

# Spinorial equations for special geometries

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based on *I.Agricola*, *SGC*, *T.Friedrich*, *J.Höll*, JGP 2015  
& work with *S.Salamon*

(para Sergio)

## traditional framework

$(M^n, g)$  Riemannian manifold

- $\phi \in \Lambda^* M$  with open orbit and stabiliser  $G \subseteq SO(n)$
- $\nabla\phi \in T^*M \otimes \frac{\mathfrak{so}(n)}{\mathfrak{g}} = W_1 \oplus \dots \oplus W_N$  is often determined by the deRham complex ( $d\phi$  and the like)

Example:

$n$	$\phi$	$G$	$N$
$2m$	$\omega \in \Lambda^2, \xi \in \Lambda^{3,0}$	$SU(m)$	$7$

Gives rise to classes of almost Hermitian geometry, eg

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla\phi \in W_3 \oplus W_4 \oplus W_5 &\iff \text{Hermitian} \\ \nabla\phi \in W_2 \oplus W_5 &\iff \text{almost Kähler} \\ \nabla\phi \in W_1 \oplus W_2 \oplus W_3 &\iff \text{1/2 flat} \\ \nabla\phi \in W_1 &\iff \text{nearly Kähler} \end{aligned}$$

This also applies to  $G = U(m), Sp(k), G_2, Spin(7), Sp(k)Sp(1)$  etc...

## taking sides

As 'spin geometry' is usually relegated to doctoral courses, if offered at all, I ask:

*Should spinors*

*REMAIN members of Riem Geometry or LEAVE Riem Geometry?*

remain camp

- Weyl, Atiyah
- Milnor, Connes
- Dirac, Schrödinger, Witten

leave camp

- Cartan
- ...
- ...

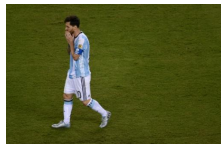
The outcome is not straightforward, given recent in/out decisions:



(Rouxit)



(Brexit)



(Mexit)

I advocate decisively for 'remain' (and conquer)

## a tasting

- [Atiyah-Singer] index theorem & al.
- [Witten] positive mass thm (cf. Yamabe solution)
- in low dimensions strong relationship to special metrics, for

$Spin(3)/\mathbb{Z}_2 = SO(3)$	chirality
$Spin(4) = SU(2)^2$	self-duality
$Spin(5) = Sp(2)$	
$Spin(6) = SU(4)$	<i>(the focus of this talk)</i>
$Spin(7)$	much related to $G_2, Sp(2)Sp(1)$
$Spin(8)$	triviality

- [Seiberg-Witten, Donaldson] invariants in dimension 4
- if there is a parallel spinor, the metric is Ricci-flat (holonomy principle)
- [Friedrich, Grunewald, Hijazi, Kath]  $\nabla_X \phi = \lambda X \cdot \phi \iff$

$n$	3, 4	5	6	7	8
$M^n$	$S^n$	Sasaki-Einstein	nearly Kähler	weak $G_2$	$S^8$

## dim 6

- (Half-)spin representation  $Spin(6) \longrightarrow SU(\Sigma)$ ,  $\Sigma = \mathbb{C}^4$
- $Spin(6)$ -invariant complex structure  $\bar{\phi} = e_1 \cdot \dots \cdot e_6 \cdot \phi$
- Spin bundle  $\mathbb{S} = P \times_{Spin(6)} (\Sigma \oplus \bar{\Sigma})$ ,  $P/\mathbb{Z}_2 = \text{ON frames}$

Spinors  $\phi \in \Sigma$  rise from *quadratic relations*:

$$\Sigma = \text{span}\{\phi^0, \phi^1, \phi^2, \phi^3\} \quad \dim_{\mathbb{C}} \Lambda^2 \Sigma = 6$$

so

$$\begin{aligned} e^1 + ie^2 &= \phi^0 \wedge \phi^1 & e^3 + ie^4 &= \phi^0 \wedge \phi^2 & e^5 + ie^6 &= \phi^0 \wedge \phi^3 \\ e^1 - ie^2 &= \phi^2 \wedge \phi^3 & e^3 - ie^4 &= \phi^3 \wedge \phi^1 & e^5 - ie^6 &= \phi^1 \wedge \phi^2 \end{aligned}$$

is a basis of 1-forms:  $(T^*M)^{\mathbb{C}} \cong \Lambda^2 \Sigma$

$$\bullet (\Sigma \oplus \bar{\Sigma})^{\otimes 2} = \underbrace{\mathbb{C}}_{g(e_i, e_j) = e^i \wedge e^j \phi^{0123}} \oplus T_{\mathbb{C}}^* \oplus \Lambda^2 T_{\mathbb{C}}^* \oplus \underbrace{\Lambda^3 T_{\mathbb{C}}^*}_{S^2 \Sigma \oplus S^2 \bar{\Sigma}} \oplus \dots$$

## parameter spaces

New definition: an  $SU(3)$  manifold is a spin  $(M^6, g, \phi)$  with  $\|\phi\| = 1$

- *real spinors*  $\mathbb{R}\phi \longleftrightarrow SU(3)$  structures  $(J, \xi)$

$$\mathbb{R}P^7 \cong \frac{SO(6)}{SU(3)}$$

given by

$$\begin{cases} J(X) \cdot \phi := \overline{X \cdot \phi} \\ \xi(X, Y, Z) := -\langle X \cdot Y \cdot Z \cdot \phi, \phi \rangle \end{cases}$$

- *complex spinors*  $\mathbb{C}\phi = \ell \longleftrightarrow$  almost complex structures  $J$

$$\mathbb{C}P^3 \cong \frac{SU(4)}{S(U(3) \times U(1))} = \frac{SO(6)}{U(3)}$$

given by

$$\begin{cases} \Lambda^{1,0} := \ell \wedge \ell^\perp & (\alpha\text{-planes in Klein quadric } \mathbb{C}P^5) \\ \Lambda^{0,1} := \Lambda^2 \ell^\perp & (\beta\text{-planes}) \end{cases}$$

## square roots

Fibration (determinant) governing everything:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{R}P^7 &\xrightarrow{S^1} \mathbb{C}P^3 \\ \mathbb{R}\phi &\longmapsto \mathbb{C}\phi = \mathbb{R}\phi \oplus \mathbb{R}\bar{\phi} \end{aligned}$$

$\Lambda^{3,0} = \ell^2$  means that a complex spinor  $\ell = \mathbb{C}\phi$  is the square root of a holomorphic 3-form, a fact used by Hitchin to show that a Kähler  $M^6$  is spin iff  $K_M$  has a square root

As always, physicists knew already about  $\sqrt{\quad}$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} i \hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} = \sqrt{c^2 \hbar^2 \Delta + m^2 c^4} & \rightsquigarrow & D = \sqrt{\Delta + s/4} \\ \text{[Dirac]} & & \text{[Schrödinger-Lichnerowicz]} \end{array}$$

where  $D : \Sigma \xrightarrow{\nabla} T \otimes \Sigma = \Lambda^2 \Sigma \otimes \Sigma \xrightarrow{\wedge} \Lambda^3 \Sigma \cong \bar{\Sigma}$  is the Dirac operator

## simpler & more uniform

$$\Sigma \cong \mathbb{R}^8 = \mathbb{R}\phi \oplus \mathbb{R}\bar{\phi} \oplus TM^6 \cdot \phi$$

**Lemma:**  $\nabla\phi = \eta \otimes \bar{\phi} + A \otimes \phi$ , with  $\eta \in \Lambda^1$ ,  $A \in \text{End}(TM)$

**Theorem:** the geometry of the  $SU(3)$  mfd  $(M^6, g, \phi)$  is determined by the tensor  $A \lrcorner \xi - \frac{2}{3} \eta \otimes \omega$

$\rightsquigarrow$  all almost Hermitian types described by spinorial eqn's  $(2^7)$

Examples:

- half-flatness:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} d(\text{Re } \xi) = 0 & d(\omega^2) = 0 & \\ 2 \text{ eqns, } 2 \text{ unknowns} & \iff & \nabla_X \phi = A(X) \cdot \phi \quad \forall X \\ & & 1 \text{ eqn, } 1 \text{ unknown} \end{array}$$

- nearly Kähler:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} d(\text{Re } \xi) = \omega^2 & d\omega = \text{Im } \xi & \\ 2 \text{ eqns, } 3 \text{ unknowns} & \iff & \nabla_X \phi = \lambda X \cdot \phi \quad \forall X \\ & & 1 \text{ eqn, } 1 \text{ unknown} \end{array}$$



# spin Hodge

Harmonic spinors  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{S}) = \text{Ker}(D : \Sigma \rightarrow \bar{\Sigma})$

depend on the choice of metric (yet, how?) and little control on  $\dim \mathcal{H}(\mathbb{S})$

## Theorem:

- $D\phi = 0 \iff \star d(\star\omega) + 2\eta = 0 \quad (\eta \neq 0, A \neq cJ)$
- ‘complementary’ components  $W_1, W_{\bar{1}}$  of  $\nabla\phi$  determined by

$$\langle D\phi, \bar{\phi} \rangle = -\text{tr}(JA), \quad \langle D\phi, \phi \rangle = -\text{tr}(A)$$

Example:  $M^6 = SL(2, \mathbb{C}) = \frac{SL(2, \mathbb{C}) \times SU(2)}{SU(2)_{\text{diag}}} = G/H$  (reductive)

$$\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{h} \oplus \{(A, B) \mid A = \bar{A}^t, \text{tr} A = 0, B = -\bar{B}^t, \text{tr} B = 0\}$$

The spinor determined by  $J(A, B) = (iA, iB)$  and  $\eta = 0$  is harmonic.

(here, as happens often,  $\phi \in \text{Ker} D \iff$  the  $SU(3)$  class is  $W_3$ )

## examples – twistor spaces

The twistor spaces of self-dual Einstein 4-manifolds

$$\frac{SO(5)}{U(2)} \longrightarrow \mathbb{S}^4, \quad \frac{U(3)}{U(1) \times U(1) \times U(1)} \longrightarrow \mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^2$$

carry a family  $g_t$  of metrics with  $scal(g_t) = 2c(6 - t + 1/t)$

[Hitchin, Friedrich-Kurke]  $g_1$  is Kähler

[Eells-Salamon, Friedrich]  $g_{1/2}$  is nearly Kähler, induced by  $\phi_\epsilon$  ( $\epsilon = \pm 1$ )

### Theorem:

- For  $t \neq 0$  let  $A_\epsilon = \epsilon \operatorname{diag}\left(\frac{\sqrt{t}}{2}, \frac{\sqrt{t}}{2}, \frac{\sqrt{t}}{2}, \frac{\sqrt{t}}{2}, \frac{1-t}{2\sqrt{t}}, \frac{1-t}{2\sqrt{t}}\right)$ . Then

$$\nabla_X \phi_\epsilon = A_\epsilon(X) \cdot \phi_\epsilon$$

(except when  $t = 1/2$ : type  $W_{\bar{1}2}$  and  $D\phi_\epsilon = \epsilon\sqrt{c}\frac{t+1}{\sqrt{t}}\phi_\epsilon$ )

- For  $t = 1$ :  $\phi_\epsilon$  are Kählerian KS, don't define a compatible  $SU(3)$  structure

## $G_2$ story

Similar picture, same recipe:

- $(M^7, \Phi)$   $G_2$  manifold  $\longleftrightarrow (M^7, g, \phi)$  spin with  $\|\phi\| = 1$
- $\Phi(X, Y, Z) = \langle X \cdot Y \cdot Z \cdot \phi, \phi \rangle$  expressing  $SO(7)/G_2 \cong \mathbb{RP}^7$
- $\Sigma = \mathbb{R}^8 = \mathbb{R}\phi \oplus TM^7 \cdot \phi$  real  
(here no conjugation, but still the same dim as the  $\Sigma$  on p.8)

**Prop<sup>n</sup>:**  $\nabla_X \phi = A(X) \cdot \phi$ , and the fundamental tensor is  $-\frac{2}{3}A \lrcorner \Phi$

**Theorem:**  $\phi$  is harmonic iff the  $G_2$  structure is of class  $W_{23}$ .

Manifest power of spin approach

$(\bar{V} = \mathbb{R}^7, \Phi)$  induces  $SU(3)$  structure on any hypersurface  $V = \bar{n}^\perp$ :

- (usually) restrict  $\Phi|_V$ , so that  $\bar{n} \lrcorner \Phi$  defines a complex str on  $V$
- (much simpler) both structures, on  $\bar{V}$  and  $V$ , correspond to the same choice of real spinor  $\phi \in \Sigma$ .

## hypersurface theory

[Friedrich]  $M^2 \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  isometric:  $D\phi = H\phi \iff \nabla_X\phi = \frac{1}{2}\alpha(X)\cdot\phi$

$\rightsquigarrow$  example of Killing spinor:  $\nabla_X\phi = \lambda X\cdot\phi$

For  $M^6 \hookrightarrow Y^7$  the best 'app' are *generalised* Killing spinors:

$$\bar{\nabla}_X\phi = A(X)\cdot\phi$$

We are at freedom to choose  $A \in \text{Sym}^2 TM$  (Weingarten map) and the metric connection with skew torsion  $\bar{\nabla} = \nabla + 2s\mathcal{T}$ , where  $\mathcal{T} \in \Lambda^3$  (torsion),  $s \in \mathbb{R}$  (parameter). Thus we can control the reduction process (from 7 to 6 dims) and the oxidation (from 6 to 7). As an application

**Theorem** (*spin cones*):  $(M^6, g, \phi)$ ,  $h : I \rightarrow S^1$ ,  $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  smooth.

Then  $(M^6 \times I, f(t)^2g + dt^2)$  has a family of  $G_2$  structures

$$\tilde{\phi}_t = (\text{Re } h)\phi + (\text{Im } h)\bar{\phi}.$$

This subsumes

- holonomy cones [Bär]
- $f(t) = t$  straight spin cone [Agricola-Höll]
- $f = \sin$ ,  $h(t) = e^{it/2}$ ,  $A = \frac{1}{2}\text{Id}$  'sine' cone [Acharya & al.]

## memento: 2 appointments

Rio, 1–2 Sept 2016



**“Geometric structures,  
Lie theory  
and applications”**

<http://www.sbm.org.br/jointmeeting-italy/special-sessions/>

Campinas, 5–7 Dec 2016



**“Trends in geometry  
and topology”**

<http://jovens.ime.unicamp.br>