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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  $\Gamma_E$ . 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  $\nabla$  is a  $\mathbb{R}$ -linear mapping [?]:

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

such that for any  $f \in C^\infty(M)$ ,  $\nabla_X fs = df \otimes s + f \nabla_X s$ . Let  $E^* \xrightarrow{\pi^*} M$  be the bundle obtained by dualizing  $E$  fiberwise. A section  $\theta \in \Gamma(E^* \otimes E)$ , that is a  $(1, 1)$ -tensor, defines two bundle morphisms:

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

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

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Received:} \\ \text{Revised:} \\ \text{Accepted:} \\ \text{Published:} \end{array} \quad (\theta_p^t \xi)(X) = \xi(\theta_p X) \quad (3)$$

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $(\nabla_1, \nabla_2)$  be a couple of affine connections. A  $(1, 1)$ -tensor  $\theta$  is said to be a solution of the gauge equation if for any  $s \in \Gamma(E)$ :

$$\nabla_1 \theta s = \theta \nabla_2 s \quad (4)$$

or equivalently if the next diagram commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Gamma(E) & \xrightarrow{\nabla_2} & \Gamma(T^*M \otimes E) \\ \downarrow \theta & & \downarrow Id \otimes \theta \\ \Gamma(E) & \xrightarrow{\nabla_1} & \Gamma(T^*M \otimes E) \end{array} \quad (5)$$

Definition ?? can be made local, giving rise to diagrams:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Gamma(U; E) & \xrightarrow{\nabla_2} & \Gamma(U; T^*M \otimes E) \\ \downarrow \theta_U & & \downarrow Id \otimes \theta_U \\ \Gamma(U; E) & \xrightarrow{\nabla_1} & \Gamma(U; T^*M \otimes E) \end{array} \quad (6)$$

with  $U$  an open subset of  $M$  and  $\theta_U \in \Gamma(U; E^* \otimes E)$ .

**Definition 2.2.** Let  $\nabla$  be an affine connection. Its dual is the affine connection:

$$\nabla^*: \Gamma(E^*) \rightarrow \Gamma(T^*M \otimes E^*) \quad (7)$$

defined by the relation:

$$(\nabla^* \zeta)(s) = \zeta(s) - \zeta(\nabla s) \quad (8)$$

**Proposition 2.1.** If  $\theta$  is a solution of the gauge equation with connections  $(\nabla_1, \nabla_2)$ , then  $\theta^*$  is a solution of the gauge equation with connections  $(\nabla_2^*, \nabla_1^*)$

**Proof.** For  $s \in \Gamma(E)$ ,  $\zeta \in \Gamma(E^*)$ :

$$(\nabla_2^*(\theta^* \zeta))(s) = (\theta^* \zeta)(s) - (\theta^* \zeta) \nabla_2 s = \zeta(\theta s) - \zeta(\theta \nabla_2 s) \quad (9)$$

$$= \zeta(\theta s) - \zeta(\nabla_1 \theta s) = (\theta^* \nabla_1^* \zeta)(s) \quad (10)$$

□

Given a couple of connections  $(\nabla_1, \nabla_2)$ , the difference  $D_{1,2} = \nabla_1 - \nabla_2$  is a

### 3. KV cohomology

### 4. A spectral sequence

### 5. Application to statistical manifolds

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## References

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