

8. Connections for Vector Bundles over Quaternionic Kähler Manifolds

By Takashi NITTA

Department of Mathematics, Osaka University

(Communicated by Kunihiko KODAIRA, M. J. A., Jan. 12, 1987)

The purpose of this note is to announce our recent results on quaternionic Kähler manifolds (see Salamon [5] for definition of quaternionic Kähler manifolds). Let M be a $4n$ -dimensional connected quaternionic Kähler manifold with the corresponding twistor space $p: Z \rightarrow M$ (cf. [5]). Furthermore, let \mathbf{H} be the skew field of quaternions. Then the $Sp(n) \cdot Sp(1)$ -module $\wedge^2 \mathbf{H}^n$ is a direct sum $N'_2 \oplus N''_2 \oplus L_2$ of its irreducible submodules N'_2 , N''_2 , L_2 , where N'_2 (resp. L_2) is the submodule fixed by $Sp(n)$ (resp. $Sp(1)$) and for $n=1$, we have $N''_2 = \{0\}$. Hence, the vector bundle $\wedge^2 T^*M$ is written as a direct sum $A'_2 \oplus A''_2 \oplus B_2$ of its holonomy-invariant subbundles in such a way that A'_2, A''_2, B_2 correspond to N'_2, N''_2, L_2 , respectively. Now, let V be a vector bundle over M .

Definition 1. A connection for V is called an A'_2 -connection (resp. B_2 -connection) if the corresponding curvature is an $\text{End}(V)$ -valued A'_2 -form (resp. B_2 -form).

First, we have:

Theorem A (cf. [3]). *All A'_2 -connections and also all B_2 -connections are Yang-Mills connections.*

Let $\rho: Sp(n) \rightarrow GL(2n; \mathbf{C})$ be the standard representation of $Sp(n)$. Recall that $Sp(1) = \{h \in \mathbf{H} \mid |h|=1\}$. Furthermore, let K' (resp. K'') be the \mathbf{C} -vector space \mathbf{C}^{2n} (resp. $\mathbf{C}^2 (= \mathbf{H})$) endowed with the $Sp(n)$ -action (resp. $Sp(1)$ -action) defined by

$$\begin{aligned} Sp(n) \times \mathbf{C}^{2n} \ni (g, f) &\longrightarrow \rho(g) \cdot f \in \mathbf{C}^{2n}, \\ (\text{resp. } Sp(1) \times \mathbf{H} \ni (u, f) &\longrightarrow f \cdot u^{-1} \in \mathbf{H}). \end{aligned}$$

Then the complexification $\mathbf{H}^n \otimes_{\mathbf{R}} \mathbf{C}$ of the $Sp(n) \cdot Sp(1)$ -module \mathbf{H}^n is naturally identified with $K' \otimes_{\mathbf{C}} K''$. Let r be an integer with $r \geq 2$. Since the submodule $\wedge^r K' \otimes_{\mathbf{C}} S^r K''$ of the $Sp(n) \cdot Sp(1)$ -module $\wedge^r (K' \otimes_{\mathbf{C}} K'') (= \wedge^r (\mathbf{H}^n \otimes_{\mathbf{R}} \mathbf{C}))$ is just $N_r^{\mathbf{C}} (= N_r \otimes_{\mathbf{R}} \mathbf{C})$ for some suitable $Sp(n) \cdot Sp(1)$ -module N_r , we have a natural decomposition $\wedge^r \mathbf{H}^n = N_r \oplus L_r$ for some complementary $Sp(n) \cdot Sp(1)$ -module L_r of N_r in $\wedge^r \mathbf{H}^n$ (cf. [3]). Therefore, the vector bundle $\wedge^r T^*M$ is expressed as a direct sum $A_r \oplus B_r$ of subbundles A_r, B_r corresponding to N_r, L_r , respectively. We denote by $\pi^r: \wedge^r T^*M (= A_r \oplus B_r) \rightarrow A_r$ the natural projection to the first factor. Then from a theorem of Salamon [6], one easily obtains the following:

Theorem B (cf. [3]). *Assume that ∇ is a B_2 -connection on V . Then the following is an elliptic complex:*

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{E}(V) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{V}} \mathcal{E}(V \otimes T^*M) \xrightarrow{d_1} \mathcal{E}(V \otimes A_2) \\ \xrightarrow{d_2} \mathcal{E}(V \otimes A_3) \xrightarrow{d_3} \dots \xrightarrow{d_{2n-1}} \mathcal{E}(V \otimes A_{2n}) \longrightarrow 0,$$

where $d_i := (\text{id} \otimes \pi^{i+1}) \circ d^i$, and for every vector bundle W on M , we denote by $\mathcal{E}(W)$ the sheaf of germs of C^∞ -sections of W .

Now, let \mathcal{V} be a B_2 -connection on V such that the corresponding holonomy group can be reduced to (a subgroup of) a compact semisimple Lie group G . Then the frame bundle P of V can be regarded as a principal G -bundle. Put $G_P := P \times_\theta G$ and $\mathfrak{g}_P = P \times_{\text{Ad}} \mathfrak{g}$, where $\theta : G \rightarrow \text{Aut}(G)$ is the group conjugation and $\text{Ad} : G \rightarrow GL(\mathfrak{g})$ is the adjoint representation of G . A global smooth section of G_P is called a *gauge transformation* of P and let \mathcal{M} be the *moduli space* of the B_2 -connections on V with holonomy groups in G , where “moduli space” means the space of all such connections modulo gauge transformations of P (see [3] for more details). Then we have the following analogue of a result of Atiyah, Hitchin and Singer [1]:

Theorem C (cf. [3]). *If \mathcal{V} is an irreducible connection, then the space of infinitesimal deformations of B_2 -connections at \mathcal{V} , that is, the tangent space of \mathcal{M} at \mathcal{V} is a linear subspace of the first cohomology group of the elliptic complex :*

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{E}(\mathfrak{g}_P) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{V}'} \mathcal{E}(\mathfrak{g}_P \otimes T^*M) \xrightarrow{d'_1} \mathcal{E}(\mathfrak{g}_P \otimes A_2) \\ \xrightarrow{d'_2} \mathcal{E}(\mathfrak{g}_P \otimes A_3) \xrightarrow{d'_3} \dots \xrightarrow{d'_{2n-1}} \mathcal{E}(\mathfrak{g}_P \otimes A_{2n}) \longrightarrow 0,$$

where \mathcal{V}' is the connection on \mathfrak{g}_P naturally induced by \mathcal{V} and furthermore, we put $d'_i := (\text{id} \otimes \pi^{i+1}) \circ d'^i$.

For our quaternionic Kähler manifold M , we now define the following :

Definition 2. (i) A pair (E, D_E) of a vector bundle E over M and a B_2 -connection D_E on E is called a *Hermitian pair* on M if D_E is a Hermitian connection on E .

(ii) A pair (F, D_F) of a holomorphic vector bundle F over Z and a Hermitian $(1, 0)$ -connection D_F with Hermitian metric $h(\cdot, \cdot)$ on F is called an *excellent pair* on Z if the following conditions are satisfied :

(a) F is a flat Hermitian vector bundle when restricted to each fibre of $p : Z \rightarrow M$. (Hence the real structure $\tau : Z \rightarrow Z$ (cf. Nitta and Takeuchi [4] naturally lifts to a bundle automorphism $\tau' : F \rightarrow F$.)

(b) Let $\sigma : F \rightarrow F^*$ be the bundle map defined fibrewise by

$$F_z \ni f \longmapsto \sigma(f) \in F_{\tau(z)}^* \quad (z \in Z),$$

where $\sigma(f)(g) := h(f, \tau'(f))$ for each $g \in F_{\tau(z)}$. Then σ is an antiholomorphic bundle automorphism.

We then have the following generalization of a result of Atiyah, Hitchin and Singer [1] (see also Salamon [6], Berard-Bergery and Ochiai [2]) :

Theorem D (cf. [3]). *Let \mathcal{H} (resp. $\tilde{\mathcal{H}}$) be the set of all Hermitian pairs (resp. all excellent pairs) on M (resp. Z). Then*

$$\mathcal{H} \ni (E, D_E) \longmapsto (p^*E, p^*D_E) \in \tilde{\mathcal{H}}$$

defines a bijective correspondence : $\mathcal{H} \simeq \tilde{\mathcal{H}}$.

Corollary E (cf. [3]). *Let (F, D_F) be an excellent pair on Z . If M has positive scalar curvature, then F with D_F is a Ricci-flat Einstein Hermitian vector bundle over Z .*

In conclusion, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Professors H. Ozeki, M. Takeuchi, I. Enoki and T. Mabuchi for suggestion and constant encouragement.

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