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Symplectic Foliations and Generalized Complex Structures

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Abstract. We answer the natural question: when is a transversely holomorphic symplectic foliation induced by a generalized complex structure? The leafwise symplectic form and transverse complex structure determine an obstruction class in a certain cohomology, which vanishes if and only if our question has an affirmative answer. We first study a component of this obstruction, which gives the condition that the leafwise cohomology class of the symplectic form must be transversely pluriharmonic. As a consequence, under certain topological hypotheses, we infer that we actually have a symplectic fibre bundle over a complex base. We then show how to compute the full obstruction via a spectral sequence. We give various concrete necessary and sufficient conditions for the vanishing of the obstruction. Throughout, we give examples to test the sharpness of these conditions, including a symplectic fibre bundle over a complex base that does not come from a generalized complex structure, and a regular generalized complex structure that is very unlike a symplectic fibre bundle, *i.e.*, for which nearby leaves are not symplectomorphic.

Generalized complex geometry (see, *e.g.*, [6] or [10]) includes both symplectic and complex geometry as special cases. In fact, near a *regular point*, a generalized complex manifold "looks like" a product of a symplectic and complex manifold. To be precise, a generalized complex structure induces a symplectic foliation (*i.e.*, a Poisson structure) and a transverse complex structure. About a regular point, up to isomorphism, there is no more local information than this (and incidentally this is also true in the non-regular case, for subtle reasons). Then is a regular generalized complex structure?

In other words, given a regular Poisson structure P and transverse complex structure I, it is natural to ask if (P, I) are induced by a generalized complex structure. This is the question we address in this paper. The answer is always yes locally, so any obstruction must be global. In fact, sometimes (P, I) are *not* generalized complex, as we shall see. The obstruction places certain strong constraints on the relationship between the Poisson and transverse complex structures.

We use the method of coupling forms, whereby the leafwise symplectic form is extended to a 2-form on the whole manifold. The calculation of the obstruction will then depend on this coupling form, with the complication that we must understand its interaction with the transverse complex structure. For a good general reference on symplectic fibrations and coupling forms, see [8] or [12, Chapter 6].

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Summary

Section 1 We review the definitions and basic facts of generalized complex structures from the pure spinor viewpoint.

Section 2 We state our problem precisely, give the basic construction we will continue to use throughout the paper, and give some simple sufficient conditions for an affirmative answer to our question. The construction always gives an *almost* generalized complex structure; thus our concern is for its integrability.

Section 3 We study our construction in more detail, and give a necessary and sufficient condition for the existence of a compatible generalized complex structure (Theorem 3.8 and Proposition 3.9). The condition takes the form of the vanishing of an obstruction class in a certain cohomology. At this point, the condition is given relatively abstractly.

Section 4 We study one component of the obstruction, whose vanishing is both necessary and sufficient in certain low-dimensional cases. We consider *smooth symplectic families, i.e.,* symplectic foliations that come from a fibre bundle but which may not have local symplectic trivializations. The condition is that the fibrewise symplectic form should be *pluriharmonic* in the fibrewise cohomology bundle over the base (see Theorem 4.7, and Section 4.1 for definitions).

For example, we consider a compact, connected smooth symplectic family with 2-dimensional fibres—or, in higher-rank cases, if certain topological conditions are satisfied—and conclude that if the data are generalized complex, it is in fact a symplectic fibre bundle.

(Counter)examples in this section include: admissible data which do *not* come from a generalized complex structure; smooth symplectic families over a complex base which *do* come from generalized complex structures, but which do *not* have local symplectic trivializations (*i.e.*, nearby leaves are not alike).

Section 5 We study the entire obstruction, and describe how to compute it, one component at a time, using a spectral sequence (see Theorem 5.1 for the statement). For a symplectic fibre bundle over a complex base, two out of three components of the obstruction vanish, and the third involves a finite-dimensional calculation. If the base is Kähler, the calculation simplifies somewhat. However, even for a symplectic fibre bundle over a Kähler manifold, the third component of the obstruction will not always vanish, as in Example 5.7.

1 Pure Spinors and Generalized Complex Structures

First we will recall some definitions and facts about transversely holomorphic foliations, then we will briefly review the pure spinor formalism of generalized complex structures. This is not the usual way these structures are introduced—a generalized complex structure J on a manifold M is usually defined as a complex structure on a *Courant algebroid* over M—but the data in either formalism determine each other, and in this paper we stick to only one for the sake of brevity. For a thorough introduction, and proofs of claims in this section, see [6] (from which we have taken most of the material on generalized complex structures).

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The important points to note are: an (almost) generalized complex structure may be represented by its *canonical line bundle* (Definition 1.9) of pure spinors, which then has a pointwise decomposition into complex and symplectic parts, as in Proposition 1.13; the integrability condition, at least in the regular case which we are considering, amounts to the existence of closed (in a twisted sense) local generating sections for the canonical line bundle; the symmetries of generalized geometry extend the diffeomorphism group to include the *B*-transforms (Definition 1.15); finally, for a regular, integrable generalized complex structure, the pointwise decomposition into complex and symplectic parts extends to a local normal form (Theorem 1.19).

Notation 1.1 We indicate the complexification of a real vector bundle by a subscript \mathbb{C} , eg., $V_{\mathbb{C}} = \mathbb{C} \otimes V \to M$.

In this paper we only consider smooth sections of bundles, which we denote $\Gamma(\cdot)$. We let $i = \sqrt{-1}$ (except in those cases where *i* denotes a degree).

1.1 Transversely Holomorphic Foliations

In this section, we take our definitions from [9]. We have the twin viewpoints of foliations either as Haefliger structures (from which it is straightforward to give meaning to "transversely holomorphic") or as integrable distributions (which is suitable for the decomposition of forms).

Definition 1.2 A transversely holomorphic foliation of real codimension 2k on a manifold M is given by an atlas of submersions $f_i: U_i \to \mathbb{C}^k$, for an open cover $\{U_i, \ldots\}$ of M, such that there exist holomorphic transition functions φ_{ij} between domains in \mathbb{C}^k , with $f_j = \varphi_{ij}f_i$ on the intersections $U_i \cap U_j$. Two transversely holomorphic foliations are equivalent if their atlases share a common refinement.

This is equivalent to a real foliation S (whose leaves are preimages of points via f_i) and, on its normal bundle, a complex structure $I: NS \rightarrow NS$. I is a "transverse structure" in the sense that it is flat for the Bott connection of S, and it is integrable in the sense that its Nijenhuis tensor vanishes. These conditions may be combined with the integrability of TS into a single condition.

Proposition 1.3 A transversely holomorphic foliation is equivalent to a distribution $S \subset TM$ along with a complex structure I on NS := TM/S, such that

 $S + N_{1,0}S$

is Lie-involutive. (*S* and $N_{1,0}S$ may be added by choosing any representatives for $N_{1,0}S$ *in* $T_{\mathbb{C}}M$, and $S + N_{1,0}S \subset T_{\mathbb{C}}M$ will not depend on this choice.)

In other words, the integrability of $S + N_{1,0}S$ entails that S is an integrable real distribution, and that *I* is a transverse structure with vanishing Nijenhuis tensor.

Remark 1.4 Alternatively, since N^*S sits naturally in $T_{\mathbb{C}}M$ as Ann(S), yet another equivalent expression for the data of a transversely holomorphic foliation is just the

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canonical line bundle of I,

 $\kappa_I := \wedge^k N_{1,0}^* S,$

which will have closed local generating sections.

1.2 Almost Generalized Complex Structures

Definition 1.5 By a spinor on a manifold M we will mean a (complex) mixeddegree differential form $\rho \in \Gamma(\wedge^{\bullet} T^*_{\mathbb{C}} M)$.

Definition 1.6 Sections of $T_{\mathbb{C}}M \oplus T_{\mathbb{C}}^*M$ act on the spinors via the *Clifford action*, by contraction and wedging: if $(X, \xi) \in \Gamma(T_{\mathbb{C}}M \oplus T_{\mathbb{C}}^*M)$ and ρ is a spinor, then

 $(X,\xi) \cdot \rho = \iota_X \rho + \xi \wedge \rho.$

Therefore, every spinor ρ on M has a *null subbundle* $L_{\rho} \subset T_{\mathbb{C}}M \oplus T_{\mathbb{C}}^*M$ which is just its annihilator under the Clifford action.

Definition 1.7 A spinor ρ is *pure* if L_{ρ} is a *maximal* isotropic subbundle with respect to the standard symmetric pairing on $T_{\mathbb{C}}M \oplus T_{\mathbb{C}}^*M$.

Such a maximal isotropic subbundle will have half the rank of $T_{\mathbb{C}}M \oplus T_{\mathbb{C}}^*M$; that is, its rank will be the dimension of M.

Definition 1.8 A (complex) maximal isotropic $L \subset T_{\mathbb{C}}M \oplus T_{\mathbb{C}}^*M$ has real rank zero if $L \cap \overline{L} = 0$. We will also say that a (complex) pure spinor ρ has real rank zero if L_{ρ} does. (There is an alternative definition of real-rank-zero for spinors in terms of the Mukai pairing, which we omit.)

An almost complex structure *I* may be given by its canonical line bundle κ_I , the top wedge power of the (1,0)-forms. Analogously, we have the following definition.

Definition 1.9 An almost generalized complex structure J on M is given by a pure spinor line bundle $\kappa_J \subset \wedge^{\bullet} T^*_{\mathbb{C}} M$ of real rank zero, called the *canonical line bundle* of J. (This includes almost complex structures, where $\kappa_I = \kappa_I$.)

To each point $x \in M$ we associate a nonnegative integer, the *type* of *J* at *x*, which we may define as the lowest nontrivial degree of its canonical line bundle at *x*.

For example, in the case where an almost generalized complex structure is given by an almost complex structure, this is just the degree of κ_I , *i.e.*, the complex dimension. In general, we understand the type of *J* as the number of complex (as opposed to symplectic) dimensions, as will be made clear (see Proposition 1.13).

Definition 1.10 J is regular at x if its type is locally constant at x.

Remark 1.11 The alternative definition of generalized complex structures—as antiinvolutions, *J*: $TM \oplus T^*M \to TM \oplus T^*M$, on the standard Courant algebroid—is

related to this pure spinor formalism just by equating the +i-eigenbundle of J with the null subbundle, L_{κ_I} , of the pure spinor bundle.

Definition 1.12 We define the *Clifford exponential* via the usual Taylor series. In particular, if *B* is a form, then

$$e^B = 1 + B + \frac{1}{2}B \wedge B + \cdots,$$

where in this case the products eventually vanish and the series is finite. Note that, for forms of even degree, this exponential is a homomorphism from + to \wedge .

Pointwise Decomposition

At a point, *i.e.*, on a single tangent space, there is a characterization of (almost) generalized complex structures in terms of a decomposition into complementary "symplectic leaf" and "transverse complex" parts, possibly modified by a *B*-transform (see Definition 1.15), as follows.

Proposition 1.13 If $J|_x$ is an (almost) generalized complex structure at a point x, then there exist

- a subspace $S_x \subset T_x M$,
- an (almost) complex structure I on the normal space N_xS,
- and real 2-forms ω and B in $\wedge^2 T_x^* M$ —where ω is nondegenerate when pulled back to S_x

such that the canonical line bundle at x is of the form

$$\kappa_I|_x = e^{B+i\omega} \wedge \kappa_I.$$

If *J* is *regular* at *x* (as will always be the case in this paper), then such a representation extends to a neighbourhood. Furthermore, any spinor line bundle of this form determines an almost generalized complex structure.

Remark 1.14 The lowest-degree component of κ_I is just κ_I ; hence, the distribution $S = \text{Ann}(\kappa_I)$ and the almost complex structure I on NS are uniquely determined by J. However, $B + i\omega$ is not. Rather, $B + i\omega$ is well-defined up to $N_{1,0}^* \wedge T_{\mathbb{C}}^*M$; that is, $B + i\omega$ is a well-defined section of $\wedge^2(S_{\mathbb{C}} + N_{0,1}S)^*$.

In generalized geometry, the symmetry group of a manifold is understood to be an extension of the diffeomorphisms. In addition, it includes the *B*-transforms.

Definition 1.15 If *B* is a real 2-form and *J* is an almost generalized complex structure with canonical line bundle κ_J , then the *B*-transform of *J* is written $e^B \cdot J$, and may be defined in terms of its action on κ_J :

$$\kappa_{e^{B}.I} = e^{B} \wedge \kappa_{I}.$$

We distinguish between closed *B*-transforms and non-closed *B*-transforms, since when the 2-form *B* is non-closed, the integrability condition changes (see Proposition 1.18).

1.3 Integrability of Generalized Complex Structures

Definition 1.16 If H is a closed real 3-form and ρ is a spinor, then

$$d_H \rho := d\rho + H \wedge \rho.$$

We say that a pure spinor ρ is *H*-integrable if

$$d_H \rho = (X, \xi) \cdot \rho$$

for some $(X, \xi) \in \Gamma(T_{\mathbb{C}}M \oplus T_{\mathbb{C}}^*M)$.

We say that an almost generalized complex structure J is H-integrable, or, alternatively, that J is a generalized complex structure with curvature H, if every local section of the canonical line bundle κ_I of J is H-integrable.

Remark 1.17 In fact, if about every point in *M* there is *some* integrable local generating section of κ_J , then this is sufficient: then *every* local section of κ_J will be integrable and thus *J* will be integrable.

Furthermore, if *J* is *H*-integrable and is *regular* at *x*, then in fact there is a d_{H^-} closed local generating section of κ_I about *x*.

Proposition 1.18 If J is an H-integrable generalized complex structure for some closed 3-form H, and B is a 2-form, then $e^B \cdot J$ is an (H + dB)-integrable generalized complex structure.

Theorem 1.19 (Gualtieri, [6]) If J is a generalized complex structure regular at x, then there is a neighbourhood of x which is isomorphic—via diffeomorphism and B-transform—to a neighbourhood in $\mathbb{R}^{n-2k} \times \mathbb{C}^k$, with generalized complex structure (integrable for H = 0) given by

$$\kappa = e^{i\omega} \wedge \kappa_I,$$

where ω is the standard symplectic form on \mathbb{R}^{n-2k} and κ_I is the canonical bundle for the complex structure on \mathbb{C}^k .

In other words, near a regular point, any generalized complex structure is equivalent to the product of a complex structure with a symplectic structure. (In the vicinity of type change the situation is different, and has been studied in [1] and [2].)

The following is an easy corollary of Theorem 1.19.

Proposition 1.20 Let J be a (regular) generalized complex structure integrable with respect to some closed 3-form, and let

$$\kappa_I = e^{B+i\omega} \wedge \kappa_I$$

be the local form decomposition of its canonical line bundle. Then κ_I determines a transversely holomorphic foliation, as in Remark 1.4, and ω pulls back to a leafwise symplectic form.

Thus we say that J determines a transversely holomorphic symplectic foliation. The real symplectic foliation is equivalent to a Poisson structure, P, and the transversely holomorphic structure is just a complex structure I on the normal bundle to P's symplectic leaves. Thus we will often indicate the transversely holomorphic symplectic foliation with the data (P, I).

2 Problem Statement and Non-integrable Solution

The precise meaning of our central question is now clear:

• When does a transversely holomorphic symplectic foliation come from a generalized complex structure on *M*, as in Proposition 1.20?

This is always the case locally, as an easy consequence of Corollary 2.7, so any obstruction must be global. The global answer is "not always."

However, we can always find *almost* generalized complex structures inducing a given transversely holomorphic symplectic foliation. We give a construction, which will then be the basis of our general solution of the central question.

Notation 2.1 In what follows, let *P* be a regular Poisson structure and *I* a complex structure transverse to its leaves. (As we remarked, the data (P, I) are equivalent to a transversely holomorphic symplectic foliation.) Let S be the symplectic foliation of *P*, S = TS its tangent distribution, and $\omega \in \Gamma(\wedge^2 S^*)$ the induced leafwise symplectic form. (ω is leafwise-closed, and leafwise nondegenerate.)

Remark 2.2 We say that the data (P, I) "are" generalized complex as shorthand to mean they are induced by a generalized complex structure.

Notation 2.3 We will use NS := TM/S to indicate the normal bundle to *S*, whereas $N \subset TM$ will refer to a particular choice of distribution complementary to *S*, *i.e.*, representatives of *NS*. Then the transverse complex structure *I* induces an almost complex structure on *N*, splitting it as $N_{\mathbb{C}} = N_{1,0} \oplus N_{0,1}$.

Definition 2.4 If $N \subset TM$ is a smooth distribution complementary to *S*, then we may extend ω to *M* by specifying ker(ω) = *N*.

Then the almost generalized complex structure, J_N , induced by (P, I) and the choice of N, is defined by the canonical line bundle

$$\kappa = e^{\iota\omega} \wedge (\wedge^k N_{1,0}^*) = e^{\iota\omega} \wedge \kappa_I.$$

This construction is general.

Proposition 2.5 Let J be an almost generalized complex structure inducing (P, I). Then for any choice of complementary distribution $N \subset TM$, J is equivalent, up to a B-transform, to the structure J_N .

Proof As per Proposition 1.13, the canonical line bundle of *J* is

$$\kappa_I = e^{B+\iota\omega} \wedge \kappa_I,$$

where $B + i\omega$ is a section of $\wedge^2 (S_{\mathbb{C}} \oplus N_{0,1})^*$. By choosing $N \subset TM$ and specifying $B + i\omega \in \operatorname{Ann}(N_{1,0})$, we extend $B + i\omega$ to a section of $\wedge^2 T^*_{\mathbb{C}}M$. ω extended in this way will be the same ω as in Definition 2.4 above. Then

$$e^{-B} \wedge \kappa_I = e^{i\omega} \wedge \kappa_I.$$

2.1 Easy Case

Using Definition 2.4, we can answer our question in the affirmative in some special cases. The following was originally observed by Cavalcanti [5].

Proposition 2.6 If the leafwise-closed symplectic form ω extends to a closed form $\tilde{\omega}$ on M, then (P, I) are generalized complex, integrable with curvature H = 0.

Proof The generalized complex structure is defined by the canonical line bundle

 $e^{i\widetilde{\omega}}\wedge\kappa_I,$

which admits closed local sections.

Corollary 2.7 If S admits a complementary foliation \mathbb{R} , for which ω is constant in the directions of \mathbb{R} (i.e., if $\nabla^{\mathbb{R}}$ is the Bott connection of \mathbb{R} , then $\nabla^{\mathbb{R}}\omega = 0$), then (P, I) are generalized complex.

Proof We choose the complementary foliation $N = T\mathcal{R} \subset TM$. As in Definition 2.4, we extend ω to TM by specifying that ker(ω) = N. Since ω is constant along the directions of \mathcal{R} , and ω is leafwise closed on \mathcal{S} , then on the total space $d\omega = 0$. (We can see this by expressing a neighbourhood as a product decomposition for \mathcal{S} and \mathcal{R} .)

2.2 Smooth Symplectic Families

It is clarifying to consider our problem in the case where the symplectic foliation actually comes from a fibre bundle. A transversely holomorphic symplectic foliation whose leaf space is smooth is the same thing as a fibre bundle with complex base and symplectic fibres. Note, however, that we are not talking here about "symplectic fibre bundles," since in this case there may not be local *symplectic* trivializations.

Definition 2.8 A smooth symplectic family over a complex manifold *B* is a fibre bundle $\pi: X \to B$ with a Poisson structure whose symplectic leaves coincide with the fibres. By pullback from *B*, it inherits a complex structure transverse to the symplectic foliation.

We say that a smooth symplectic family over a complex manifold is *generalized complex* if its Poisson structure and transverse complex structure are induced by a generalized complex structure.

In this case, choosing a complementary distribution N is just choosing the horizontal distribution of a connection. Integrability of N corresponds to flatness of the connection.

Example 2.9 As we remarked, smooth symplectic families are not in general symplectic fibre bundles; however, if $X \rightarrow B$ is a symplectic fibre bundle over a complex base *B*, with flat symplectic connection (*i.e.*, one which preserves the symplectic form), then it will be generalized complex, since the complex structure on *B* pulls back to a transverse complex structure on *X* and the flat symplectic connection gives us precisely the complementary foliation needed in Corollary 2.7.

3 Integrability—The General Case

If *J* is a generalized complex structure inducing (*P*, *I*), then for *any* choice of *N* complementary to *S*, *J* is equivalent via a *B*-transform to the almost generalized complex structure J_N in Definition 2.4. But then J_N is integrable—if *J* was *H'*–integrable and $e^B \cdot J = J_N$, then J_N is *H*–integrable for H = H' + dB. Contrapositively, if J_N is not integrable, then there is no generalized complex structure *J* inducing (*P*, *I*).

Therefore, we answer the question of whether (P, I) comes from a generalized complex structure by choosing any complementary N and then testing to see if J_N is integrable for some closed 3-form H.

Fix the choice $N \subset TM$ complementary to S. Suppose that H is a closed 3-form such that J_N is H-integrable. We will study two types of conditions on H—the H-integrability of J_N , which gives equations relating H to the symplectic form ω , and the closedness condition dH = 0. Taken together, these give a cohomological condition (Theorem 3.8) on a quantity derived from ω , *i.e.*, an obstruction map.

We will decompose the obstruction according to a grading (Proposition 3.9). One component of the obstruction, which is both necessary and sufficient in certain low-dimensional cases, is easier to understand than the others, and we give it special attention in Section 4. Later, we compute the remaining components of the obstruction by using a spectral sequence (summarized in Theorem 5.1).

3.1 Trigrading and the Decomposition of *d*

Notation 3.1 We use $\Omega^{\bullet}(M)$ to denote the smooth differential forms on M. Sometimes we indicate a degree in place of \bullet , and sometimes we omit M when it is clear which manifold we are considering.

The symplectic foliation along with the choice of N allow us to decompose forms in a couple of ways. We use (j;k) (separated by a semicolon) to indicate degree jin N^* and degree k in S^* . But $\wedge^{\bullet}N^*$ further decomposes by the complex bigrading. We use (i, j) (separated by a comma) to indicate a complex bidegree, and (i, j; k) to indicate a tri-degree in $N_{1,0}^*$, $N_{0,1}^*$ and S^* respectively.

For example,

$$\Omega^{n;k} = \bigoplus_{i+j=k} \Omega^{i,j;k}.$$

Remark 3.2 The (n;k) bigrading—without the further decomposition into the trigrading—often appears in the theory of coupling forms and symplectic fibrations (see, *e.g.*, [4]).

If *N* were integrable, then we could decompose the exterior derivative as $d = \nabla + d_S$, where ∇ had degree (1;0) and d_S had degree (0;1). Furthermore, ∇ would decompose as $\partial + \bar{\partial}$ according to the transverse complex structure. Each of these components would square to zero and we would have a triple complex. However, since *N* may not be integrable, we will have an additional curvature term.

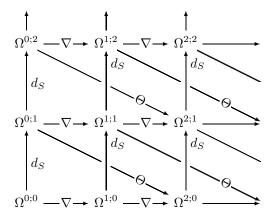


Figure 1: A diagram showing the action of each real component of *d* on the real (j;k) bigrading. It suggests a spectral sequence with three successive differentials lying on a diagonal.

Lemma 3.3 The exterior derivative d decomposes as

$$d = \sum_{1;0} + \bigcup_{2;-1} + \frac{d_S}{_{0;1}}$$

(Under each term we indicate the degree of the operator.) Here, Θ acts as a tensor in $\Gamma(\wedge^2 N^* \otimes S)$, by contracting in S and wedging in N^* .

Furthermore, over the complex forms ∇ *decomposes as*

$$\nabla = \mathop{\partial}_{1,0;0} + \mathop{\bar{\partial}}_{0,1;0}$$

and Θ as

$$\Theta = \frac{\theta_+}{{}_{2,0;-1}} + \frac{\theta_0}{{}_{1,1;-1}} + \frac{\theta_-}{{}_{0,2;-1}}.$$

 ∂ and $\overline{\partial}$ are complex-conjugate, as are θ_+ and θ_- , and θ_0 is real.

We omit a proof of Lemma 3.3, since similar results are found in the literature. See, for example, a real version in [3, Proposition 10.1].

In the case of a fibre bundle with connection, ∇ is just the covariant derivative and Θ is its curvature. Figure 1 shows the action of each real component of *d* acting on the (j; k) bigrading.

Remark 3.4 It is not the case that each term in the decomposition of d squares to zero; but, of course, $d^2 = 0$, and by decomposing this equation according to degree we may find quadratic relations between terms. In the full complex trigrading, these relations may be summarized thus: the terms other than ∂ , $\bar{\partial}$ and $\theta_0 do$ square to zero and the terms pairwise anticommute, with the exception of those pairs occuring in

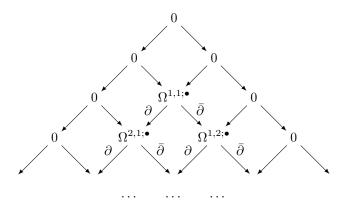


Figure 2: The real truncated de Rham complex Ω_T^{\bullet} .

the following special anticommutation relations:

(3.1)
$$\partial^2 + d_S \theta_+ + \theta_+ d_S = 0$$
 (and the conjugate relation)

(3.2) $\partial\bar{\partial} + \bar{\partial}\partial + \theta_0 d_S + d_S \theta_0 = 0$

$$\theta_+\theta_-+\theta_-\theta_++\theta_0^2=0$$

 $\theta_+\bar{\partial}+\bar{\partial}\theta_++\theta_0\partial+\partial\theta_0=0$ (and the conjugate relation).

Analogous but simpler relations hold between the real counterparts ∇ , Θ and d_s .

3.2 Truncated Complex

We give one further decomposition that will be useful.

Definition 3.5 The truncated de Rham complex Ω^{\bullet}_{T} consists of the forms

$$\Omega^{1,0;0} \wedge \Omega^{\bullet} = \bigoplus_{i \ge 1} \Omega^{i,\bullet;\bullet},$$

that is, those forms which have at least one degree in $N_{1,0}^*$. The *real* truncated de Rham complex, Ω_T^{\bullet} , consists of the real forms in Ω_T^{\bullet} ; in other words, those (real) forms which have at least one degree in *both* $N_{1,0}^*$ and $N_{0,1}^*$. As we see in Figure 2, this omits the "outside edges" of the complex bigrading.

Note that Ω_T^{\bullet} and Ω_T^{\bullet} are each differential complexes for the full exterior derivative *d*.

Recall that $K = N_{0,1} \oplus S_{\mathbb{C}}$ is the distribution whose involutivity determines the integrability of the transverse complex structure. We may decompose the forms as

$$\Omega^{\bullet} = \Omega^{0,\bullet;\bullet} \oplus \left(\Omega^{1,0;0} \wedge \Omega^{\bullet}\right)$$
$$= \Gamma(\wedge^{\bullet} K^{*}) \oplus \Omega_{\mathbb{T}}^{\bullet}.$$

If α is a form, we denote projection to the first summand in this decomposition by $\alpha|_{K}$. We define an operator d_{K} such that

$$d_K \alpha = (d\alpha)|_K.$$

3.3 Relation of *H* to ω

Proposition 3.6 Let H be a real closed 3-form. Then J_N , as in Definition 2.4, is H-integrable if and only if

$$(3.3) H|_K + \mathrm{id}_K \, \omega = 0.$$

Equivalently, J_N is H-integrable if and only if the following equations hold:

(3.4)
$$H^{0,0;3} = 0,$$

(3.7) $H^{0,3;0} = 0.$

Proof Locally, the canonical bundle of J_N is generated by a section $\rho \wedge e^{i\omega}$, where $\rho \in \Gamma(\kappa_I)$ is some local, closed generator for the canonical bundle of the transverse complex structure. The *H*-integrability of J_N says that

$$\begin{split} 0 &= d_H(\rho \wedge e^{i\omega}) \\ &= \rho \wedge (d_H e^{i\omega}) \\ &= \rho \wedge (d + H \wedge) e^{i\omega} \\ \Leftrightarrow 0 &= \rho \wedge (id\omega + H). \end{split}$$

In this equation, any component of $id\omega + H$ that has nonzero degree in $N_{1,0}^*$ annihilates with ρ and provides no constraint; thus we have equation (3.3). Looking in each degree, for all j and k we should have

$$-i(d\omega)^{0,j;k}=H^{0,j;k}.$$

Equations (3.5), (3.6) and (3.7) are just selected degrees of this condition, according to the trigrading. The (0,0; 3)-degree component of this condition is $H^{0,0;3} = -id_S\omega$; however, we supposed that ω was leafwise-closed, *i.e.*, $d_S\omega = 0$, and so we get equation (3.4).

Since *H* is real, we have that $H^{i,j;k} = \overline{H}^{j,i;k}$, thus these equations also determine $H^{1,0;2}$, $H^{2,0;1}$ and $H^{3,0;0}$. There remain two free terms, $H^{1,1;1}$ and $H^{2,1;0}$. ($H^{1,2;0}$ must be conjugate to $H^{2,1;0}$.)

3.4 Closedness of *H*

Lemma 3.7 $d_K^2 = 0$, and if α is a form then $dd_K \alpha \in \Omega_T^{\bullet}$.

Proof That $d_K^2 = 0$ follows from the vanishing of the (0, j; k) degree of $d^2 = 0$. But

$$dd_K\alpha = (\partial + \theta_+ + \theta_0)d_K\alpha + \mathbf{d}_K\mathbf{d}_K\alpha$$

where the first summand has positive degree in $N_{1,0}^*$, and thus the second claim follows.

Theorem 3.8 Suppose that P and I are a regular Poisson structure and a transverse complex structure respectively. Let N be a choice of complementary distribution to the symplectic distribution S, let ω be the thusly-extended coupling symplectic form (as in Definition 2.4), and let d_K be as in Section 3.2.

Then (P, I) comes from a generalized complex structure if and only if the imaginary part of $dd_K \omega$ is exact in the truncated complex Ω_T^{\bullet} .

Since the imaginary part $\text{Im}(dd_K\omega)$ is real and of degree 4, the condition of this theorem means it must equal $d\sigma$ for some real σ of degrees (2,1;0) + (1,2;0) + (1,1;1).

Proof We take the almost generalized complex structure J_N as in Definition 2.4, and try to find a real closed 3-form H integrating it. This succeeds if and only if (P, I) comes from a generalized complex structure. Such an H, if it exists, is determined by equation (3.3), the reality condition and the free terms $H^{1,1;1}$ and $H^{2,1;0} = \overline{H^{1,2;0}}$. Furthermore, dH must vanish.

We will decompose H according to its component in $\wedge^3 K^*$, its component in $\wedge^3 \overline{K^*}$, and its component in the truncated complex. $H^{0,0;3}$ is the component of H lying in both $\wedge^3 \overline{K^*}$ and $\wedge^3 \overline{K^*}$. Since $H^{0,0;3} = 0$ (by equation (3.4)), we have that

$$H = H + H^{0,0;3}$$

= $H|_{K} + \overline{H|_{K}} + H^{2,1;0} + H^{1,2;0} + H^{1,1;1}$
= $- \operatorname{id}_{K} \omega + \overline{-\operatorname{id}_{K} \omega} + H^{2,1;0} + H^{1,2;0} + H^{1,1;1}$ (by equation (3.3))
= $2 \operatorname{Im}(d_{K}\omega) + H^{2,1;0} + H^{1,2;0} + H^{1,1;1}$

Then dH = 0 if and only if

$$-2\operatorname{Im}(dd_{K}\omega) = d(H^{2,1;0} + H^{1,2;0} + H^{1,1;1}).$$

That is, $\text{Im}(dd_K\omega)$ should be exact in the (real) truncated complex.

For concreteness, we write the condition as a system of equations in two free components, grouped according to the degree in S^* . Figure 3 illustrates this system in a diagram. **Proposition 3.9** In the setup of Theorem 3.8, with d decomposed as in Lemma 3.3, (P, I) comes from a generalized complex structure if and only if there exist real 3-forms

$$\alpha \in \Omega^{1,1;1}$$
 and $\beta \in \Omega^{2,1;0} + \Omega^{1,2;0}$

such that the following hold:

(A): (2;2)
$$i(\partial\bar{\partial} - \bar{\partial}\partial)\omega = d_S\alpha,$$

(B): (3;1) $i \left(\nabla (\theta_{-} - \theta_{+}) + \Theta(\bar{\partial} - \partial) \right) \omega = \nabla \alpha + d_{S}\beta,$

(C): (4;0)
$$i\Theta(\theta_{-}-\theta_{+})\omega = \Theta\alpha + \nabla\beta.$$

(To the left of each equation we have given an alphabetic label and indicated its degree.)

Proof Let $\alpha = H^{1,1;1}$ and $\beta = H^{2,1;0} + H^{1,2;0}$. From the proof of Theorem 3.8, we have the condition

$$-2\operatorname{Im}(dd_{K}\omega) = d(H^{2,1;0} + H^{1,2;0} + H^{1,1;1}) = d(\beta + \alpha).$$

If we write down the nontrivial degrees of this condition, *i.e.*, those where α or β occurs, and then make substitutions for $d_K \omega$ according to Proposition 3.6, we get equations(A), (B), and (C).

Throughout this paper, we will refer to these equations as "conditions (A), (B), and (C)".

Definition 3.10 We define the obstruction form $\Phi(\omega) = -2 \operatorname{Im}(dd_K \omega)$, and its components

$$\begin{split} \Phi^{A}(\omega) &= i(\partial\bar{\partial} - \bar{\partial}\partial)\omega, \\ \Phi^{B}(\omega) &= i\left(\nabla(\theta_{-} - \theta_{+}) + \Theta(\bar{\partial} - \partial)\right)\omega, \\ \Phi^{C}(\omega) &= i\Theta(\theta_{-} - \theta_{+})\omega. \end{split}$$

Then, as remarked, the vanishing of $\Phi(\omega)$ in the truncated cohomology corresponds to the existence of an appropriate generalized complex structure.

Remark 3.11 If the type—that is, the complex dimension of $N_{1,0}$ —is 1, then conditions (B) and (C) are trivial. Condition (A) has a simple interpretation, as we shall see.

4 The Pluriharmonic Condition

Condition (A) is just a condition on the de Rham cohomology class of ω on the leaves. To make this clear, we turn our attention to the case of a smooth symplectic family $X \to B$, where the fibrewise cohomology can be understood as a vector bundle over *B*.

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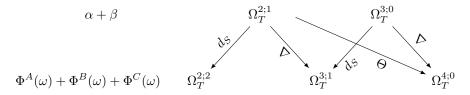


Figure 3: A diagram of part of the truncated complex. The obstruction form, $\Phi(\omega)$, lives in the lower row, and for the data to be generalized complex it must have a primitive in the upper row.

4.1 The Gauss-Manin connection

As we said, the operator $\nabla = \partial + \overline{\partial}$ is just the covariant derivative of a chosen bundle connection, and $\Theta = \theta_+ + \theta_0 + \theta_-$ is its curvature. Similarly to Remark 3.4, we have the following quadratic relation:

$$\nabla^2 = -d_S \Theta - \Theta d_S.$$

So ∇^2 vanishes up to d_S -chain-homotopy. In other words, ∇ determines a *flat* connection on the fibrewise cohomology bundle. This is known as the *Gauss–Manin connection*, and it is canonical—that is, it doesn't depend on the choice of N. We recall a connection-independent definition, just to make this fact clear. For details, and a somewhat more general presentation, see [11].

Remark 4.1 We describe the real case first, and then remark on how it complexifies.

Relative Cohomology

Given a choice of horizontal distribution N, we had a bi- or trigrading on forms. In the absence of such a choice, we can still define an associated graded object, which will be (non-canonically) equivalent to the graded forms.

On a fibre bundle $\pi: X \to B$, there is a natural filtration of the forms,

$$\Omega^{\bullet}(X) = F_0^{\bullet} \supset F_1^{\bullet} \supset F_2^{\bullet} \supset \cdots,$$

where F_n^m consists of the *m*-forms on *X* generated (over $\Omega^{\bullet}(X)$) by pullbacks of *n*-forms on *B*. Let $\Lambda^{n;k}(X) = F_n^{n+k}/F_{n+1}^{n+k}$ be the associated graded object.

Let $S \subset TX$ be the vertical distribution; by $\Omega^k(S)$ we mean the sections of $\wedge^k S^*$. Then there is a canonical isomorphism,

$$\Lambda^{n;k}(X) = \pi^* \Omega^n(B) \otimes \Omega^k(S).$$

Each $\Lambda^{n,\bullet}(X)$ is a differential complex, for the fibrewise differential $d_S = 1 \otimes d$, and thus we have a cohomology,

$$H^{n;k}_{d_{\mathcal{S}}}(\Lambda) := \frac{\{\sigma \in \Lambda^{n;k}(X) \mid d_{\mathcal{S}}\sigma = 0\}}{d_{\mathcal{S}}\Lambda^{n;k-1}(X)}.$$

Proposition 4.2 $H_{d_s}^{n;k}(X)$ is naturally isomorphic to the sections of a finite-dimensional vector bundle over B whose fibre over $x \in B$ is

$$(\wedge^n T^*_x B) \otimes H^k_{dR}(\pi^{-1}(x))$$

We give the correspondence, with proof omitted. A section over B of $(\wedge^n T^*B) \otimes H^k_{dR}(S)$ has representatives in each fibre. These may be chosen smoothly, giving an element of $\Lambda^{n,k}(X)$. Conversely, given $[\rho]_{d_S} \in H^{n;k}_{d_S}(X)$, let $\rho \in \Lambda^{n;k}(X)$ be a representative, and produce a section of $(\wedge^n T^*B) \otimes H^k_{dR}(S)$ by taking the d_S -cohomology of ρ in each fibre.

Remark 4.3 Since $\Lambda^{n+1;k-1}(X) = F_{n+1}^{n+k}/F_{n+2}^{n+k}$ and $\Lambda^{n;k}(X) = F_n^{n+k}/F_{n+1}^{n+k}$, we get a short exact sequence of complexes,

$$0 \to \Lambda^{n+1;k-1}(X) \to F_n^{n+k}/F_{n+2}^{n+k} \to \Lambda^{n;k}(X) \to 0,$$

giving rise to a long exact sequence in cohomology.

Definition 4.4 The Gauss–Manin connection,

$$\nabla \colon H^{n;k}_{d_{s}}(X) \to H^{n+1;k}_{d_{s}}(X),$$

is the connecting homomorphism arising from the short exact sequence

$$0 \to \Lambda^{n+1;k-1}(X) \to F_n^{n+k}/F_{n+2}^{n+k} \to \Lambda^{n;k}(X) \to 0.$$

Proposition 4.5 The Gauss–Manin connection is flat, i.e., $\nabla^2 = 0$.

Computing the connection

If we have chosen a horizontal distribution $N \subset TX$ complementary to *S*, then as in Lemma 3.3, we get a decomposition $d = \nabla + \Theta + d_S$. Furthermore, we have $\Lambda^{n;k}(X) \simeq \Omega^{n;k}(X)$. Under this isomorphism, d_S as defined in this section agrees with d_S as defined in Section 3.3. As remarked previously, the ∇ of Lemma 3.3 passes to a differential on d_S -cohomology, and agrees with the Gauss–Manin connection.

We may complexify the above story, giving a decomposition

$$\mathbb{C}\otimes H^{n;k}_{d_S}(X)=\bigoplus_{i+j=n}H^{i,j;k}_{d_S}(X),$$

where *i* and *j* are the holomorphic and anti-holomorphic degrees on *B*. Passing to d_s -cohomology, ∂ and $\overline{\partial}$ give the holomorphic and anti-holomorphic parts of ∇ .

Remark 4.6 From equation (3.2) we see that, in d_S -cohomology, we have the anticommutation relation

(4.1)
$$\partial \bar{\partial} + \bar{\partial} \partial = 0$$

4.2 Conditions on Symplectic Families

We now give necessary (and in some cases sufficient) conditions for smooth symplectic families over complex bases to be generalized complex. If the fibres or the base are 2-real-dimensional, we can usually give stronger statements. In this section, we look only at condition (A) in Proposition 3.9.

Theorem 4.7 Let $\pi: X \to B$ be a smooth symplectic family over a complex manifold with leafwise symplectic form ω .

If these data are generalized complex, then

$$\partial \bar{\partial} [\omega]_{d_{s}} = 0.$$

In this case, we say that $[\omega]_{d_s}$ is *pluriharmonic*.

Proof If these data are generalized complex, then from condition (A) in Proposition 3.9 we know that there exists α such that

$$i(\partial\bar{\partial} - \bar{\partial}\partial)\omega = d_S\alpha.$$

This is equivalent to the vanishing of $(\partial \bar{\partial} - \bar{\partial} \partial)\omega$ in d_S -cohomology. Applying the anticommutation relation (4.1), the result follows.

In fact, since $\partial \bar{\partial} [\omega]_{d_s} = 0$ is equivalent to the existence of a form solving condition (A), in certain circumstances it is sufficient for the existence of a generalized complex structure.

Corollary 4.8 If in the above setting B is a Riemann surface, then (P, I) are generalized complex if and only if $\partial \bar{\partial} [\omega]_{d_s} = 0$.

Proof Since the number of complex dimensions is 1, as per Remark 3.11, conditions (B) and (C) in Proposition 3.9 are trivial. Then the result follows from the above remark.

If the smooth symplectic family has local symplectic trivializations, then we have $\nabla[\omega]_{d_s} = 0$, which implies $\partial \bar{\partial}[\omega]_{d_s} = 0$. So, for example, we can say the following.

Corollary 4.9 A symplectic fibre bundle over a Riemann surface is generalized complex.

Or we can generate counterexamples.

Corollary 4.10 Let $X \to B$ be a symplectic fibre bundle with compact fibres over a complex manifold B with Poisson structure P and transverse complex structure I.

If $V : B \to \mathbb{R}$ is a smooth, positive, function on the base, then the quotient P/V is a Poisson structure on X. But if V is not pluriharmonic, then (P/V, I) are not generalized complex.

Proof Let ω be the fibrewise symplectic form for *P*. Then the fibrewise symplectic form for *P*/*V* is *V* ω . So,

$$\partial \bar{\partial} [V\omega]_{d_{\mathrm{S}}} = (\partial \bar{\partial} V) [\omega]_{d_{\mathrm{S}}} \neq 0.$$

If a smooth symplectic family $X \to B$ has 2-dimensional fibres, then $[\omega]_{d_s}$ just measures the symplectic volume of each fibre. Thus it can be identified with a positive real function on the base. But pluriharmonic *functions* are well understood, and the pluriharmonicity condition is quite strong:

Theorem 4.11 Let $\pi: X \to B$ be a smooth symplectic family with compact, 2-dimensional fibres over a compact, connected complex manifold B.

If these data are generalized complex, then the function $V : B \to \mathbb{R}$ giving the symplectic volume of each fibre must be constant—in fact, $X \to B$ is a symplectic fibre bundle.

Proof The claim that the symplectic volume is constant just follows from an application of the maximum principle for pluriharmonic functions on compact connected manifolds. The second part of the claim, that $X \rightarrow B$ has local symplectic trivializations, is an application of Lemma 4.12, which follows.

Lemma 4.12 *Let* π : $X \to B$ *be a compact connected smooth symplectic family with fibrewise symplectic form* ω *.*

If $[\omega]_{d_s}$ is flat under the Gauss-Manin connection, then $\pi: X \to B$ is a symplectic fibre bundle for the symplectic form ω .

Proof Results like this are standard in the literature (see [12] for similar examples). In this case, we only sketch the argument:

Given a smooth local trivialization about a point $x \in B$, one has a fibrewise symplectic form ω which may not be be *constant* over *B* in this trivialization, but, since $[\omega]_{d_s}$ is flat over *B*, ω is fibrewise cohomologous to a constant-over-*B* form. One then uses Moser stability to find fibrewise isotopies from the given local trivialization to this new *symplectic* trivialization. We note that this may be accomplished smoothly over *B*.

Example 4.13 We would like to give examples of generalized complex structures on smooth symplectic families which do not admit symplectic trivializations. The following class of examples, which are noncompact, have nontrivial cases whose fibres are 2-dimensional. (As per Theorem 4.11, there will be no such examples of *compact* surface bundles.) Later we will give a compact example of higher rank.

Let $X \to B$ be a *flat* symplectic fibre bundle over a noncompact Riemann surface B with fibrewise symplectic form ω , and suppose that $V : B \to \mathbb{R}$ is a nonconstant, positive pluriharmonic function (for example, a real linear function on the upper half plane $\mathcal{H}^+ \subset \mathbb{C}$).

Then $V\omega$ determines a Poisson structure, P/V, on X and, as usual, the complex structure on B pulls back to a transverse complex structure I on X. Since V is not constant, the fibrewise symplectic volume is not costant, and thus P/V does not admit symplectic trivializations.

Proposition 4.14 In this case, (P/V, I) are generalized complex.

Proof The given connection determines a decomposition of d as in Lemma 3.3. Since the connection is flat, the curvature Θ vanishes. Since the connection is sym-

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plectic for ω , we have that $\partial \omega = \overline{\partial} \omega = 0$. Then

$$\partial \partial (V\omega) = (\partial \partial V)\omega + (\partial V)(\partial \omega) - (\partial V)(\partial \omega) + V(\partial \partial \omega)$$
$$= 0 + 0 - 0 + 0$$

Then the claim follows from Corollary 4.8.

4.3 Higher-rank Smooth Symplectic Families

We now consider smooth symplectic families whose fibres may have dimension greater than 2. In this case, the fibrewise 2nd cohomology, $H_{d_s}^{0,0;2}(X)$, is a vector bundle with rank possibly greater than 1; thus there is no maximum principle for its pluriharmonic sections. In particular, we cannot say, even in the compact case, that if a smooth symplectic family of high rank is generalized complex, then it is a symplectic fibre bundle (in disanalogy with Theorem 4.11). In fact, we provide a counterexample (Example 4.17)—a compact smooth symplectic family over a complex manifold that comes from a generalized complex structure but whose symplectic form is not flat in cohomology.

However, we can recover the existence of symplectic trivializations if we impose some topological conditions, of which we give a few examples.

Proposition 4.15 Let $\pi: X \to B$ be a smooth symplectic family over a compact connected complex manifold with fibrewise symplectic structure ω . Furthermore, suppose $H^{0,0;2}_{d_S}(X)$ has a flat trivialization over B.

If these data are generalized complex, then they determine a symplectic fibre bundle.

Proof If these data are generalized complex, then by Theorem 4.7 $[\omega]_{d_s}$ is pluriharmonic. In the flat trivialization of $H_{d_s}^{0,0;2}(X)$, $[\omega]_{d_s} = f_1\sigma_1 + \cdots + f_k\sigma_k$, for flat basis sections σ_i and functions f_i . In this notation, the pluriharmonicity condition is just that each f_i is pluriharmonic. Since *B* is compact, by the maximum principle this means that each f_i is locally constant, and thus $[\omega]_{d_s}$ is flat. The result follows from Lemma 4.12.

We summarize the situation for two particular cases where the hypotheses of Propositions 4.15 hold.

Theorem 4.16 Let $\pi: X \to B$ be a smooth symplectic family over a compact complex manifold that is generalized complex. If B is simply connected, or if $\pi: X \to B$ is a trivial bundle, then in fact X is a symplectic fibre bundle over B.

Proof If *B* is simply connected, then the Gauss–Manin connection gives a trivialization of $H_{d_s}^{0,0;2}(X)$, and if $\pi: X \to B$ is trivial, it induces a trivialization of $H_{d_s}^{0,0;2}(X)$. In either case, the hypotheses of Proposition 4.15 are satisfied.

4.4 Generalized Calabi-Yau manifolds

A generalized Calabi–Yau manifold (originally described in [10]) is a generalized complex manifold whose canonical line bundle is generated by a global d_H -closed spinor.

Let $\pi: X \to B$ be a generalized complex smooth symplectic family over a complex manifold. If *B* is Calabi-Yau—that is, if its canonical bundle has a closed generating section ρ_B —then the spinor

 $\rho = e^{i\omega} \wedge \rho_B$

on X is d_H -closed for some closed 3-form H and generates the canonical bundle κ for the generalized complex structure. Thus X is generalized Calabi–Yau. We note that the following example is generalized Calabi–Yau in this way.

Example 4.17 In the higher-rank case, in contrast with surface bundles, the fact that a compact, connected smooth symplectic family is generalized complex does not imply that it will be a symplectic fibre bundle. We give as a counterexample a certain generalized complex structure on a T^4 -bundle over T^2 . (T^k is the real *k*-dimensional torus.)

Consider the flat trivial bundle

$$X = T^4 \times \mathbb{C} \to \mathbb{C}.$$

Let $\theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3, \theta_4$ be the standard basis of 1-forms for T^4 , and let x + iy be the complex coordinate on the base. Let

$$\omega = \theta_1 \wedge \theta_2 + \theta_3 \wedge \theta_4 + x\theta_1 \wedge \theta_3.$$

Let $N \subset TX$ be the horizontal distribution giving a decomposition $d = d_S + \partial + \overline{\partial}$ and an extension of ω to X. Then $d_S \omega = 0$ and $\partial \overline{\partial} \omega = 0$, but $\nabla \omega \neq 0$ —indeed, $\nabla [\omega]_{d_S} \neq 0$.

Let $\Lambda = \mathbb{Z} + i\mathbb{Z} \subset \mathbb{C}$ be the standard integral lattice. We will define a monodromy homomorphism $\lambda \colon \Lambda \to \operatorname{Aut}(T^4)$ as follows: in the imaginary direction, $\lambda(i) = \operatorname{Id}$, and in the real direction, $\lambda(1)$ is the automorphism of T^4 that takes θ_2 to $\theta_2 - \theta_3$ and leaves the others fixed. Then

$$\lambda(1)^*: \omega \mapsto \theta_1 \wedge \theta_2 + \theta_3 \wedge \theta_4 + (x-1)\theta_1 \wedge \theta_3.$$

Thus, at any $m + in \in \Lambda \subset \mathbb{C}$,

$$\left(\lambda(m+in)^*\omega\right)(m+in) = \theta_1 \wedge \theta_2 + \theta_3 \wedge \theta_4 + (m-m)\theta_1 \wedge \theta_3$$
$$= \omega(0).$$

Then ω passes to $\tilde{\omega}$ on the flat bundle $\tilde{X} = X/\Lambda$. It is still the case that $d_S \tilde{\omega} = 0$ and $\partial \bar{\partial} \tilde{\omega} = 0$, so with the choices $\alpha = 0$ and $\beta = 0$ in Proposition 3.9, we see that these data come from a generalized complex structure. But $[\tilde{\omega}]_{d_s}$ is still not flat, so $(\tilde{X}, \tilde{\omega})$ is not a symplectic fibre bundle.

5 Higher Complex Type and the Full Obstruction

So far, we have only studied condition (A) from Proposition 3.9. For smooth symplectic families over Riemann surfaces, this condition, rephrased as a pluriharmonicity condition in cohomology, was both necessary and sufficient for the existence of a compatible generalized complex structure. However, if the number of complex dimensions is 2 or more, then conditions (B) and (C) may be nontrivial.

The technique we use (in Section 5.2) is to try to solve (A), (B), and (C) in sequence. Though we will be concrete, what we are doing in fact is working our way through a spectral sequence, with differential d_S on the first page, ∇ on the second, and Θ (roughly speaking) on the third. Figure 2 is suggestive—we can see that the targets of d_S , ∇ and Θ form a diagonal, as would be expected in a spectral sequence coming from a bigrading.

We might hope that, as a sufficient condition, if the smooth symplectic family is in fact a symplectic fibre bundle then it is generalized complex. This is not the case. (See Example 5.7 for a counterexample.) However, a symplectic fibre bundle *does* solve (A) and (B), and the remaining condition (C) can be understood as a cohomological obstruction on the base.

5.1 The Spectral Sequence

As we remarked earlier, $\nabla \colon [\sigma]_{d_S} \mapsto [\nabla \sigma]_{d_S}$ determines a differential in d_S -cohomology. Thus we may take the ∇ -cohomology of $H^{\bullet}(\Omega_T; d_S)$ to give $H^{\bullet}(\Omega_T; d_S, \nabla)$.

 $H^{\bullet}(\Omega_T; d_S, \nabla)$ itself carries a differential, as follows: if μ is a form representing a class in $H^{\bullet}(\Omega_T; d_S, \nabla)$, then $d_S\mu = 0$ and $\nabla[\mu]_{d_S} = 0$, *i.e.*, $\nabla\mu = d_S\nu$ for some ν . One can check using the commutation relations that $\Theta\mu + \nabla\nu$ also determines a class in $H^{\bullet}(\Omega_T; d_S, \nabla)$. We let $\Theta: [\mu]_{d_S, \nabla} \to [\Theta\mu + \nabla\nu]_{d_S, \nabla}$. Of course, without changing the class in $H^{\bullet}(\Omega_T; d_S, \nabla)$, we may replace μ with $\mu + \mu'$ and ν with $\nu + \nu' + \nu''$, where $\nabla\mu' = d_S\nu'$ and $d_S\nu'' = 0$. Then one can check that, nonetheless, $\Theta[\mu]_{d_S, \nabla} = \Theta[\mu']_{d_S, \nabla}$. Furthermore, $\Theta^2[\mu]_{d_S, \nabla} = 0$. Thus Θ defines a differential complex, and we may pass from $H^{\bullet}(\Omega_T; d_S, \nabla)$ to $H^{\bullet}(\Omega_T; d_S, \nabla, \Theta)$.

We consider these differentials over the *truncated complex* Ω_T^{\bullet} (as discussed in Section 3.2). The first four pages of the spectral sequence are

$$\Omega_T^{\bullet} \to H^{\bullet}(\Omega_T; d_S) \to H^{\bullet}(\Omega_T; d_S, \nabla) \to H^{\bullet}(\Omega_T; d_S, \nabla, \Theta).$$

5.2 The Calculation

We now attempt to solve in turn the conditions (A), (B), and (C) from Proposition 3.9. Recall that, given the data of a Poisson structure with leafwise symplectic form ω and a transverse complex structure, we needed a real (1, 1; 1)-form α and a real (2, 1; 0) + (1, 2; 0)-form β such that

(A)
$$\Phi^{A}(\omega) := i(\partial\bar{\partial} - \bar{\partial}\partial)\omega = d_{S}\alpha,$$

(B)
$$\Phi^{B}(\omega) := i \left(\nabla (\theta_{-} - \theta_{+}) + \Theta(\bar{\partial} - \partial) \right) \omega = \nabla \alpha + d_{S} \beta,$$

(C)
$$\Phi^{C}(\omega) := i\Theta(\theta_{-} - \theta_{+})\omega = \Theta\alpha + \nabla\beta.$$

Step A Let $[\Phi(\omega)]^A := [\Phi^A(\omega)]_{d_S} \in H^{1,1;2}(\Omega; d_S)$. Suppose that $[\Phi(\omega)]^A = 0$. Then we can solve (A), that is, there is an α such that

$$i(\partial\bar{\partial} + \bar{\partial}\partial)\omega = d_S\alpha.$$

This α is not fixed by ω —we can replace it with any $\alpha + \alpha'$, where $d_S \alpha' = 0$.

Step B Suppose that (A) is solvable. Now from (B) we consider the term

$$\Phi^{B}(\omega) - \nabla \alpha = i \left(\nabla (\theta_{-} - \theta_{+}) + \Theta(\bar{\partial} - \partial) \right) \omega - \nabla \alpha.$$

It is clear that the corresponding class in $H^{3;1}(\Omega_T; d_S, \nabla)$ does not depend on the choice of α solving (A). We call this class $[\Phi(\omega)]^B$.

If $[\Phi(\omega)]^B = 0$, then there is some $[\alpha'] \in H^{1,1;1}(\Omega; d_S)$ such that

$$[\Phi^B(\omega) - \nabla \alpha]_{d_S} = \nabla [\alpha']_{d_S},$$

i.e.,

$$\Phi^B(\omega) - \nabla \alpha = \nabla \alpha' + d_S \beta$$

for some (2, 1; 0) + (1, 2; 0)-form β . Then $\alpha + \alpha'$ and β solve conditions (A) and (B).

Step C Suppose that (A) and (B) are solvable. Now from (C) we consider the term

$$\Phi^{C}(\omega) - \Theta \alpha - \nabla \beta = i\Theta(\theta_{-} - \theta_{+})\omega - \Theta \alpha - \nabla \beta.$$

One checks that the corresponding class in the triple cohomology $H^{4;0}(\Omega_T; d_S, \nabla, \Theta)$ does not depend on the choice of α and β solving (A) and (B). We call this class $[\Phi(\omega)]^C$.

If $[\Phi(\omega)]^C = 0$, then there is some $[\alpha'] \in H^{1,1;1}(\Omega_T; d_S, \nabla)$ such that

$$[\Phi^{C}(\omega) - \Theta\alpha - \nabla\beta]_{d_{S},\nabla} = \Theta[\alpha']_{d_{S},\nabla}.$$

If $\nabla \alpha' = d_S \beta'$, then this just means that

$$[\Phi^{C}(\omega) - \Theta\alpha - \nabla\beta]_{d_{S},\nabla} = [\Theta\alpha' + \nabla\beta']_{d_{S},\nabla},$$

i.e.,

$$[\Phi^{C}(\omega) - \Theta\alpha - \nabla\beta]_{d_{S}} = [\Theta\alpha' + \nabla\beta']_{d_{S}} + \nabla[\beta'']_{d_{S}}$$

for some β'' . Since this equation is basic (*i.e.*, of degree (4; 0)), and the basic, d_S -exact forms are trivial, we can drop the d_S -cohomology, and we have

$$\Phi^{C}(\omega) - \Theta\alpha - \nabla\beta = \Theta\alpha' + \nabla\beta' + \nabla\beta''.$$

Thus $\alpha + \alpha'$ and $\beta + \beta' + \beta''$ solve (C), and we can check that they still solve (A) and (B).

Conversely, if α and β solve (A), (B), and (C), it is trivial that the relevant cohomology classes vanish. Therefore we have the following theorem.

Theorem 5.1 Suppose that P and I are a regular Poisson structure and a transverse complex structure respectively, with leafwise symplectic form ω . Let $\Phi^A(\omega)$, $\Phi^B(\omega)$ and $\Phi^C(\omega)$ be the obstruction forms as in Definition 3.10, and let

$$\begin{split} & [\Phi(\omega)]^A \in H^{2;2}(\Omega; d_S), \\ & [\Phi(\omega)]^B \in H^{3;1}(\Omega_T; d_S, \nabla), \\ & [\Phi(\omega)]^C \in H^{4;0}(\Omega_T; d_S, \nabla, \Theta), \end{split}$$

be as defined above.

Then (P, I) are generalized complex if and only if $[\Phi(\omega)]^A$, $[\Phi(\omega)]^B$, and $[\Phi(\omega)]^C$ all vanish.

Remark 5.2 Strictly speaking, $[\Phi(\omega)]^B$ is only well-defined if $[\Phi(\omega)]^A = 0$, and $[\Phi(\omega)]^C$ is only well-defined if $[\Phi(\omega)]^B = 0$.

Proposition 5.3 Let $X \to B$ be a symplectic fibre bundle over a complex base with leafwise symplectic form ω . Then $[\Phi(\omega)]^A = 0$ and $[\Phi(\omega)]^B = 0$.

Proof Since $X \to B$ has symplectic trivializations, $\nabla[\omega]_{d_S} = 0$, there exists $\gamma \in \Omega^{0,1;1}(X)$ such that $\nabla \omega = -d_S(\gamma + \tilde{\gamma})$. In particular, $\bar{\partial}\omega = -d_S\gamma$ and $\partial\omega = -d_S\tilde{\gamma}$. Then

$$\begin{split} \Phi^{A}(\omega) &= i(\partial\bar{\partial} - \bar{\partial}\partial)\omega \\ &= i(\partial\bar{\partial} + \bar{\partial}^{2} - d_{S}\theta_{-} - \bar{\partial}\partial - \partial^{2} + d_{S}\theta_{+})\omega \quad \text{(by relation (3.1))} \\ &= i\nabla(\bar{\partial}\omega - \partial\omega) + \mathrm{id}_{S}(\theta_{+} - \theta_{-})\omega \\ &= \mathrm{id}_{S}\big(\nabla(\gamma - \bar{\gamma}) + (\theta_{-} - \theta_{+})\omega\big) \,. \end{split}$$

So $\alpha = i\nabla(\gamma - \overline{\gamma}) + i(\theta_{-} - \theta_{+})\omega$ solves (A).

Given this choice of α , we apply the relation $\nabla^2 = -d_S \Theta - \Theta d_S$ as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \alpha &= i \nabla^2 (\gamma - \bar{\gamma}) + i \nabla (\theta_- - \theta_+) \omega \\ &= - \operatorname{id}_S \Theta(\gamma - \bar{\gamma}) - i \Theta d_S (\gamma - \bar{\gamma}) + i \nabla (\theta_- - \theta_+) \omega \\ &= - \operatorname{id}_S \Theta(\gamma - \bar{\gamma}) + i \Theta (\bar{\partial} - \partial \bar{\partial} \omega + i \nabla (\theta_- - \theta_+) \omega. \end{aligned}$$

If we let $\beta = i\Theta(\gamma - \bar{\gamma})$, then

$$\Phi^{B}(\omega) = i\nabla(\theta_{-} - \theta_{+})\omega + i\Theta(\bar{\partial} - \partial)\omega$$
$$= \mathbf{d}_{S}\beta + \nabla\alpha$$

and thus (B) is also solved.

Remark 5.4 So in a natural class of examples, two of the three conditions are satisfied; and condition (C) is not so bad after all: the form $\Phi^C(\omega) - \Theta\alpha - \nabla\beta$, which determines the obstruction, is d_S -closed and of type (4; 0)—that is, it is *basic*. Thus, in the case of a smooth symplectic family $X \to B$, the obstruction is in the cohomology of the base. During the calculation, we get the term

$$[\Phi^{C}(\omega) - \Theta\alpha - \nabla\beta]_{d_{s,\nabla}} \in H^{4}(\Omega_{T}(B); d).$$

If *B* is compact then this cohomology is finite-dimensional. Then the final step—taking the Θ -cohomology—is a finite-dimensional calculation. (See Example 5.7.)

So in general, for a complex manifold *B*, if $H^4(\Omega_T(B); B) = 0$ then any symplectic fibre bundle over *B* will be generalized complex.

Furthermore, if *B* is Kähler, we can move from the truncated de Rham cohomology to the usual de Rham cohomology. To be precise, a class in $H^k(\Omega_T(B); d)$ determines a class in $H^k(\Omega(B); d)$, and we can say the following.

Lemma 5.5 If B is Kähler, or satisfies the $\partial \overline{\partial}$ -lemma, then the map

$$H^k(\Omega_T(B);d) \to H^k(\Omega(B);d)$$

is injective for k > 2.

This is a well-known type of result. For example, the author learned the technique of proof from [7].

Proof Suppose that $[\alpha]_T \in H^k(\Omega_T(B); d)$, *i.e.*, α is a real *d*-closed *k*-form with no components of degree (k, 0) or (0, k). Let $[\alpha]$ be the corresponding class in the usual $H^k(\Omega(B); d)$, and suppose that $[\alpha] = 0$, *i.e.*, there is a k - 1-form β such that $d\beta = \alpha$.

Consider a degree of $d\alpha = 0$:

$$(d\alpha)^{k,1} = \partial \alpha^{k-1,1} + \bar{\partial} \alpha^{k,0},$$
$$0 = \partial \alpha^{k-1,1} + 0.$$

And a degree of $\alpha = d\beta$:

$$\alpha^{k-1,1} = \partial \beta^{k-2,1} + \bar{\partial} \beta^{k-1,0},$$

$$\alpha^{k-1,1} - \partial \beta^{k-2,1} = \bar{\partial} \beta^{k-1,0}.$$

So $\alpha^{k-1,1} - \partial \beta^{k-2,1}$ is $\bar{\partial}$ -exact and ∂ -closed. By the $\partial \bar{\partial}$ -lemma, this implies that for some $\gamma \in \Omega^{k-2,0}(B)$,

$$\bar{\partial}\beta^{k-1,0} = \partial\bar{\partial}\gamma.$$

Let $\beta' = \beta - \beta^{k-1,0} + \bar{\partial}\gamma$. Then β' has no (k-1,0) component, and

$$d\beta' = d\beta - \partial\beta^{k-1,0} - \bar{\partial}\beta^{k-1,0} + \partial\bar{\partial}\gamma$$
$$= d\beta - 0 - \partial\bar{\partial}\gamma + \partial\bar{\partial}\gamma$$
$$= \alpha.$$

So α has a primitive with no component in degree (k - 1, 0). Similarly, we may remove the component in (0, k - 1), and thus α has a primitive in the truncated complex $\Omega^{\bullet}_{T}(B)$. Consequently $[\alpha] = 0$, therefore $[\alpha]_{T} = 0$.

Corollary 5.6 If B is Kähler and $H^4(B) = 0$, then any symplectic fibre bundle $X \to B$ is generalized complex.

The above result is not very useful in low dimensions. If, for example, we are considering a symplectic fibre bundle over a Kähler manifold whose total space has real dimension 6, then the nontrivial case is when the fibres are symplectic surfaces and the base is a complex Kähler surface. But then $H^4(B)$ just measures the volume of a volume form on the base, and is nontrivial. To determine whether the generalized complex structure is obstructed, we must actually calculate $[\Phi(\omega)]^C$ by integrating $\Phi^C(\omega)$ over the base, as in the following example.

Example 5.7 We give an example of the failure of condition (C), a compact symplectic fibre bundle which is not generalized complex. Let P^2 be the complex projective plane, TP^2 its tangent bundle, and $X = P(TP^2)$ the fibrewise projectivization. Then

 $X \rightarrow P^2$

is a P^1 -bundle over P^2 . This is just the flag manifold of \mathbb{C}^3 . From the Fubini–Study metric on P^2 we get

- (a) a connection on TP^2 , and hence on $X \to P^2$, and
- (b) a hermitian inner product on TP^2 and hence a (normalized) volume form ω on the fibres of *X*.

Without loss of generality, we take ω as our fibrewise symplectic form. Since the fibres are real S^2 , each with the same symplectic volume, we have a symplectic fibre bundle over a complex base. As per Proposition 5.3, conditions (A) and (B) are satisfied for some α and β . In fact, ω is flat under the given connection, *i.e.*, $\partial \omega = \bar{\partial} \omega = 0$, so $\alpha = 0$ and $\beta = 0$ solve (A) and (B).

Given $\alpha = 0$ and $\beta = 0$, the remaining obstruction is

$$\Phi^{C}(\omega) = i\Theta(\theta_{-} - \theta_{+})\omega.$$

Because of the dimension of P^2 , the only nontrivial terms are

$$i(\theta_+\theta_--\theta_-\theta_+)\omega,$$

and because of the conjugation symmetry of this example, this is just $2i\theta_+\theta_-\omega$. The curvature of the Fubini–Study metric is nonvanishing and ω is nondegenerate, therefore $2i\theta_+\theta_-\omega$ will be a real, basic, nonvanishing (2, 2; 0) form, *i.e.*, a volume form on P^2 . We integrate it; then, as per Remark 5.4 and Lemma 5.5,

$$[2i\theta_+\theta_-\omega]_{d_S,\nabla}\neq 0\in H^{4;0}(\Omega_T;d_S,\nabla).$$

Of course, before we can know if the generalized complex structure is obstructed, we must pass to $H^{4;0}(\Omega_T; d_S, \nabla, \Theta)$. First, using Proposition 4.2 we compute

$$H^{2;1}(\Omega_T; d_S) = \Omega^{1,1}(P^2) \otimes_{P^2} H^{0;1}(\Omega(X); d_S)$$

The second factor is just the 1st fibrewise cohomology bundle, which vanishes for S^2 fibres. Thus $H^{2;1}(\Omega_T; d_S)$ is trivial, as is $H^{2;1}(\Omega_T; d_S, \nabla)$. But then the differential

$$H^{2;1}(\Omega_T; d_S, \nabla) \xrightarrow{\Theta} H^{4;0}(\Omega_T; d_S, \nabla)$$

is trivial, and $H^{4;0}(\Omega_T; d_S, \nabla)$ injects into $H^{4;0}(\Omega_T; d_S, \nabla, \Theta)$. (In fact, they are isomorphic.) As $[\Phi^C(\omega)]_{d_S,\nabla} \neq 0$, so $[\Phi^C(\omega)]_{d_S,\nabla,\Theta} \neq 0$ and there is no compatible generalized complex structure.

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