



Almost k -complex structures

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Abstract

We introduce and develop the notion of almost k -complex manifolds in analogy with the well known almost complex structure. In terms of G -structure, the integrability of this structure is equivalent to the vanishing of the Bernard-Chern tensor.

Keywords: *Almost complex structure, symplectic structure, k -symplectic structure, integrability, G -structure.*

MSC (2000). 32Q60, 53C10, 53D05, 70G45

I. INTRODUCTION

An almost complex structure on an even dimensional manifolds M is a tensor on M of type $(1, 1)$ such that $J^2 = -id_{TM}$. We say that J is integrable if, around each point of M , we can find a local coordinates system $(x^i, y^i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$ such that

$$J\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x^i}\right) = -\frac{\partial}{\partial y^i}, \quad J\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial y^i}\right) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i}.$$

The theorem of Newlander-Nirenberg proves that J is integrable if and only if the Nijenhuis tensor of J ($N(Y, Y) = [JX, JY] - J[JX, Y] - J[X, JY] - [X, Y]$) is vanish.

On a symplectic manifold (M, θ) , there exists a Riemannian metric g and an almost complex structure J such that :

$$\theta(X, Y) = g(JX, Y).$$

For the canonical k -symplectic structure $(\theta^1, \dots, \theta^k; E)$ defined on the model space $\mathbb{R}^{n(k+1)}$ by the two forms $\theta^p = dx^{p1} \wedge dx^1 + \dots + dx^{pn} \wedge dx^n$ and the sub-bundle given by the equations $dx^1 = \dots = dx^n = 0$, there exist k canonical tensors fields $J^1, \dots, J^k \in T_1^1(\mathbb{R}^{n(k+1)})$ such that

$$\theta^p(X, Y) = \langle J^p X, Y \rangle,$$

where $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ is standard inner product. With respect to the coordinates (x^{pi}, x^i) , $1 \leq p \leq k$, $1 \leq i \leq n$, we have

$$J^p = \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \otimes dx^{pi} - \frac{\partial}{\partial x^{pi}} \otimes dx^i \right). \quad (1.1)$$

And also there exists an analog structure defined by k canonical tensors fields J^1, \dots, J^k of type $(1, 1)$ on the manifold of all 1-jets of mapping from an n -dimensional manifold M into \mathbb{R}^k with target $0 \in \mathbb{R}^k$ and take the same form (1.1) with respect the natural coordinates system.

The study of these examples have led us to introduce and study the notion of k -complex structure, which is equivalent to G -structure where G is the subgroup of $Gl(n(k+1), \mathbb{R})$ formed by matrices of the form :

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This research was supported by the Morocco-French cooperation "Action intégrée A.I. MA/02/032"

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$$\begin{pmatrix} A & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & \cdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \cdots & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & A \end{pmatrix}$$

where $A \in GL(n \times n, \mathbb{R})$.

For $k = 1$, we obtain an almost complex structure J on a $2n$ -dimensional manifold with a sub-bundle E of TM of dimension n such that $TM = E \oplus J(E)$.

An almost k -complex structure on an $n(k + 1)$ -dimensional manifold is integrable if and only if about every point of M we can find a coordinate neighborhood U with a local coordinates system $(x^{pi}, x^i)_{1 \leq p \leq k, 1 \leq i \leq n}$ such that

$$\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x^{pi}}, \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \right)_{1 \leq p \leq k, 1 \leq i \leq n}$$

is a cross section of the bundle of frames over U lie in the G -structure.

In this case, an almost k -complex structure is integrable when and only when the Bernard-Chern tensor is vanish, or equivalently, the manifold M possesses an adapted connection whitout torsion.

II. K-COMPLEX STRUCTURE OF VECTOR SPACES

A. k -complex structures

Let V be an $n(k + 1)$ -dimensional real vector space, let $J^1, \dots, J^k \in T_1^1(V)$ be k tensors of type $(1, 1)$ of rank $2n$, let E be an n -codimensional subspace of V and Let E^p be the subspaces of V given by

$$E^p = \bigcap_{q \neq p} \ker J^q.$$

By convention, for $k = 1$, $E^1 = E$ is an n -dimensional subspace of V such that $V = E \oplus J(E)$.

Definition II.1 In the previous notations, we say that $(J^1, \dots, J^k; E)$ is a k -complex structure on V if, for each $p(p = 1, \dots, k)$, the following conditions are satisfied :

1. the system $\{J^1, \dots, J^k\}$ is non degenerate, that is, $\ker J^1 \cap \dots \cap \ker J^k = (0)$,
2. $\ker J^p$ is contained in E ,
3. $J^1(E^1) = \dots = J^k(E^k) \equiv F$, and $J^p(F) = E^p$ for each p ,

4. for each p , $Im J^p = E^p \oplus F$ and the restriction \hat{J}^p of J^p to $E^p \oplus F$ verifies $(\hat{J}^p)^2 = -id_{E^p \oplus F}$.

Proposition II.1 If $(J^1, \dots, J^k; E)$ is a k -complex structure on V , then :

1. $\dim F = \dim E^p = n$,
2. $E = E^1 \oplus \dots \oplus E^k$

Definition II.2 A 1-complex structure on a $2n$ -dimensional vector space V is a pair (J, E^1) such that J is a complex structure on V and E^1 is an n -dimensional subspace of V such that $V = E^1 \oplus J(E^1)$.

remark II.1 If $(J^1, \dots, J^k; E)$ is a k -complex structure on V then \hat{J}^p gives a 1-complex structure on $E^p \oplus F$.

examples II.1 1. The canonical k -complex structure on $\mathbb{R}^{n(k+1)}$.

We endow the space $\mathbb{R}^{n(k+1)}$ with its canonical basis $(e_{pi}, e_i)_{1 \leq p \leq k, 1 \leq i \leq n}$. Let E be the subspace of $\mathbb{R}^{n(k+1)}$ spanned by the vectors $(e_{pi})_{1 \leq p \leq k, 1 \leq i \leq n}$ and let $J^1, \dots, J^k \in T_1^1(\mathbb{R}^{n(k+1)})$ defined by :

$$J^p(e_{qi}) = \delta_{pq}e_i, \quad J^p(e_i) = -e_{pi}.$$

We verify that the $(k + 1)$ -tuple $(J^1, \dots, J^k; E)$ is a k -complex structure on $\mathbb{R}^{n(k+1)}$.

2. **Whitney sum of several 1-complex structure.**

Let V_1 be a $2n$ -dimensional real vectors space, (j, E^1) an 1-complex structure on V_1 , and $\pi_1 : V_1 \rightarrow j(E^1) = B$ the mapping defined by

$$\pi_1 = pr_{j(E^1)} \circ \zeta$$

where ζ is the canonical isomorphism $\zeta : E^1 \oplus j(E^1) \rightarrow E^1 \times j(E^1)$ and $pr_{j(E^1)}$ the canonical projection $pr_{j(E^1)} : E^1 \times j(E^1) \rightarrow B = j(E^1)$. Thus we have $\ker \pi_1 = E^1$.

Let V be the vector subspace of $V_1 \times \dots \times V_1$ (k times) defined by :

$$V = \{(u_1, \dots, u_k) \in V_1 \times \dots \times V_1 \mid \pi_1(u_1) = \dots = \pi_1(u_k)\}, \\ = \{(x_1 + y, \dots, x_k + y) \mid x_1, \dots, x_k \in E^1 \text{ and } y \in B\}.$$

This space is called the Whitney sum of V_1 (k -times) and will be denoted by :

$$V = V_1 \otimes_B \dots \otimes_B V_1.$$

The linear mapping $\pi : V \rightarrow B = j(E^1)$ such that

$$\pi(u_1, \dots, u_k) = \pi_1(u_1) = \dots = \pi_1(u_k)$$

for each $(u_1, \dots, u_k) \in V$, is surjective and satisfies

$$\ker \pi = E^1 \times \dots \times E^1 (k - \text{times}).$$

It not difficult to see that the space V is canonically isomorphic to $E^1 \times \dots \times E^1 \times B$:

$$V \approx E^1 \times \dots \times E^1 \times B.$$

Let $(e_{pi}, e_i)_{1 \leq p \leq k, 1 \leq i \leq n}$ a basis of V with dual basis $(\omega^{pi}, \omega^i)_{1 \leq p \leq k, 1 \leq i \leq n}$.

For

$$J^p = \sum_{i=1}^n (e_{pi} \otimes \omega^i - e_i \otimes \omega^{pi}),$$

then the $(k + 1)$ -tuple $(J^1, \dots, J^k; \ker \pi)$ is a k -complex structure on V .

Proposition II.2

Let $(J^1, \dots, J^k; E)$ a k -complex structure on V , then there exists a basis $(e_{pi}, e_i)_{1 \leq p \leq k, 1 \leq i \leq n}$ of V such that :

1. for each $p = 1, \dots, k$, the subspace E^p is spanned by $(e_{pi})_{1 \leq i \leq n}$ and the subspace F is spanned by $(e_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$,
2. for each $p, q = 1, \dots, k, i = 1, \dots, n$, we have $J^p(e_{qi}) = \delta_{pq}e_i$ and $J^p(e_i) = -e_{pi}$.

Proof. Let $(e_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$ be a basis of F . For each $p, i (p = 1, \dots, k, i = 1, \dots, n)$, we take

$$e_{pi} = -J^p(e_i).$$

It is clear that we have $J^p(e_{qi}) = \delta_{pq}e_i$ and $J^p(e_i) = -e_{pi}$, the vectors e_{p1}, \dots, e_{pn} are independent and consequently constitute a basis of E^p for each p .

Now, let $\lambda^{qj}, \lambda^j \in \mathbb{R} (q = 1, \dots, k, j = 1, \dots, n)$ verifying :

$$\lambda^{qj}e_{qj} + \lambda^je_j = 0,$$

then, for each $p = 1, \dots, k$, we have,

$$J^p(\lambda^{qj}e_{qj} + \lambda^je_j) = \lambda^{pj}e_j - \lambda^je_{pj} = 0$$

Consequently,

$$\lambda^{pj} = \lambda^j = 0 \text{ for all } p = 1, \dots, k \text{ and } j = 1, \dots, n.$$

This shows the proposition.

corollary II.1 In the previous hypothesis and notations we have a direct sum $V = E^1 \oplus \dots \oplus E^k \oplus F$.

B. The group of linear invariants of the canonical k -complex structure

Let $G_{k,n}(V)$ be the group of automorphisms of V leaving $(J^1, \dots, J^k; E)$ invariant, that is :

$$G_{k,n}(V) = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} u \in Gl(V) \mid u(E) = E \\ \text{and } u \circ J^p = J^p \circ u \text{ for all } p \end{array} \right\}.$$

In terms of matrices, the group $G_{k,n}(\mathbb{R})$ is formed by matrices of the form :

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & \dots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \dots & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & A \end{pmatrix}$$

where $A \in GL(n \times n, \mathbb{R})$.

It is clear that $G_{k,n}(\mathbb{R})$ is a Lie group, the Lie algebra $\mathcal{G}_{k,n}(\mathbb{R})$ of this group is formed by matrices of the form :

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & \dots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \dots & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & A \end{pmatrix}$$

where $A \in \mathfrak{M}(n \times n, \mathbb{R})$.

III. ALMOST K -COMPLEX MANIFOLDS

A. Almost k -complex manifolds

Let M be a smooth manifold of dimension $n(k + 1)$. We say that M is an almost k -complex manifold if for every $x \in M$ the tangent space T_xM is equipped with a k -complex structure of vector spaces:

$$((J^1)_x, \dots, (J^k)_x; E_x).$$

Of course, we assume that this structure is smooth, that is, for every $x_0 \in M$ there exists an open neighborhood U_0 of x_0 in M and a smooth cross-section $(e_{pi}, e_i)_{1 \leq p \leq k, 1 \leq i \leq n}$ of the bundle of frames of M such that we have on U_0 :

1. for each $p = 1, \dots, k$, the subspace E^p_x is spanned by $(e_{pi}(x))_{1 \leq i \leq n}$ and the subspace F_x is spanned by $(e_i(x))_{1 \leq i \leq n}$,
2. for each $p, q = 1, \dots, k, i = 1, \dots, n$, we have $(J^p)_x(e_{qi}(x)) = \delta_{pq}e_i(x)$ and $(J^p)_x(e_i(x)) = -e_{pi}(x)$.

Such a cross-section of the bundle of frames of M is called adapted to the almost k -complex structure of M .

B. k -complex manifolds

An almost k -complex structure

$$(J^1, \dots, J^k; E)$$

on M is called integrable, or it defines a k -complex structure on M , if, about every point of M we can find a coordinate neighborhood U with a local coordinate system $(x^{p_i}, x^i)_{1 \leq p \leq k, 1 \leq i \leq n}$ such that

$$J^p \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x^{q_i}} \right) = \delta_{pq} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i}$$

$$J^p \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \right) = - \frac{\partial}{\partial x^{p_i}}$$

at each point of U .

examples III.1 1. **Canonical almost k -complex structure on $\mathbb{R}^{n(k+1)}$.**

Consider the real space $\mathbb{R}^{n(k+1)}$ equipped with its Cartesian coordinates $(x^{p_i}, x^i)_{1 \leq p \leq k, 1 \leq i \leq n}$. Let E be the sub-bundle of $T\mathbb{R}^{n(k+1)}$ defined by the equations

$$dx^1 = 0, \dots, dx^n = 0$$

and let $J^p (p = 1, \dots, k)$ be the tensor field on M given by

$$J^p \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x^{q_i}} \right) = \delta_{pq} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i}$$

$$J^p \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \right) = - \frac{\partial}{\partial x^{p_i}}$$

The $(k+1)$ -tuple $(J^1, \dots, J^k; E)$ defines an almost k -complex structure on $\mathbb{R}^{n(k+1)}$ called the canonical almost k -complex structure. This structure induces a natural almost k -complex structure on the torus $\mathbb{T}^{n(k+1)}$.

2. Almost k -complex structure on the bundle of k -(1-covelocities)

Let M be an n -dimensional manifold. We denote by $T_{k^1}M$ the tangent bundle of k -(1-covelocities) of M , that is, the manifold of all 1-jets of mapping from M to \mathbb{R}^k with target $0 \in \mathbb{R}^k$.

For each coordinate system $(x^j)_{1 \leq j \leq n}$ on M we associate the local coordinates

$$(x^i, x_i^1, \dots, x_i^k)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$$

on $T_{k^1}M$ defined by

$$x^i (J_{x,0^1} f) = x^i (x),$$

$$x_i^p (J_{x,0^1} f) = \left(\frac{\partial f^p}{\partial x^i} \right) (x),$$

where $J_{x,0^1} f$ is the 1-jet at $x \in M$ of the map $f = (f^1, \dots, f^k) : M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$ such that $f(x) = 0$.

We have $T_{k^1}M$ is an $n(k+1)$ -dimensional vector bundle with standard fibre type \mathbb{R}^{nk} ; the canonical projection is the map $\pi : T_{k^1}M \rightarrow M$ defined by

$$\pi (J_{x,0^1} f) = x.$$

For each $p (p = 1, \dots, k)$ we take

$$J^p = \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x^{p_i}} \otimes dx^i - \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \otimes dx^{p_i} \right).$$

The $(k+1)$ -tuple $(J^1, \dots, J^k; \ker \pi_*)$ defines a almost k -complex structure on $T_{k^1}M$.

C. Integrability of an almost k -complex structure

Let M be a smooth manifold of dimension $n(k+1)$ equipped with an almost k -complex structure

$$(J^1, \dots, J^k; E).$$

A linear connection π on an almost k -complex manifold is adapted to the almost k -complex structure if, with respect to an adapted cross-section of the bundle of coframes of M , the connection form (π_v^u) takes its values in the algebra $\mathcal{G}_{k,n}(\mathbb{R})$; that is, the components of the connection

$$(\pi_j^s, \pi_j^{ps}, \pi_{pj}^s, \pi_{qj}^{ps})$$

with respect to an adapted cross-section satisfy

$$\begin{aligned} \pi_{pj}^s &= \pi_j^{pi} = 0, \\ \pi_{qj}^{ps} &= 0 \text{ if } p \neq q, \\ \pi_{pj}^{ps} &= \pi_j^s. \end{aligned}$$

The components Ω^u of the torsion Ω of the linear connection π are related to those of the connection form (π_f^u) and the fundamental form ω^u of the frames bundle by the relation

$$\Omega^u = d\omega^u + \sum_f \pi_f^u \wedge \omega^f.$$

An almost k -complex structure on an $n(k + 1)$ -dimensional manifold M is equivalent to a given G -structure with $G = G_{k,n}(\mathbb{R})$. Such a $G_{k,n}(\mathbb{R})$ -structure is integrable if this almost k -complex structure corresponds to a k -complex structure.

Consequently we can return to the calculation of the Bernard tensor in order to integrate this G -structure. But the vanishing of this tensor is equivalent to the existence of an adapted connection without torsion. Therefore we are going to study the problem of the existence of such a connection.

Note that the integrability of a G -structure implies the vanishing of the Bernard tensor; the reverse is false in the general case. In the case of an almost k -complex structure there is an equivalence between the integrability and the vanishing of this tensor (or the existence of an adapted connection without torsion).

The almost k -complex structure is integrable if and only if about every point of M we can find a coordinate neighborhood U with a local coordinate system $(x^{pi}, x^i)_{1 \leq p \leq k, 1 \leq i \leq n}$ such that :

$$J^p \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x^{qi}} \right) = \delta_{pq} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i}$$

$$J^p \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \right) = - \frac{\partial}{\partial x^{pi}}$$

at each point of U .

Proposition III.1 *The almost k -complex structure $(J^1, \dots, J^k; E)$ is integrable when and only when the manifold M possesses an adapted connection whitout torsion.*

Proof. Let π be an adapted connection whitout torsion, then for any adapted cross-section $(\omega^{pi}, \omega^i)_{1 \leq p \leq k, 1 \leq i \leq n}$ we have,

$$d\omega^{pi} = -\pi_{pj}^{pi} \wedge \omega^{pj},$$

$$d\omega^i = -\pi_j^i \wedge \omega^j.$$

It results from the Frobenius theorem, that the sub-bundles E^p, E , and $F = J^1(E^1) = \dots = J^k(E^k)$ are integrable, thus, around each point of M , there exists a coordinates system $(x^{pi}, x^i)_{1 \leq p \leq k, 1 \leq i \leq n}$ defined on an open neighborhood U of M such that

$$E^p|_U = Vect \left\{ \frac{\partial}{\partial x^{pi}}, 1 \leq i \leq n \right\}, \text{ for each } p = 1, \dots, k$$

$$F|_U = Vect \left\{ \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i}, 1 \leq i \leq n \right\}.$$

For each $p = 1, \dots, k$ we can write

$$J^p \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x^{pi}} \right) = A_{pi}^j \frac{\partial}{\partial x^j}, \quad J^p \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x^{qi}} \right) = 0$$

and

$$J^p \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \right) = A_i^{pj} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^{pj}}$$

We must determine an adapted coordinate system $(y^{pi}, y^i)_{1 \leq p \leq k, 1 \leq i \leq n}$, that is

$$y^{pi} = f^{pi}(x^{p1}, \dots, x^{pn}) \text{ and } y^i = g^i(x^1, \dots, x^n),$$

such that

$$J^p \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial y^{pi}} \right) = \frac{\partial}{\partial y^i}, \quad J^p \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial y^{qi}} \right) = 0$$

and

$$J^p \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial y^i} \right) = - \frac{\partial}{\partial y^{pi}}.$$

In these conditions we have,

$$J^p \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial y^{pi}} \right) = \frac{\partial x^{pj}}{\partial y^{pi}} J^p \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x^{pj}} \right) \tag{3.1}$$

$$= \frac{\partial x^{pj}}{\partial y^{pi}} A_{pj}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x^l} = \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial y^i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^l},$$

$$J^p \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial y^{qi}} \right) = \frac{\partial x^{pj}}{\partial y^{qi}} J^p \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x^{pj}} \right) \tag{3.2}$$

$$= \frac{\partial x^{pj}}{\partial y^{qi}} A_{pj}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x^l} = 0 \text{ for } p \neq q$$

and

$$J^p \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial y^i} \right) = \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial y^i} J^p \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x^l} \right) \tag{3.3}$$

$$= \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial y^i} A_l^{pj} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^{pj}} = - \frac{\partial x^{pj}}{\partial y^{pi}} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^{pj}}.$$

This proves that we have,

$$\frac{\partial x^{pj}}{\partial y^{pi}} A_{pj}^l = \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial y^i}$$

$$\frac{\partial x^{pj}}{\partial y^{qi}} A_{pj}^l = 0 \text{ for } p \neq q$$

$$\frac{\partial x^{qj}}{\partial y^{pi}} = 0 \text{ for } p \neq q$$

and

$$\frac{\partial x^l}{\partial y^i} A_i^{pj} = -\frac{\partial x^{pj}}{\partial y^{pi}}$$

Consequently the matrices (A_{pj}^l) and (A_j^{pl}) are invertible and

$$(A_{pj}^l) = - (A_j^{pl})^{-1}$$

and also

$$\left(\frac{\partial x^{pi}}{\partial y^{pj}}\right) (A_{pj}^i) = \left(\frac{\partial x^i}{\partial y^j}\right) \text{ (product of matrices).}$$

We take $y^i = x^i$, then we have :

$$\left(\frac{\partial x^{pi}}{\partial y^{pj}}\right) (A_{pj}^i) = I_n$$

then,

$$\frac{\partial y^{pi}}{\partial x^{pj}} = A_{pj}^i$$

Finally,

$$y^{pi} = \int_0^{x^{pj}} A_{pj}^i (x^{p1}, \dots, x^{p(i-1)}, t, x^{p(i+1)}, \dots, x^{pn}) dt.$$

It is not difficult to see that (y^{pi}, y^i) is a coordinates system satisfying to :

$$J^p \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial y^{pi}}\right) = \frac{\partial}{\partial y^i}, \quad J^p \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial y^{qi}}\right) = 0,$$

$$J^p \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial y^i}\right) = -\frac{\partial}{\partial y^{pi}},$$

for each $p (p = 1, \dots, k)$, E^p is spanned by

the derivatives $\frac{\partial}{\partial y^{pi}} (i = 1, \dots, n)$

and

F is spanned by the derivatives $\frac{\partial}{\partial y^i} (i = 1, \dots, n)$

this proves the proposition.

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