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1. Introduction

1.1. Notations and writing conventions

All manifolds are assumed to be smooth. Thorough this document, the next writing conventions are applied: M is a smooth manifold. For a vector bundle $E \xrightarrow{\pi} M$, the notation $\Gamma(U; E)$ with $U \subset M$ an open subset of the manifold M stands for the $C^\infty(M)$ -module of smooth sections over U . The functor $U \mapsto \Gamma(U; E)$ defines a sheaf denoted by Γ_E . Finally, $\Gamma(E)$ is a shorthand notation for $\Gamma(M; E)$. Lowercase letters are used for sections, uppercase ones for tangent vectors.

2. The gauge equation

Let $E \xrightarrow{\pi} M$ be a vector bundle. An affine connection ∇ is a \mathbb{R} -linear mapping:

$$\nabla: \Gamma(E) \rightarrow \Gamma(T^*M \otimes E) \quad (1)$$

such that for any $f \in C^\infty(M)$, any $s \in \Gamma(E)$ and any tangent vector X , $\nabla_X f s = X(f)s + f \nabla_X s$. Let $E^* \xrightarrow{\pi^*} M$ be the bundle obtained by dualizing E fiberwise. A section $\theta \in \Gamma(E^* \otimes E)$ defines two bundle morphisms:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} E & \xrightarrow{\theta} & E \\ & \searrow \pi & \downarrow \pi \\ & & M \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{ccc} E^* & \xrightarrow{\theta^t} & E^* \\ & \searrow \pi^* & \downarrow \pi^* \\ & & M \end{array} \quad (2)$$

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where θ_p^t is such that for any $p \in M$, $X \in T_p M$, $\zeta \in T_p^* M$:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \theta_p^t \zeta \end{pmatrix} (X) = \zeta(\theta_p X) \quad (3)$$

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Definition 2.1. Let (∇, ∇_*) be a couple of affine connections. A $(1, 1)$ -tensor θ is said to be a solution of the gauge equation.

3. KV cohomology

4. A spectral sequence

5. Application to statistical manifolds

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