

On the Pairing of Polarizations

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Abstract. If F is a positive Lagrangian sub-bundle of a symplectic vector bundle (E, ω) we show by elementary means that the Chern classes of F are determined by ω . The notions of metaplectic structure for (E, ω) , metalinear structure for and square root of K^F , the canonical bundle of F are shown to be essentially the same. If F and G are two positive Lagrangian sub-bundles with $F \cap \bar{G} = D^c$, we define a pairing of K^F and K^G into the bundle $\mathcal{D}^{-2}(D)$ of densities of order -2 on D . This is the square of Blattner's half-form pairing and so characterizes the latter up to a sign.

Introduction

In order to construct a Hilbert space in the theory of geometric quantization [4, 6, 7], Kostant [3] introduced the notion of half-form normal to a positive polarization. If two positive polarizations F and G are such that $F \cap \bar{G} = D^c$ is smooth, Blattner [1] showed the existence of a pairing of the half forms normal to F and G into the densities of order -1 on D .

If $F \cap \bar{G} = 0$, $\beta \in \Gamma K^F$, $\gamma \in \Gamma K^G$, K^F , K^G the canonical bundles of F and G , then $\beta \wedge \bar{\gamma}$ is a non-singular pairing of K^F and K^G into the volumes on X . Dividing by the Liouville volume gives a function $\langle \beta, \gamma \rangle_0$. In the general case where $F \cap \bar{G} = D^c$, we observe that F and G project into D^1/D to give Lagrangian sub-bundles F/D , G/D satisfying $F/D \cap \overline{G/D} = 0$. Thus by dividing out the intersection we can reduce to the case where $F \cap \bar{G} = 0$ and use the exterior product to define a pairing. This pairing is shown to be the square of Blattner's half-form pairing. It is often easier to compute this pairing of the canonical bundles and use continuity arguments to deduce properties of the half-form pairing.

Notation. Let V be a vector space over a field \mathfrak{f} , $b = (v_1, \dots, v_r)$ an r -tuple of elements of V and $A = (A_{ij})$ an $r \times s$ matrix over \mathfrak{f} then $b \cdot A$ will denote the s -tuple with j -th entry $\sum_{i=1}^r A_{ij} v_i$. If b_1, b_2 are r - and s -tuples, (b_1, b_2) will denote the $r+s$ -tuple obtained in the obvious way. If T is an endomorphism of V and b an r -tuple, Tb will denote the r -tuple obtained by letting T act componentwise.

If $\Omega: V \times V \rightarrow \mathfrak{k}$ is a function, b_1, b_2 r - and s -tuples then $\Omega(b_1, b_2)$ will denote the $r \times s$ matrix with ij -th entry $\Omega(v_i, w_j)$, $b_1 = (v_1, \dots, v_r)$, $b_2 = (w_1, \dots, w_s)$. If Ω is bilinear, A an $r \times p$ matrix, B an $s \times q$ matrix then

$$\Omega(b_1 \cdot A, b_2 \cdot B) = A^T \Omega(b_1, b_2) B$$

where A^T denotes the transpose of A . There is an obvious modification if $\mathfrak{k} = \mathbb{C}$ and Ω is anti-linear in one of its arguments.

Let J_n denote the $2n \times 2n$ matrix whose only non-zero entries are $(J_n)_{i, n+i} = 1$, $(J_n)_{n+i, i} = -1$, $i = 1, \dots, n$. The real symplectic group Sp_n consists of all real $2n \times 2n$ matrices g with $gJ_n g^T = J_n$.

Let U_n be the subgroup of all g in Sp_n with $gJ_n = J_n g$, then U_n is maximal compact in Sp_n and isomorphic to $U(n)$. We shall identify U_n and $U(n)$. Explicitly, if $U + iV \in U(n)$ then

$$\begin{bmatrix} U & -V \\ V & U \end{bmatrix}$$

will be the corresponding element of U_n .

Positive Almost-Complex Structures and Positive Lagrangian Sub-Bundles

Let X be a smooth manifold and (E, ω) a symplectic vector bundle over X . E is a real vector bundle of fibre dimension $2n$ and ω_x a non-singular skew-symmetric bilinear form on E_x for each $x \in X$. A $2n$ -tuple b of elements of E_x is called a symplectic frame at x if $\omega_x(b, b) = J_n$. If $g \in \text{Sp}_n$, $b \cdot g$ is again a symplectic frame at x , and the space $B(E, \omega)$ of all symplectic frames of E is a principal Sp_n bundle over X .

Since $U(n)$ is maximal compact in Sp_n , $B(E, \omega)$ can be reduced to a $U(n)$ bundle and in this way Chern classes $c_i(E, \omega) \in H^{2i}(X, \mathbb{Z})$, $i = 1, \dots, n$ are associated to (E, ω) . They are independent of the reduction. A smooth section J of $\text{End } E$ will be called a positive, compatible almost-complex structure (PCACS) in (E, ω) if

$$(i) \quad J_x^2 = -1, \quad \forall x \in X; \text{ and}$$

$$(ii) \quad S_x^J(v, w) = \omega_x(v, J_x w), \quad v, w \in E_x$$

defines a symmetric, positive definite bilinear form on E_x for each $x \in X$. Then we may define

$$B(E, \omega, J) = \{b \in B(E, \omega) \mid b = (b_1, b_2) \text{ with } b_2 = Jb_1\}.$$

$B(E, \omega, J)$ is a reduction of $B(E, \omega)$ to a $U(n)$ bundle and every reduction arises this way. Let E^J denote E regarded as a complex n -dimensional vector bundle by means of the PCACS J . E^J has a Hermitian structure H^J given by

$$H_x^J(v, w) = S_x^J(v, w) - i\omega_x(v, w), \quad v, w \in E_x^J.$$

If b_1 is an H_x^J -orthonormal frame for E_x^J then $(b_1, Jb_1) \in B(E, \omega, J)_x$ and conversely. Thus $B(E, \omega, J)$ can be identified with the bundle of orthonormal frames for E^J and the $c_i(E, \omega)$ are the Chern classes of the complex vector bundle E^J .

Let $E^{\mathbb{C}}$ denote the complexification of E , extend ω by linearity and let \bar{v} denote complex conjugation in $E^{\mathbb{C}}$. A sub-bundle F of $E^{\mathbb{C}}$ is called a positive Lagrangian

sub-bundle (PLS) if

- (i) $\dim_{\mathbb{C}} F_x = n, \quad \forall x \in X;$
- (ii) $\omega_x(v, w) = 0, \quad \forall v, w \in F_x, \quad x \in X;$
- (iii) $-i\omega_x(v, \bar{v}) \geq 0, \quad \forall v \in F_x, \quad x \in X.$

In addition we say F is positive definite if $-i\omega_x(v, \bar{v}) > 0$ for all non-zero v in F_x, x in X . According to the proof of Lemma 3.11 in [1], if F is a PLS, F is positive definite if and only if $F \cap \bar{F} = 0$, in which case $E^{\mathbb{C}} = F \oplus \bar{F}$ is a direct sum. Further, if F and G are PLS's then $F \cap \bar{G} = \bar{F} \cap G = (F \cap \bar{F}) \cap (G \cap \bar{G})$ and in particular $F \cap \bar{G} = 0$ for all PLS's F if G is positive definite.

If J is a PCACS, extend it to $E^{\mathbb{C}}$ by linearity, then $P^J = \frac{1}{2}(1 - iJ)$ is a field of projections; let $F^J = P^J(E^{\mathbb{C}}) = P^J(E)$. It is easily checked that F^J is a PLS and is positive definite. $P^J: E^J \rightarrow F^J$ is a complex linear isomorphism and the kernel of P^J on $E^{\mathbb{C}}$ is \bar{F}^J . But $F \cap \bar{F}^J = 0$ for any PLS F by the remarks in the previous paragraph so P^J regarded as a map from F into F^J is also an isomorphism. Thus as complex vector bundles $F \cong F^J \cong E^J$ for any PLS F and PCACS J . In particular the Chern classes of a PLS F are $c_i(E, \omega), i = 1, \dots, n$. Further the Hermitian structure H^J on E^J transports, via the above isomorphisms, to F . It follows that fixing a PCACS J gives an isomorphism of a $U(n)$ bundle of orthonormal frames of F with a $U(n)$ -reduction of $B(E, \omega)$.

Let F be a PLS of $E^{\mathbb{C}}$ and F^0 the sub-bundle of the dual $(E^{\mathbb{C}})^*$ of all linear forms vanishing on F . Let $v \mapsto v^{\omega} = \omega(v, \cdot)$ be the isomorphism of $E^{\mathbb{C}}$ with $(E^{\mathbb{C}})^*$ determined by ω . F is Lagrangian when $F^{\omega} = F^0$, in particular for a PLS, F , and F^0 are isomorphic. Thus F^0 has dimension n and $K^F = A^n F^0$ is a line bundle, which we call the canonical bundle of F (denoted N^F by some authors). It follows K^F has $c_1(E, \omega)$ as its Chern class. If $b = (v_1, \dots, v_n)$ is a frame for F_x , set $b^{\omega} = v_1^{\omega} \wedge \dots \wedge v_n^{\omega}$, then b^{ω} is a frame for K_x^F and for all $g \in \text{GL}(n, \mathbb{C}), (b \cdot g)^{\omega} = \text{Det}[g] b^{\omega}$.

Square Roots, Metalinear and Metaplectic Structures

The groups Sp_n and $\text{GL}(n, \mathbb{C})$ have the same fundamental group as $U(n)$ which is \mathbb{Z} . All three groups have thus unique (up to isomorphism) connected double covering groups $Mp_n, ML(n, \mathbb{C}),$ and $MU(n)$ respectively, and $MU(n)$ may be regarded as a maximal compact subgroup of both Mp_n and $ML(n, \mathbb{C})$. $ML(n, \mathbb{C})$ has a unique character $\text{Det}^{1/2}$ such that if $\sigma: ML(n, \mathbb{C}) \rightarrow \text{GL}(n, \mathbb{C})$ denotes the covering map,

$$(\text{Det}^{1/2}[g])^2 = \text{Det}[\sigma(g)], \quad g \in ML(n, \mathbb{C}).$$

The reason for introducing these groups is the existence of this square root; see [3].

Let (E, ω) be a symplectic vector bundle of dimension $2n, B(E, \omega)$ the Sp_n bundle of symplectic frames and $\pi: B(E, \omega) \rightarrow X$ the projection. A metaplectic structure on (E, ω) is an isomorphism class of double coverings $\sigma: \tilde{B} \rightarrow B(E, \omega)$ by principal Mp_n -bundles $\tilde{\pi}: \tilde{B} \rightarrow X$ such that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \tilde{B} \times Mp_n & \rightarrow & \tilde{B} \xrightarrow{\tilde{\pi}} X \\ \sigma \times \sigma \downarrow & & \sigma \downarrow \quad \pi \nearrow \\ B(E, \omega) \times \text{Sp}_n & \rightarrow & B(E, \omega) \end{array}$$

PLS's of $E^{\mathbb{C}}$. This consistency is necessary for the pairing. Sections of \mathcal{Q}^F are called half-forms normal to F .

Densities and Pairings

Let GL_n denote $GL(n, \mathbb{R})$ or $GL(n, \mathbb{C})$ according to context. By complexifying one need really only consider the complex case. Let D be a real or complex n -dimensional vector bundle and $B(D)$ the principal GL_n bundle of frames of D . Let $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$, then $\mu: B(D) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is an α -density or density of order α on D if

$$\mu(b \cdot g) = |\text{Det}[g]|^{\alpha} \mu(b) \quad \forall b \in B(D), \quad g \in GL_n.$$

Let $\mathcal{D}^{\alpha}(D)$ denote the complex line bundle $B(D) \times_{GL_n} \mathbb{C}$ where GL_n acts on \mathbb{C} by the character $|\text{Det}[\cdot]|^{\alpha}$. Then the α -densities on D can be identified with the sections of $\mathcal{D}^{\alpha}(D)$. We identify $\mathcal{D}^{\alpha}(D)$ with $\mathcal{D}^{\alpha}(D^{\mathbb{C}})$ in the obvious way for any real bundle D .

If μ is an α -density, ν a β -density on D then the pointwise product $\mu\nu$ is an $(\alpha + \beta)$ -density. If $D \subset E$ is a sub-bundle and $\lambda \in \Gamma \mathcal{D}^1(E)$ a nowhere vanishing section, there is an isomorphism of $\mathcal{D}^{\alpha}(D)$ with $\mathcal{D}^{-\alpha}(E/D)$ given by

$$\tilde{\mu}(\tilde{b}) = \mu(e)/\lambda(e, b)$$

where $\mu \in \mathcal{D}^{\alpha}(D)$, $\tilde{b} \in B(E/D)$, $(e, b) \in B(E)$ such that b projects onto \tilde{b} . In particular, if (E, ω) is symplectic one can choose the Liouville density λ defined by $\lambda(b) = 1$ for b in $B(E, \omega)$. This is consistent since $\text{Det}[g] = 1$ for all g in Sp_n .

Let (E, ω) be a symplectic vector bundle over X , F, G PLS's. We shall suppose $F \cap \bar{G}$ has constant dimension and then $F \cap \bar{G} = D^{\mathbb{C}}$ for some real sub-bundle D of E . D is isotropic:

$$\omega_x(v, w) = 0 \quad \forall v, w \in D_x, \quad x \in X,$$

If $D \subset E$ is any isotropic sub-bundle and

$$D^{\perp} = \{v \in E | \omega(v, w) = 0 \quad \forall w \in D\}$$

then $D \subset D^{\perp}$ and D is the kernel of the restriction of ω to D^{\perp} . Hence there is an induced symplectic structure ω/D on D^{\perp}/D by setting

$$(\omega/D)_x(\tilde{v}, \tilde{w}) = \omega_x(v, w)$$

where $\tilde{v}, \tilde{w} \in (D^{\perp}/D)_x$ and $v, w \in D_x^{\perp}$ project to \tilde{v}, \tilde{w} respectively. It may easily be checked that if $F \cap \bar{G} = D^{\mathbb{C}}$, then $F \cap \bar{G} = D^{\mathbb{C}}$, as is G , and F and G project to PLS's $F/D, G/D$ of $(D^{\perp}/D)^{\mathbb{C}}$ where $F/D \cap \bar{G}/D = 0$.

If F, G are PLS's of $E^{\mathbb{C}}$, we say F and G are transverse if $F \cap \bar{G} = 0$ (this is not consistent with the usual notion of transverse, $E^{\mathbb{C}} = F + G$, but should not cause confusion). In the general case where $F \cap \bar{G} = D^{\mathbb{C}}$, we reduce to the transverse case by passing to the quotient $(D^{\perp}/D, \omega/D)$. Let $F \cap \bar{G} = 0$ and $\beta \in K_x^F, \gamma \in K_x^G$ then $\beta \wedge \bar{\gamma} \in A^{2n}(E^{\mathbb{C}})^*$ and is non-zero if β and γ both are, so K^F and K^G are non-singularly paired by $(\beta, \gamma) \mapsto \beta \wedge \bar{\gamma}$.

If $F \cap \bar{G} = D^{\mathbb{C}}$ we need some way of passing from K^F to $K^{F/D}$. Observe that if b is a frame for F_x and $\beta \in K_x^F$ then $\beta = fb^{\omega}$ for some $f \in \mathbb{C}$. If e is a frame for D_x it can

always be extended to a frame $(e, b_1) = b$ for F , and $b^\omega = e^\omega \wedge b_1^\omega$. Thus $\beta = e^\omega \wedge \beta_1$ where $\beta_1 = f b_1^\omega$. Moreover b_1 projects to a frame \tilde{b}_1 for $(F/D)_x$. We set

$$\tilde{\beta}_e = f \tilde{b}_1^{\omega/D}.$$

One may easily check that $\tilde{\beta}_e$ depends only on e and not the choice of b_1 extending e to a frame of F_x . Clearly $\tilde{\beta}_e \in K_x^{F/D}$ and

$$\tilde{\beta}_{e \cdot g} = \text{Det}[g]^{-1} \tilde{\beta}_e, \quad g \in \text{GL}_k$$

where $k = \dim D$. Since $K^{F/D}$ and $K^{G/D}$ are non-singularly paired we obtain, for each $\beta \in \Gamma K^F$, $\gamma \in \Gamma K^G$ a function $\langle \beta, \gamma \rangle_0$ on $B(D)$ from

$$\langle \beta, \gamma \rangle_0(e) \lambda^{D^1/D} = (-1)^{n-k} \tilde{\beta}_e \wedge \tilde{\gamma}_e, \quad e \in B(D)$$

where $\lambda^{D^1/D}$ denotes the Liouville volume on D^1/D ($\lambda^{D^1/D}(b) = 1$ if $b \in B(D^1/D, \omega/D)$). $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_0$ is a nonsingular sesquilinear pairing of $K^F \times K^G$ into $\mathcal{D}^{-2}(D)$. Let $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ be the corresponding pairing into $\mathcal{D}^2(E/D)$ obtained from $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_0$ using the Liouville density to identify $\mathcal{D}^2(E/D)$ and $\mathcal{D}^{-2}(D)$.

To obtain an explicit formula for $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_0$, choose a frame e for D , an extension (e, b_1) to a frame for F , (e, b_2) to a frame for G with $\omega(b_1, \bar{b}_2) = 1$, then $(\tilde{b}_1, \tilde{b}_2)$ is a (complex) symplectic frame for D^1/D^c . Thus

$$\langle \beta, \gamma \rangle_0(e) = (-1)^{n-k} \tilde{\beta}_e \wedge \tilde{\gamma}_e(\tilde{b}_1, \tilde{b}_2) = \beta(f, \bar{b}_2) \bar{\gamma}(f, b_1) \quad (*)$$

where (e, b_1, f, \bar{b}_2) is an extension to a (complex) symplectic frame of E^c . In [1] Blattner constructs pairings

$$\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_0 : Q^F \times Q^G \rightarrow \mathcal{D}^{-1}(D), \quad \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle : Q^F \times Q^G \rightarrow \mathcal{D}^1(E/D)$$

and Theorem 3.20 of [1], together with the formula (*) shows

$$\langle i^F(\varphi \otimes \varphi), i^G(\psi \otimes \psi) \rangle_0 = \langle \varphi, \psi \rangle_0^2$$

for $\varphi \in \Gamma Q^F$, $\psi \in \Gamma Q^G$. Thus the pairing of canonical bundles determines the half-form pairing up to a global sign. This may be sufficient in many applications.

Flat Partial Connections

A partial connection is a covariant derivative ∇_ξ defined only for ξ in a sub-bundle F of the tangent bundle. Let F be a sub-bundle of TX or TX^c . F is called involutive if $\xi, \eta \in \Gamma F \Rightarrow [\xi, \eta] \in \Gamma F$. If $f \in C^\infty(X)$ let $d^F f$ denote the restriction of df to F . It is a section of F^* , where F^* is the dual bundle of F . Let E be a real or complex (it must be complex if F is) vector bundle. An F -connection in E is a linear map $\nabla : \Gamma E \rightarrow \Gamma F^* \otimes E$ with

$$\nabla f s = f \nabla s + d^F f \otimes s$$

for all $f \in C^\infty(X)$, $s \in \Gamma E$. Then for $\xi \in \Gamma F$ one may define ∇_ξ by

$$\nabla_\xi s = (\nabla s)(\xi)$$

regarding $F^* \otimes E$ as $\text{Hom}(F, E)$. The F -connection ∇ is said to be flat if

$$[\nabla_\xi, \nabla_\eta]s = \nabla_{[\xi, \eta]}s$$

for all $\xi, \eta \in \Gamma F$, $s \in \Gamma E$. Some properties of flat F -connections in line bundles are studied in [5].

The Lie derivative in any bundle associated to the frame bundle of the normal bundle of F defines a flat F -connection. In the case F is real and integrable this is the flat connection along the leaves due to Bott. Two special cases in the symplectic situation are $D \subset TX$, isotropic and $F \subset TX^c$, a PLS on a symplectic manifold (X, ω) . Then $\mathcal{D}^\alpha(TX/D)$ has a flat D -connection. Since $F^0 \cong (TX^c/F)^*$, K^F has a flat F -connection. But ΓK^F consists of differential forms so the Lie derivative is given by

$$\theta(\xi) = i(\xi) \cdot d + d \circ i(\xi), \quad \xi \in \Gamma F.$$

However for $\beta \in \Gamma K^F$, $i(\xi)\beta = 0$ so that

$$\nabla_\xi \beta = i(\xi)d\beta, \quad \xi \in \Gamma F$$

defines the natural flat F -connection in K^F .

Let (X, ω) be a symplectic manifold, then a positive polarization is an involutive PLS $F \subset TX^c$. If (TX, ω) admits a metaplectic structure, we have the square root (Q^F, i^F) of K^F . As observed by Gawedzki in [2], a flat F -connection ∇ in K^F induces a unique flat F -connection $\nabla^{1/2}$ in Q^F such that

$$\nabla_\xi i^F(\varphi \otimes \psi) = i^F(\nabla_\xi^{1/2} \varphi \otimes \psi + \varphi \otimes \nabla_\xi^{1/2} \psi), \quad \xi \in \Gamma F, \quad \varphi, \psi \in \Gamma Q^F.$$

Let $D \subset TX$ be isotropic, and $D^\perp \subset TX$ its orthogonal complement with respect to ω as before, so that $D \subset D^\perp$. If $\dim D = k$, $\dim X = 2n$ then $\dim D^\perp/D = 2(n-k)$. For $x \in X$ choose any neighbourhood U with a $2(n-k)$ -tuple b of vector fields in D^\perp on U with $\omega(b, b) = J_{n-k}$ at each point of U . Then b spans a complement of D in D^\perp on U and projects to a symplectic frame field for $(D^\perp/D, \omega/D)$ on U . Writing $b = (v_1, \dots, v_{n-k}, w_1, \dots, w_{n-k})$ we define

$$\theta_x^D(v) = \sum_{j=1}^{n-k} \omega_x([v_j, w_j], v), \quad v \in D_x.$$

Then θ_x^D is independent of the choice of frame-field b with the above properties and defines a smooth section of D^* . This is Blattner's obstruction to projecting the half-form pairing to X/D . One may compute

$$\nabla_\xi \langle \beta, \gamma \rangle = \langle \nabla_\xi \beta, \gamma \rangle + \langle \beta, \nabla_\xi \gamma \rangle - \theta^D(\xi) \langle \beta, \gamma \rangle$$

where $\beta \in \Gamma K^F$, $\gamma \in \Gamma K^G$, $F \cap \bar{G} = D^c$, $\xi \in \Gamma D$. We thus obtain the obstruction at the canonical bundle level.

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