a tubular neighborhood of Z in M on which ω has the normal form

$$\pi^*\iota^*\omega + d(t^2\pi^*\alpha) ,$$

and let $\mathcal{U}_1 = Z \times [0, \varepsilon)$ and $\mathcal{U}_2 = Z \times (-\varepsilon, 0]$ be the intersections of \mathcal{U} with W_1 and W_2 respectively. Let t_1 be a coordinate function on the interval $[0, \varepsilon^2)$ such that $t_1 = t^2$ on the interval $\frac{\varepsilon}{2} < t < \varepsilon$, and let t_2 be a coordinate function on the interval $[0, \varepsilon^2)$ such that $t_2 = t^2$ on the interval $-\varepsilon < t < -\frac{\varepsilon}{2}$. Then the symplectic form

$$\omega_1 = \pi^* \iota^* \omega + d(t_1 \pi^* \alpha) \tag{7.1}$$

can be extended to a symplectic form on W_1 by setting it equal to ω on $W_1 \setminus \mathcal{U}_1$ and the form

$$\omega_2 = \pi^* \iota^* \omega + d(t_2 \pi^* \alpha) \tag{7.2}$$

can be extended to a symplectic form on W_2 by setting it equal to ω on $W_2 \setminus \mathcal{U}_2$. Thus, to summarize, we have proved:

Theorem 6. M can be "unfolded" into two symplectic pieces, (W_i, ω_i) , i = 1, 2, which are compact manifolds-with-boundary, having Z as their common boundary.

Modulo some assumptions about the null-foliation on Z, this result can be considerably improved. We first make the (very strong) assumption that the null-foliation is *fibrating*, i.e. that there exists a fibration

$$p: Z \to B \tag{7.3}$$

whose base is a compact manifold, B, and whose fibers are the leaves of the null-foliation. Let v be a nonvanishing vector field whose integral curves are the fibers, and let f(b) be the period of the integral curve sitting over b; f(b) depends smoothly on b, so we can reparametrize these integral curves by replacing v by the vector field

$$w := \frac{2\pi}{f}v$$

whose integral curves are of period 2π . This modified vector field generates an action of S^1 on Z, and makes the fibration (7.3) into a principal S^1 -bundle. Let α be a connection form on this bundle, i.e. an S^1 -invariant one-form satisfying $i(w)\alpha = 1$. One can extend the action of S^1 to the neighborhood $\mathcal{U}_1 = Z \times [0, \varepsilon_1)$ of Z in W_1 by letting it act trivially on $[0, \varepsilon_1)$. This action preserves the form ω_1 ; indeed, by (7.1), $i(w)\omega_1 = -dt_1$, so this action is hamiltonian with moment map t_1 . Now apply the "symplectic cutting" operation to \mathcal{U}_1 . By symplectic reduction there is a unique symplectic form, ω_B , on B such that $p^*\omega_B = \iota_1^*\omega_1$. Let $\mathcal{U}_1^0 = \mathcal{U}_1 \setminus Z$. Symplectic cutting (cf. [9]) says that the disjoint union

$$B \cup \mathcal{U}_1^0$$

can be made into a symplectic manifold in such a way that B imbeds into this manifold as a symplectic submanifold of codimension two. Moreover, one can do this without changing the symplectic form, ω_1 , on \mathcal{U}_1^0 except on a small open set

$$0 < t_1 < \varepsilon_1' \ll \varepsilon_1$$
.

This glues together with the symplectic form, ω_1 , on $W_1 \setminus \mathcal{U}_1$ to give a symplectic structure to the disjoint union

$$M_1 = B \cup (W_1 \setminus Z)$$
.

One can apply the same construction to W_2 and thus finally show:

Theorem 7. If the null-foliation on Z is fibrating, then M can be "unfolded" into compact symplectic manifolds, M_1 and M_2 , each of which contains B as an imbedded codimension two hypersurface.

If the null-foliation is not fibrating, one can still obtain a result of this sort provided that the leaves of the null-foliation are closed submanifolds of Z. By the slice theorem, we can show that any leaf has an open neighborhood diffeomorphic to $S^1 \times_{\mathbb{Z}_n} \mathbb{R}^{2d-1}$, where the nullfoliation sits as the directions tangent to S^1 , and \mathbb{Z}_n acts on \mathbb{R}^{2d-1} by rotations. Hence, there is a locally free action of S^1 on Z whose orbits are the leaves of the null-foliation and the argument above suffices to show:

Theorem 8. If the leaves of the null-foliation are closed submanifolds of Z, then M can be "unfolded" into compact symplectic orbifolds, M_1 and M_2 , each of which contains B as an imbedded codimension two symplectic suborbifold.

We have also been assuming up to this point that Z is connected. This hypothesis can also be relaxed. If the connected components of $M \setminus Z$ are W_i^0 , $i = 1, \ldots, N$, one can unfold Z, one component at a time, thus obtaining, in place of the W_i^0 's, compact orbifolds, M_i , $i = 1, \ldots, N$, just as above.

8. Spin-c Index

Let M be a compact connected oriented 2*d*-dimensional manifold, and let $\omega \in \Omega^2(M)$ be a folded symplectic form with folding hypersurface Z. For simplicity we will assume that Z is connected and hence that $M \setminus Z$ consists of two connected pieces. Suppose, as in §7, that the null-foliation on Z is fibrating. Then, by Theorem 7, M unfolds into

two compact symplectic manifolds, (M_i, ω_i) , i = 1, 2. We orient the M_i 's by their symplectic orientations. Without loss of generality, we can assume that the (symplectic) orientation on M_1 coincides with the orientation induced by M, and that the (symplectic) orientation on M_2 is opposite to the orientation induced by M. The goal of this section is to compute the integral (5.7). (If $[\omega]$ is an integer cohomology class, this integral is, by Theorem 3, the index of the spin-c Dirac operator.) Explicitly we will prove:

Theorem 9. The integral (5.7) is equal to

$$\int_{M_1} \exp(\omega_1) \operatorname{Todd}(M_1) - \int_{M_2} \exp(\omega_2) \operatorname{Todd}(M_2) .$$
 (8.1)

Remarks.

- 1. The cohomology classes $[\omega_1]$ and $[\omega_2]$ need not be integer cohomology classes. When they are, the two summands of (8.1) are just the Riemann-Roch numbers of M_1 and M_2 .
- 2. If the null-foliation on Z is not fibrating, but the leaves are closed, Theorem 8 says that M has an unfolding of the type in §7; however, the M_i 's are orbifolds. In this case, the formula (8.1) is still valid provided the terms on the right are replaced by the Kawasaki-Riemann-Roch numbers of M_1 and M_2 .
- 3. If Z is not connected, formula (8.1) has to be replaced by the slightly more complicated formula (1.4).

Proof. Choose a neighborhood, $\mathcal{U} \simeq Z \times (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon)$, of the folding hypersurface of the form given by Theorem 1, where, in the notation of §2, ω is diffeomorphic to

$$\pi^*\iota^*\omega + d(t^2\pi^*\alpha) \ .$$

The integral (5.7) can be written as a sum

$$\int_{M \setminus \mathcal{U}} \exp(\omega) \operatorname{Todd}(TM \oplus \mathbb{R}^2, J) +$$
(8.2)

+
$$\int_{\mathcal{U}} \exp(\omega) \operatorname{Todd}(TM \oplus \mathbb{R}^2, J)$$
. (8.3)

Apply the "Meinrenken trick" to the integral (8.3) (cf. [14]): Pick a connection form, θ , for the action of S^1 on \mathcal{U} , and note that, by Stokes'

theorem, the integral (8.3) can be written as the value at x = 0 of the function of x given by

$$\int_{\partial \mathcal{U}} \frac{\theta \, \exp(\omega) \operatorname{Todd}(TM \oplus \mathbb{R}^2, J)}{d\theta - x}$$

Now each of the two boundary components of $\partial \mathcal{U}$ can be identified with Z. Let $p : Z \to B$ be the fibration with total space Z and symplectic base (B, ω_B) , as in §7. The restriction of $TM \oplus \mathbb{R}^2$ to each of these boundary components is a complex vector bundle of the form

$$p^*TB \oplus \mathbb{C}^2$$
,

the complex structure on TB being any complex structure which is compatible with ω_B .

Thus the contribution of each of the boundary components is, up to sign (see below), equal to

$$\int_B \frac{\exp(\omega_B) \operatorname{Todd}(TB)}{\mu - x}$$

where $p^*\mu = d\theta$ (so μ is the curvature of the connection θ).

However, the signs of these two contributions differ. The reason for this is that the orientation on M induces on $(Z \times \{\varepsilon\})/S^1$ an orientation which is compatible with ω_B^{d-1} and on $(Z \times \{-\varepsilon\})/S^1$ an orientation which is compatible with $-\omega_B^{d-1}$.

Hence, the integral (8.3) is zero.

Consider now the expression (8.1). Regard M_i as a union $(M_i \setminus U_i) \cup U_i$, where

$$\mathcal{U}_1 = B \cup (Z \times (0, \varepsilon))$$

and

$$\mathcal{U}_2 = B \cup (Z \times (-\varepsilon, 0)) \; .$$

Recall from §7 that the symplectic structures on \mathcal{U}_1 and \mathcal{U}_2 are acquired by applying the "symplectic cutting" operation to $Z \times (0, \varepsilon)$ and $Z \times (-\varepsilon, 0)$.

By assumption, $TM \oplus \mathbb{R}^2$ is isomorphic on $M \setminus \mathcal{U}$ to $T(M \setminus \mathcal{U}) \oplus \mathbb{C}$. Thus the summand (8.2) is equal to

$$\int_{M_1 \setminus \mathcal{U}_1} \exp(\omega_1) \operatorname{Todd}(M_1) - \int_{M_2 \setminus \mathcal{U}_2} \exp(\omega_2) \operatorname{Todd}(M_2) ,$$

where the minus sign follows from the mismatch between the (symplectic) orientation of M_2 and the orientation induced by M.

In order to prove the theorem it suffices to show that

$$\int_{\mathcal{U}_1} \exp(\omega_1) \operatorname{Todd}(M_1) - \int_{\mathcal{U}_2} \exp(\omega_2) \operatorname{Todd}(M_2)$$

is zero. To see this, note that, in view of the canonical form of Theorem 1, one gets from the involution $t \mapsto -t$ a symplectomorphism from $M^+ \cap \mathcal{U}$ onto $M^- \cap \mathcal{U}$, which descends to a symplectomorphism from \mathcal{U}_1 onto \mathcal{U}_2 . \Box

Remark. Let G be a compact Lie group. If G acts on M and this action preserves ω , then, by averaging, we can arrange that all auxiliary data is G-invariant, so that the index of the spin-c Dirac operator becomes a virtual representation of G. In this case, formula (8.1) holds as an isomorphism of virtual representations, yielding an equivariant version of Theorem 9.

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