

Introduction to Complex Geometry

Chapter 1 Complex Manifolds and Vector Bundles

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BICMR Summer School 2022

Outline

- 1 Complex manifolds
- 2 Vector bundles
- 3 Almost complex structure and $\bar{\partial}$ -operator

§1.1 Complex manifolds

Defining a complex manifold: the 1st condition

Roughly speaking, a complex manifold is a topological space X on which we can talk about “holomorphic” functions. Since we know what does a holomorphic function means in Euclidean spaces, the first condition we impose on X is:

Condition 1:(existence of coordinate charts) X is locally homeomorphic to open sets of \mathbb{C}^n . To be precise, we require that there is an open covering $\mathcal{U} = \{U_i\}_{i \in \Lambda}$ of X such that for each U_i we have a homeomorphism $\varphi_i : U_i \rightarrow \varphi_i(U_i) \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ onto an open set $\varphi_i(U_i)$ of \mathbb{C}^n .

Defining a complex manifold: the 2nd condition

Given these coordinates, we should define a function $f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ to be holomorphic if all its coordinate-representations $f \circ \varphi_i^{-1} \in \mathcal{O}(\varphi_i(U_i \cap \Omega))$. But is this a well-defined notion? For example if $\Omega \subset U_i \cap U_j \neq \emptyset$, then on Ω we have two sets of coordinates. Is it possible that $f \circ \varphi_i^{-1} \in \mathcal{O}(\varphi_i(U_i \cap \Omega))$ but $f \circ \varphi_j^{-1} \notin \mathcal{O}(\varphi_j(U_j \cap \Omega))$? To avoid this, note that $f \circ \varphi_j^{-1} = (f \circ \varphi_i^{-1}) \circ (\varphi_i \circ \varphi_j^{-1})$, so we require:

Condition 2:(compatibility) Coordinate changes of Condition 1 should be holomorphic. To be precise, we require that whenever $U_i \cap U_j \neq \emptyset$, we have $\varphi_i \circ \varphi_j^{-1}$ is a biholomorphic map from $\varphi_j(U_i \cap U_j)$ to $\varphi_i(U_i \cap U_j)$.

Defining a complex manifold: the 3rd condition

Given these 2 conditions, one can check easily that the notion of “holomorphic function” makes perfect sense. However, to avoid pathology and use more analytic tools such as metrics and integration, we also require a complex manifold to be a nice topological space:

Condition 3: X satisfies \mathcal{T}_2 and \mathcal{C}_2 axioms, i.e. X is a Hausdorff space, and has a countable topological basis.

The definition

Definition

- A complex (analytic) manifold of dimension n is a topological space X satisfying Conditions 1,2,3 above. A 1-dimensional complex manifold is also known as a “Riemann surface”. A map $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ from a complex manifold X is called a “holomorphic function”, if $f \circ \varphi_i^{-1} \in \mathcal{O}(\varphi_i(U_i))$ for all $i \in \Lambda$. In this case, we write $f \in \mathcal{O}(X)$.

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- If X, Y are both complex manifolds of dimensions n and m respectively, a map $F : X \rightarrow Y$ is called “holomorphic”, if for all coordinate charts (U, φ) of X and (V, ψ) of Y , the map $\psi \circ F \circ \varphi^{-1}$ is a holomorphic map on $\varphi(U \cap F^{-1}(V)) \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ whenever $U \cap F^{-1}(V) \neq \emptyset$. A holomorphic map with a holomorphic inverse is called “biholomorphic”.

A technical remark

Remark

In standard textbooks, the set of coordinate charts $\{(U_i, \varphi_i)\}_{i \in \Lambda}$ is assumed to be maximal, i.e., whenever a homeomorphism from an open set V , $\psi : V \rightarrow \psi(V) \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ is compatible with (U_i, φ_i) for all $U_i \cap V \neq \emptyset$, we have $(V, \psi) \in \{(U_i, \varphi_i)\}_{i \in \Lambda}$. It is easy to check that from the coordinate charts in our definition, one can always enlarge it to a unique maximal one satisfying the compatibility condition.

Example

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2. Let $\{\mathbf{e}_1, \dots, \mathbf{e}_{2n}\}$ be any fixed \mathbb{R} -basis of \mathbb{C}^n , and let $\Lambda := \{m_1 \mathbf{e}_1 + \dots + m_{2n} \mathbf{e}_{2n} \mid m_i \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ be a lattice of rank $2n$. Then we can define the quotient space \mathbb{C}^n/Λ , it is a compact Hausdorff space equipped with quotient topology. There is a natural complex manifold structure on \mathbb{C}^n/Λ , we call this complex manifold a “complex torus”.

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3. Let $P \in \mathbb{C}[z, w]$ be a polynomial of degree d . Define

$$\mathcal{C} := \{(z, w) \mid P(z, w) = 0\}.$$

We call it an “affine plane algebraic curve”. Assume P is irreducible and $\frac{\partial P}{\partial z}, \frac{\partial P}{\partial w}$ have no common zeroes on \mathcal{C} . Then \mathcal{C} is a natural complex manifold.

More about example 3

The coordinates can be chosen in the following way: if $\frac{\partial P}{\partial \mathbf{w}}(\mathbf{z}_0, \mathbf{w}_0) \neq \mathbf{0}$, then we can apply the (holomorphic version of) implicit function theorem to find a neighborhood $\Delta(\mathbf{z}_0, \epsilon) \times \Delta(\mathbf{w}_0, \delta)$ and a holomorphic function $\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{z})$ such that $U := \mathcal{C} \cap (\Delta(\mathbf{z}_0, \epsilon) \times \Delta(\mathbf{w}_0, \delta)) = \{(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{w}) \mid \mathbf{z} \in \Delta(\mathbf{z}_0, \epsilon), \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{z})\}$. We choose $\varphi : U \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ to be $\varphi(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{w}) = \mathbf{z}$. If $\frac{\partial P}{\partial \mathbf{z}}(\mathbf{z}_0, \mathbf{w}_0) \neq \mathbf{0}$, we use \mathbf{w} as local coordinate. Exercise: what's the coordinates transformation function?

Complex (analytic) submanifolds

Definition

A closed subset Y of a n -dimensional complex manifold X is called a (closed) “complex (analytic) submanifold” of dimension k , if for any $p \in Y$, we can find a compatible chart (U, φ) of X such that $p \in U$ and

$$\varphi(U \cap Y) = \{(z_1, \dots, z_n) \in \varphi(U) \mid z_{k+1} = \dots = z_n = 0\}.$$

One can check that the restriction of such charts (we call them “adapted charts”) to Y makes Y a complex manifold and the inclusion $Y \subset X$ is a holomorphic map.

Complex submanifolds of \mathbb{C}^n

A direct application of the maximum principle gives:

Lemma

Any holomorphic function on a compact connected complex manifold should be a constant.

Let M be a complex submanifolds of \mathbb{C}^n . Since the restriction of complex coordinate functions of \mathbb{C}^n to M are holomorphic functions on M , we get:

Corollary

There are no compact complex submanifolds of \mathbb{C}^n of positive dimension.

Remark

Those non-compact complex manifolds which admit proper holomorphic embeddings into \mathbb{C}^N for some large N are precisely “Stein manifolds” in complex analysis.

The complex projective space

Example

Define an equivalence relation on $\mathbb{C}^{n+1} \setminus \{0\}$: $(z_0, \dots, z_n) \sim (w_0, \dots, w_n)$ iff $\exists \lambda \in \mathbb{C}^*$ such that $w_i = \lambda z_i, \forall i = 0, \dots, n$. The equivalent class of (z_0, \dots, z_n) is denoted by $[z_0, \dots, z_n]$. The n -dimensional complex projective space $\mathbb{C}P^n$ is defined to be the space of all equivalent classes, endowed with quotient topology. It is compact, Hausdorff. Choose holomorphic coordinate charts as follows: Define $U_i := \{[z_0, \dots, z_n] \in \mathbb{C}P^n \mid z_i \neq 0\}, \quad i = 0, \dots, n$. and define

$$\varphi_i : U_i \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^n, \quad \varphi_i([z_0, \dots, z_n]) := \left(\frac{z_0}{z_i}, \dots, \frac{\hat{z}_i}{z_i}, \dots, \frac{z_n}{z_i} \right).$$

The checking of compatibility is left as an exercise. Also it is easy to check that $\mathbb{C}P^1$ is diffeomorphic to our familiar S^2 .

Projective algebraic manifolds

Let $F_1, \dots, F_k \in \mathbb{C}[z_0, \dots, z_n]$ be a set of irreducible homogeneous polynomials of degrees d_1, \dots, d_k respectively. Then the set

$$V(F_1, \dots, F_k) := \{[z_0, \dots, z_n] \mid F_1(z_0, \dots, z_n) = \dots = F_k(z_0, \dots, z_n) = 0\}$$

is well-defined and is called a (complex) projective algebraic variety. If we assume that $V(F_1, \dots, F_k)$ is a complex submanifold of $\mathbb{C}P^n$, then it will be called a “projective algebraic manifold” (or “Hodge manifold”).

Example

Let $F \in \mathbb{C}[z_0, \dots, z_n]$ be irreducible and homogeneous of degree d . If the only common zero of $\frac{\partial F}{\partial z_0}, \dots, \frac{\partial F}{\partial z_n}$ in \mathbb{C}^{n+1} is $(0, \dots, 0)$. Then $V(F)$ is a complex submanifold of dimension $n - 1$. E.g., the “Fermat hypersurface” $V(z_0^d + \dots + z_n^d)$.

Proof

We check this on U_0 . $V(F) \cap U_0$ is the zero locus of $F(1, z_1, \dots, z_n) \in \mathcal{O}(U_0)$. Need to show that $\frac{\partial F}{\partial z_1}(1, z_1, \dots, z_n), \dots, \frac{\partial F}{\partial z_n}(1, z_1, \dots, z_n)$ have no common zeroes on $V(F) \cap U_0$.

Suppose $F(1, z_1^0, \dots, z_n^0) = \frac{\partial F}{\partial z_1}(1, z_1^0, \dots, z_n^0) = \dots = \frac{\partial F}{\partial z_n}(1, z_1^0, \dots, z_n^0) = 0$. By Euler:

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial z_0}(1, z_1^0, \dots, z_n^0) + z_1^0 \frac{\partial F}{\partial z_1}(1, z_1^0, \dots, z_n^0) + \dots + z_n^0 \frac{\partial F}{\partial z_n}(1, z_1^0, \dots, z_n^0) = dF = 0.$$

This implies $\frac{\partial F}{\partial z_0}(1, z_1^0, \dots, z_n^0) = 0$, so $(1, z_1^0, \dots, z_n^0)$ is a common zero of $\frac{\partial F}{\partial z_0}, \dots, \frac{\partial F}{\partial z_n}$ in \mathbb{C}^{n+1} different from $(0, \dots, 0)$.

Analytic subvarieties

A generalization of submanifold is the following:

Definition

A closed subset \mathbf{A} of a complex manifold \mathbf{X} is called an “analytic subvariety”, if it is locally the common zeroes of finitely many holomorphic functions, i.e. $\forall p \in \mathbf{A}$, there is an open set $U \subset \mathbf{X}$ and $f_1, \dots, f_k \in \mathcal{O}(U)$ such that

$$\mathbf{A} \cap U = \{z \in U \mid f_1(z) = \dots = f_k(z) = 0\}.$$

An analytic subvariety \mathbf{A} is called a “hypersurface” if it is locally the zero locus of a holomorphic function.

Relations between submanifolds and subvarieties

- A complex submanifold is an analytic subvariety, we just choose U to be the domain of the adapted chart and f_j to be z_{k+1}, \dots, z_n .

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 $A \cap U = \{z \in U \mid f_1(z) = \dots = f_k(z) = 0\}$ and $\text{rank} \frac{\partial(f_1, \dots, f_k)}{\partial(z_1, \dots, z_n)}(p) = k$. In this case, A is locally near p a complex submanifold of dimension $n - k$.

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- The locus of regular points of A is denoted by A_{reg} . Its complement in A is called the “singular locus”, and its elements are called “singular points of A ”.
- Chow’s theorem: complex analytic subvarieties of $\mathbb{C}P^n$ are algebraic, i.e., the common zeroes of finitely many homogeneous polynomials.

Existence of complex structures on a given C^∞ manifold

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- In this view, we give an example of complex structures on product of odd dimensional spheres:

Example (Calabi-Eckmann manifolds)

We can make $\mathbf{S}^{2p+1} \times \mathbf{S}^{2q+1}$ into a complex manifold. The idea is that we can write

$$\mathbf{S}^{2p+1} = \{z \in \mathbb{C}^{p+1} \mid \sum_{i=0}^p |z_i|^2 = 1\}, \quad \mathbf{S}^{2q+1} = \{z \in \mathbb{C}^{q+1} \mid \sum_{j=0}^q |z_j|^2 = 1\},$$

and we have the Hopf fibration maps:

$$\pi_p : \mathbf{S}^{2p+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}P^p, \quad \pi_q : \mathbf{S}^{2q+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}P^q,$$

each with fiber \mathbf{S}^1 . So if we consider the map

$\pi = (\pi_p, \pi_q) : \mathbf{S}^{2p+1} \times \mathbf{S}^{2q+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}P^p \times \mathbb{C}P^q$, then we can view $\mathbf{S}^{2p+1} \times \mathbf{S}^{2q+1}$ as a fiber bundle on $\mathbb{C}P^p \times \mathbb{C}P^q$, which is a complex manifold, with fiber $\mathbf{S}^1 \times \mathbf{S}^1 = T^2$, which can also be made a complex manifold.

Example (Calabi-Eckmann manifolds (continued))

To be precise, fix a $\tau \in \mathbb{C}$ with $\text{Im}\tau > 0$. We denote by T_τ the complex torus $\mathbb{C}/\langle 1, \tau \rangle$. Consider the open sets:

$$U_{kj} := \{(z, z') \in \mathbb{S}^{2p+1} \times \mathbb{S}^{2q+1} \mid z_k z'_j \neq 0\},$$

and the map $h_{kj} : U_{kj} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^{p+q} \times T_\tau$ given by

$$h_{kj}(z, z') = \left(\frac{z_0}{z_k}, \dots, \frac{\hat{z}_k}{z_k}, \dots, \frac{z_p}{z_k}, \frac{z'_0}{z'_j}, \dots, \frac{\hat{z}'_j}{z'_j}, \dots, \frac{z'_q}{z'_j}, t_{kj} \right),$$

where $t_{kj} := \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{-1}}(\log z_k + \tau \log z'_j) \pmod{\langle 1, \tau \rangle}$.

Exercise: check that these charts makes $\mathbb{S}^{2p+1} \times \mathbb{S}^{2q+1}$ a complex manifold.

§1.2 Vector bundles

Holomorphic vector bundle

Roughly speaking, a holomorphic vector bundle over a complex manifold is a family of vector spaces, varying holomorphically.

Definition

A holomorphic vector bundle of rank r over a n -dimensional complex manifold X is a complex manifold E of dimension $n + r$, together with a holomorphic surjective map $\pi : E \rightarrow X$ satisfying:

1. (Fiberwise linear) Each fiber $E_p := \pi^{-1}(p)$ has the structure of r -dimensional vector space over \mathbb{C} ;

A vector bundle of rank 1 is usually called a “line bundle”.

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1. (Fiberwise linear) Each fiber $E_p := \pi^{-1}(p)$ has the structure of r -dimensional vector space over \mathbb{C} ;
2. (Locally trivial) There is an open cover of X , $\mathcal{U} = \{U_i\}_{i \in \Lambda}$ such that each $\pi^{-1}(U_i)$ is biholomorphic to $U_i \times \mathbb{C}^r$ via $\varphi_i : \pi^{-1}(U_i) \rightarrow U_i \times \mathbb{C}^r$, and $E_p \hookrightarrow \pi^{-1}(U_i) \rightarrow U_i \times \mathbb{C}^r$ is a linear isomorphism onto $\{p\} \times \mathbb{C}^r$ for any $p \in U_i$. φ_i is called a “local trivialization”.

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Cocycles of a vector bundle

In this case, whenever $U_i \cap U_j \neq \emptyset$, we have a holomorphic map, called the “transition map”, $\psi_{ij} : U_i \cap U_j \rightarrow GL(r, \mathbb{C})$ (viewed as an open subset of \mathbb{C}^{r^2}) such that $\varphi_i \circ \varphi_j^{-1}(z, v) = (z, \psi_{ij}(z)v)$. These families of transition maps satisfies the “cocycle condition”:

- (1) $\psi_{ij}\psi_{ji} = I_r$ on $U_i \cap U_j$;
- (2) Whenever $U_i \cap U_j \cap U_k \neq \emptyset$, we have $\psi_{ij}\psi_{jk}\psi_{ki} = I_r$ on $U_i \cap U_j \cap U_k$.

The name “cocycle” is no coincidence. In fact we will see later that $\{\psi_{ij}\}$ above is indeed a cocycle in Čech’s approach to sheaf cohomology theory.

From cocycles to vector bundles

Remark

On the other hand, if we are given a set of holomorphic transition maps $\psi_{ij} : U_i \cap U_j \rightarrow GL(r, \mathbb{C})$ satisfying the cocycle condition, we can construct a holomorphic vector bundle by setting $E = \coprod_{i \in \Lambda} (U_i \times \mathbb{C}^r) / \sim$, where $(z, v) \sim (z', w)$ for $(z, v) \in U_i \times \mathbb{C}^r$ and $(z', w) \in U_j \times \mathbb{C}^r$ if and only if $z = z'$ and $v = \psi_{ij}(z)w$. We leave the detail as an exercise.

C^∞ and continuous vector bundles

Remark

We can similarly define C^∞ (real or complex) vector bundles over a smooth manifold, and more generally continuous vector bundles over a topological space. There are similar characterizations using C^∞ or continuous cocycles.

We leave all these details as exercises.

Holomorphic sections of a vector bundle

Definition (holomorphic section)

Let $\pi : E \rightarrow X$ be a holomorphic vector bundle over X . Let $U \subset X$ be an open set. A holomorphic section of E over U is a holomorphic map $s : U \rightarrow E$ such that $\pi \circ s = id_U$, i.e., $s(p) \in E_p$ for any $p \in U$. The set of holomorphic sections over U is usually denoted by $\Gamma(U, \mathcal{O}(E))$ or $\mathcal{O}(E)(U)$.

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- A fundamental problem in the theory of holomorphic vector bundles: existence and construction of global holomorphic sections of a given bundle.
- Main difficulty: no “holomorphic partition of unity”.
- An important tool is the L^2 -method for the $\bar{\partial}$ -equation. It is interesting that whether or not we can solve the equation depends on the geometry, in particular, the curvature of the bundle.

Classification of vector bundles

Definition (bundle map)

Let $\pi^E : E \rightarrow X$ and $\pi^F : F \rightarrow X$ be holomorphic vector bundles of ranks r and s respectively. A bundle map from E to F is a holomorphic map $f : E \rightarrow F$ such that f maps E_ρ to F_ρ for any $\rho \in X$ and $f|_{E_\rho} : E_\rho \rightarrow F_\rho$ is linear. When a bundle map has an inverse bundle map, we will say that these two bundles are isomorphic.

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- Another fundamental problem is the classification problem.
- One important tool is the theory of characteristic classes that we shall discuss later.
- Also the set of isomorphic classes of holomorphic vector bundles over a given complex manifold has rich structures and is an important invariant for the complex manifold.

Examples of holomorphic vector bundles

Example (trivial bundle)

$X \times \mathbb{C}^r$ with $\pi_1 : X \times \mathbb{C}^r \rightarrow X$ is a holomorphic vector bundle over X , called the “trivial bundle” over X , denoted by $\underline{\mathbb{C}}^r$.

Example (holomorphic tangent bundle)

Let X be a complex manifold of dimension n . We shall now construct its “holomorphic tangent bundle” TX as follows:

Let $p \in X$, we first define the ring $\mathcal{O}_{X,p} := \varinjlim \mathcal{O}_X(U)$, where the direct limit is taken with respect to open sets $p \in U$. For persons not familiar with direct limit, this is $\coprod_{U \ni p} \mathcal{O}_X(U) / \sim$, with $f \in \mathcal{O}_X(U)$ equivalent to $g \in \mathcal{O}_X(V)$ iff we can find another open set $p \in W \subset U \cap V$ such that $f|_W = g|_W$. As an exercise, we can see that $\mathcal{O}_{X,p}$ is isomorphic to the ring of convergent power series $\mathbb{C}\{z_1, \dots, z_n\}$. An element of $\mathcal{O}_{X,p}$ is called a “germ of holomorphic function” at p .

Example (holomorphic tangent bundle (continued))

A tangent vector at \boldsymbol{p} is a derivation $\boldsymbol{v} : \mathcal{O}_{X,\boldsymbol{p}} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$, i.e., a \mathbb{C} -linear map satisfying the Leibniz rule $\boldsymbol{v}(fg) = \boldsymbol{v}(f)g(\boldsymbol{p}) + f(\boldsymbol{p})\boldsymbol{v}(g)$. The set of tangent vectors at \boldsymbol{p} is easily seen to be a \mathbb{C} -vector space. We call it the (holomorphic) tangent space of X at \boldsymbol{p} , denoted by $T_{\boldsymbol{p}}X$. If $\varphi : U_i \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^n$ is a holomorphic coordinate chart with $\varphi_i = (z_1, \dots, z_n)$. Then we can define $\frac{\partial}{\partial z_i}|_{\boldsymbol{p}} \in T_{\boldsymbol{p}}X$ to be $\frac{\partial}{\partial z_i}|_{\boldsymbol{p}}(f) := \frac{\partial(f \circ \varphi_i^{-1})}{\partial z_i}(\varphi_i(\boldsymbol{p}))$. Then one can show that $\{\frac{\partial}{\partial z_i}|_{\boldsymbol{p}}\}_{i=1}^n$ is a basis of $T_{\boldsymbol{p}}X$. Let $TX := \coprod_{\boldsymbol{p} \in X} T_{\boldsymbol{p}}X$, and define $\pi : TX \rightarrow X$ in the obvious way. We can make it a holomorphic vector bundle of rank n over X as follows: Let (U_i, φ_i) be a holomorphic chart. Then we can define the local trivialization $\tilde{\varphi}_i : \pi^{-1}(U_i) \rightarrow U_i \times \mathbb{C}^n$ to be $\tilde{\varphi}_i(\boldsymbol{q}, \sum_i \boldsymbol{a}_i \frac{\partial}{\partial z_i}|_{\boldsymbol{q}}) := (\boldsymbol{q}, \boldsymbol{a}_1, \dots, \boldsymbol{a}_n)$. This gives a complex structure on TX and at the same time gives a local trivialization of TX over U_i .

A holomorphic section of TX over U is called a “holomorphic vector field” on U .

To stress that TX is a holomorphic vector bundle, we shall write T^hX sometimes.

Example (holomorphic cotangent bundle)

Any $f \in \mathcal{O}_{X,p}$ defines a linear functional on $T_p X$ by $v \mapsto v(f)$. We call this $df|_p \in (T_p X)^* =: T_p^* X$. $T_p^* X$ is called the (holomorphic) cotangent space of X at p . It is easy to see that if (U_i, φ_i) is a holomorphic chart, then $\{dz_i|_p\}_{i=1}^n$ is the basis of $T_p^* X$ dual to $\{\frac{\partial}{\partial z_i}|_p\}_{i=1}^n$.

We can similarly give $T^* X := \coprod_{p \in X} T_p^* X$ a holomorphic bundle structure, called the “(holomorphic) cotangent bundle” of X . We leave this as an exercise.

A holomorphic section of $T^* X$ over U is called a “holomorphic 1-form” on U .

Line bundles

Let $\pi : L \rightarrow X$ be a holomorphic line bundle and $\{U_i\}_{i \in \Lambda}$ an open cover by trivialization neighborhoods, and $\varphi_i : \pi^{-1}(U_i) \rightarrow U_i \times \mathbb{C}$ the trivialization map. Since $GL(1, \mathbb{C}) = \mathbb{C}^*$, now the transition maps ψ_{ij} become non-vanishing holomorphic functions on $U_i \cap U_j$. Let $\mathbf{s} \in \Gamma(X, \mathcal{O}(L))$, then $\varphi_i \circ \mathbf{s}|_{U_i} : U_i \rightarrow U_i \times \mathbb{C}$ could be represented by a holomorphic function $f_i \in \mathcal{O}(U_i)$, such that $\varphi_i \circ \mathbf{s}|_{U_i}(p) = (p, f_i(p))$. When $U_i \cap U_j \neq \emptyset$, since $\mathbf{s}|_{U_i} = \mathbf{s}|_{U_j}$ on $U_i \cap U_j$, we have for any $p \in U_i \cap U_j$:

$$\begin{aligned}(p, f_i(p)) &= \varphi_i(\mathbf{s}(p)) \\ &= (\varphi_i \circ \varphi_j^{-1}) \circ \varphi_j(\mathbf{s}(p)) \\ &= (\varphi_i \circ \varphi_j^{-1})(p, f_j(p)) \\ &= (p, \psi_{ij}(p)f_j(p)).\end{aligned}$$

So we have $f_i = \psi_{ij}f_j$ on $U_i \cap U_j$. On the other hand, it is direct to check that given a family of holomorphic functions $f_i \in \mathcal{O}(U_i)$, satisfying $f_i = \psi_{ij}f_j$ on $U_i \cap U_j$, then there corresponds a unique $\mathbf{s} \in \Gamma(X, \mathcal{O}(L))$.

Example (Universal line bundle (or “tautological bundle”) over $\mathbb{C}P^n$)

- We define a holomorphic line bundle $U \rightarrow \mathbb{C}P^n$ as follows: As a set,
$$U = \{([z], v) \in \mathbb{C}P^n \times \mathbb{C}^{n+1} \mid v \in [z]\} = \{([z], v) \in \mathbb{C}P^n \times \mathbb{C}^{n+1} \mid v_i z_j - v_j z_i = 0, \forall i, j = 0, \dots, n\}.$$

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- Easy to see that U is a complex submanifold of $\mathbb{C}P^n \times \mathbb{C}^{n+1}$. The projection onto $\mathbb{C}P^n$ is clearly holomorphic, with fiber the 1-dimensional linear subspace of \mathbb{C}^{n+1} generated by (z_0, \dots, z_n) .

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- For local triviality, we use the holomorphic charts $\{(U_i, \varphi_i)\}_{i=0}^n$ defined before. On $\pi^{-1}(U_i)$, each $v \in U_{[z]}$ can be uniquely write as $t \cdot (\frac{z_0}{z_i}, \dots, 1, \dots, \frac{z_n}{z_i})$, so we define $\tilde{\varphi}_i([z_0, \dots, z_n], t \cdot (\frac{z_0}{z_i}, \dots, 1, \dots, \frac{z_n}{z_i})) = ([z_0, \dots, z_n], t) \in U_i \times \mathbb{C}$. This is easily seen to be a biholomorphic map. And the transition functions are: $\psi_{ij}([z]) = \frac{z_i}{z_j}$. What are the global holomorphic sections of U ? (exercise)

Construct new bundles from old ones

The usual constructions in linear algebra all have counterparts in the category of vector bundles over X . Let E, F be vector bundles over X of rank r and s respectively.

- Direct sum

The direct sum of E and F is a vector bundle of rank $r + s$ with fiber $E_p \oplus F_p$. To describe it, it suffices to write down the transition maps: if $\{U_i\}_{i \in \Lambda}$ is a common trivializing covering of X for E and F . The transition maps are ψ_{ij} and η_{ij} respectively, then the transition maps for $E \oplus F$ are precisely $\mathit{diag}(\psi_{ij}, \eta_{ij})$.

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- Tensor product

The tensor product of E and F is a vector bundle of rank rs with fiber $E_p \otimes F_p$. In this short course, we only use the tensor product of a line bundle L with a general vector bundle E . In this case, if the transition maps for E and L with respect to a common trivializing covering are ψ_{ij} and η_{ij} , then the transition maps of $E \otimes L$ are $\eta_{ij}\psi_{ij}$.

- $\underline{Hom}(E, F)$ is a vector bundle of rank rs with fiber $Hom(E_\rho, F_\rho)$, the space of linear maps from E_ρ to F_ρ . In particular, we define the dual of E to be $E^* := \underline{Hom}(E, \underline{\mathbb{C}})$, whose fiber over ρ is exactly the dual space of E_ρ , $(E_\rho)^*$. When $L \rightarrow X$ is a holomorphic line bundle, we can easily describe L^* in terms of transition functions: if the transition functions of L are ψ_{ij} , then the transition functions of L^* are ψ_{ij}^{-1} . For this reason, we usually also write L^{-1} for L^* . Exercise: (1), What's the transition function of E^* in general? (2), Prove that $E^* \otimes F \cong \underline{Hom}(E, F)$.

- Hom(E, F) is a vector bundle of rank rs with fiber $\text{Hom}(E_\rho, F_\rho)$, the space of linear maps from E_ρ to F_ρ . In particular, we define the dual of E to be $E^* := \text{Hom}(E, \mathbb{C})$, whose fiber over ρ is exactly the dual space of E_ρ , $(E_\rho)^*$. When $L \rightarrow X$ is a holomorphic line bundle, we can easily describe L^* in terms of transition functions: if the transition functions of L are ψ_{ij} , then the transition functions of L^* are ψ_{ij}^{-1} . For this reason, we usually also write L^{-1} for L^* . Exercise: (1), What's the transition function of E^* in general? (2), Prove that $E^* \otimes F \cong \text{Hom}(E, F)$.
- Wedge product For $k \in \mathbb{N}$ and $k \leq r$, the degree k wedge product of E is a vector bundle $\Lambda^k E$ with fiber $\Lambda^k E_\rho$ at ρ . The highest degree wedge product $\Lambda^r E$ is also called the “determinant line bundle” of E , since its transition functions are precisely $\det \psi_{ij}$. $\Omega^p(X) := \Lambda^p T^*X$ is the bundle of holomorphic p -forms. The determinant line bundle of the holomorphic cotangent bundle T^*X of a complex manifold X is called the “canonical line bundle” of X , denoted by K_X .

- Pull back via holomorphic map Let $E \rightarrow X$ be a holomorphic vector bundle of rank r , $f : Y \rightarrow X$ be a holomorphic map between complex manifolds, then we can define a “pull back” holomorphic vector f^*E over Y . As a set, we define $f^*E := \{(y, (x, v)) \in Y \times E \mid x = f(y)\}$, and $p : f^*E \rightarrow Y$ is just the projection to its first component.

We can also describe f^*E via transition maps: if $\{U_i\}_{i \in \Lambda}$ is a trivializing covering of X for E with transition maps $\psi_{ij} : U_i \cap U_j \rightarrow GL(r, \mathbb{C})$, and we choose an open covering $\{V_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$ such that $f(V_\alpha) \subset U_i$ for some $i \in \Lambda$. We fix a map $\tau : I \rightarrow \Lambda$ such that $f(V_\alpha) \subset U_{\tau(\alpha)}$. Then the transition maps for f^*E with respect to $\{V_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$ are just $f^*\psi_{\tau(\alpha)\tau(\beta)} = \psi_{\tau(\alpha)\tau(\beta)} \circ f : V_\alpha \cap V_\beta \rightarrow GL(r, \mathbb{C})$.

Example (The hyperplane bundle)

Let $U \rightarrow \mathbb{C}P^n$ be the universal bundle, its dual is usually denoted by H , we call it the “hyperplane line bundle”. (Reason for this name will be explained later.) Another common notation for H is $\mathcal{O}(1)$. We also write the H^k , or $\mathcal{O}(k)$, short for the k -times tensor product of H , $H^k := H^{\otimes k} = H \otimes \cdots \otimes H$, and $\mathcal{O}(-k) := H^{-k} := U^{\otimes k}$.

We now study the holomorphic sections of H^k for $k > 0$. Let $s \in \Gamma(\mathbb{C}P^n, \mathcal{O}(H^k))$, s can be represented by $f_\alpha \in \mathcal{O}(U_\alpha)$, where $U_\alpha = \{[z] \in \mathbb{C}P^n \mid z_\alpha \neq 0\}$. These f_α 's satisfy: $f_\alpha([z]) = \left(\frac{z_\beta}{z_\alpha}\right)^k f_\beta([z])$ on $U_\alpha \cap U_\beta$. Pulling back to $\mathbb{C}^{n+1} \setminus \{0\}$, we can view $z_\alpha^k f_\alpha([z])$ as a homogeneous function of degree k on $\mathbb{C}^{n+1} \setminus \{z_\alpha = 0\}$, which is also holomorphic. Now the above compatibility condition means that these $z_\alpha^k f_\alpha([z])$'s could be “glued” together to form a holomorphic function F on $\mathbb{C}^{n+1} \setminus \{0\}$, homogeneous of degree k .

Example (The hyperplane bundle (continued))

By Hartogs extension theorem, it extends to a holomorphic function $F \in \mathcal{O}(\mathbb{C}^{n+1})$. We necessarily have $F(\mathbf{0}) = \mathbf{0}$ by homogeneity and continuity. From this we easily conclude that F is a homogeneous polynomial of degree k .

On the other hand, it is easy to see that any homogeneous polynomial of degree k in $\mathbb{C}[z_0, \dots, z_n]$ determines uniquely a holomorphic section of H^k . So we have

$$\dim_{\mathbb{C}} \Gamma(\mathbb{C}P^n, \mathcal{O}(H^k)) = \binom{n+k}{n}.$$

Exercise: Prove that when $k < 0$, $\Gamma(\mathbb{C}P^n, \mathcal{O}(H^k)) = \{0\}$.

The Picard group

Definition

The isomorphic classes of holomorphic line bundles over X is called the “Picard group” of X , denoted by $Pic(X)$.

$Pic(X)$ is indeed a group: we define $[L_1] \cdot [L_2] := [L_1 \otimes L_2]$, then $\underline{\mathbb{C}}$ is the identity element and $[L]^{-1}$ is just $[L^*]$.

For $\mathbb{C}P^n$, we have $Pic(\mathbb{C}P^n) \cong \mathbb{Z}$, and any holomorphic line bundle is isomorphic to $\mathcal{O}(k)$ for some $k \in \mathbb{Z}$. We shall prove this next week.

§1.3 Almost complex structure and $\bar{\partial}$ -operator

From real tangent bundle to holomorphic tangent bundle

Recall: a n -dimensional complex manifold X is also a $2n$ -dimensional orientable differential manifold. For $p \in X$, we can define a real tangent vector at p and the corresponding real tangent space at p , $T_p^{\mathbb{R}}X$. In terms of coordinate chart $\varphi = (z_1, \dots, z_n)$, we have

$$T_p^{\mathbb{R}}X = \text{Span}_{\mathbb{R}} \left\{ \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \Big|_p, \frac{\partial}{\partial y_i} \Big|_p \right\}_{i=1}^n.$$

We can give $\coprod_{p \in X} T_p^{\mathbb{R}}X$ a structure of \mathbb{R} -vector bundle of rank $2n$, called the “real tangent bundle” of X , and denoted by $T^{\mathbb{R}}X$. Similarly, we can define the real cotangent bundle $T^{*\mathbb{R}}X$.

There are two equivalent ways to get from this real tangent bundle to our previous holomorphic tangent and cotangent bundles.—Cause of most of the troubles for beginners !

The “intrinsic” way

Recall that any real vector space V of dimension $2n$ can be regarded as \mathbb{C} -vector space of dimension n once we know what does it mean to multiply $\sqrt{-1}$ to an element of V . This is equivalent to giving a \mathbb{R} -linear map $J : V \rightarrow V$ such that $J^2 := J \circ J = -id$. We call such a J a “complex structure” on V . In this case, V can be regarded as a \mathbb{C} -vector space by defining $(\alpha + \sqrt{-1}\beta)v := \alpha v + \beta Jv$, $\forall \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}, \forall v \in V$.

Definition

Let M be a real orientable differential manifold of dimension $2n$. An almost complex structure on M is a bundle map $J : TM \rightarrow TM$ satisfying $J^2 = -id$.

A complex manifold X has a natural almost complex structure: just define $J \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} = \frac{\partial}{\partial y_i}$, $J \frac{\partial}{\partial y_i} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}$. Then $(T_{\rho}^{\mathbb{R}} X, J_{\rho})$ can be viewed as a \mathbb{C} -vector space, isomorphic to the holomorphic tangent space $T_{\rho}^h X$, identifying $\frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}$ with $\frac{\partial}{\partial z_i}$.

Examples

If an almost complex structure is induced from a complex structure as above, we will call it “integrable”.

Example

For S^2 , we can define $J : TS^2 \rightarrow TS^2$ as follows: we identify $T_x S^2$ with the subspace of \mathbb{R}^3 :

$$T_x S^2 \cong \{y \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid x \cdot y = 0\}.$$

Then we define $J_x : T_x S^2 \rightarrow T_x S^2$ by

$$J_x(y) := x \times y.$$

One can check that this is an integrable almost complex structure, induced by the complex structure of $S^2 \cong \mathbb{C}P^1$.

An almost complex structure on S^6

Example

For S^6 , we have a similar almost complex structure given by “wedge product” in \mathbb{R}^7 . Note that the wedge product in \mathbb{R}^3 can be defined as the product of purely imaginary quaternions. To define this wedge product in \mathbb{R}^7 , we shall use Cayley’s octonions.

We write $\mathbb{H} \cong \mathbb{R}^4$ the space of quaternions $q = a + bi + cj + dk$ with $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{R}$, satisfying $i^2 = j^2 = k^2 = -1$ and $ij = -ji = k$, $jk = -kj = i$, and $ki = -ik = j$.

Then this multiplication is still associative but not commutative. For $q \in \mathbb{H}$, we define $\bar{q} := a - bi - cj - dk$, then $|q|^2 = q\bar{q}$.

Now we define the space of octonians, $\mathbb{O} \cong \mathbb{R}^8$, as $\mathbb{O} := \{x = (q_1, q_2) \mid q_1, q_2 \in \mathbb{H}\}$. The multiplication is defined by

$$(q_1, q_2)(q'_1, q'_2) := (q_1 q'_1 - \bar{q}'_2 q_2, q'_2 q_1 + q_2 \bar{q}'_1).$$

Example (\mathcal{S}^6 continued)

We also define $\bar{x} := (\bar{q}_1, -q_2)$. Then we still have $x\bar{x} = x \cdot x = |x|^2$, here the \cdot means the usual inner product in \mathbb{R}^8 . Note that this multiplication is even not associative.

We identify \mathbb{R}^7 as the space of purely imaginary octonians. If $x, x' \in \mathbb{R}^7$, we define $x \times x'$ as the imaginary part of xx' . Then one can check that $xx = -|x|^2$, $x \times x' = -x' \times x$, and $(x \times x') \cdot x'' = x \cdot (x' \times x'')$.

From this, one can define an almost complex structure on $\mathcal{S}^6 \subset \mathbb{R}^7$ in a similar way as \mathcal{S}^2 : identify $T_x\mathcal{S}^6$ with $\{y \in \mathbb{R}^7 \mid x \cdot y = 0\}$, then define

$$J_x(y) := x \times y.$$

One can prove that this almost complex structure is not integrable. (Ref: [Calabi: Construction and properties of some 6-dimensional almost complex manifolds](#))

A famous open problem

Remark

For \mathbf{S}^{2n} , it is known (Borel-Serre, Ehresmann, Wu) that there are no almost complex structures unless $n = 1, 3$. (Ref.: P. May's Concise course in algebraic topology). It is generally believed that there are no integrable almost complex structures on \mathbf{S}^6 , however S.T. Yau has a different conjecture saying that one can make \mathbf{S}^6 into a complex manifold. This is still open.

Interested readers can visit the journal [Differential Geometry and its Applications Vol. 57, 2018](#) for a set of survey papers on this problem.

The “extrinsic” way

The second approach also uses \mathcal{J} . Let again V be a real vector space with complex structure \mathcal{J} . But now we simply complexify V to get $V_{\mathbb{C}} := V \otimes_{\mathbb{R}} \mathbb{C}$. We also extend \mathcal{J} \mathbb{C} -linearly to $V_{\mathbb{C}}$, again $\mathcal{J}^2 = -id$. There is a direct sum decomposition of $V_{\mathbb{C}} = V^{1,0} \oplus V^{0,1}$, which are $\sqrt{-1}$ and $-\sqrt{-1}$ eigenspaces of \mathcal{J} respectively. In fact we have a very precise description of $V^{1,0}$ and $V^{0,1}$:

$$V^{1,0} = \{v - \sqrt{-1}\mathcal{J}v \mid v \in V\}, \quad V^{0,1} = \{v + \sqrt{-1}\mathcal{J}v \mid v \in V\}.$$

It is direct to check that they are both \mathbb{C} -linear subspaces of $V_{\mathbb{C}}$ and $V^{0,1} = \overline{V^{1,0}}$.

Now apply this to $(T^{\mathbb{R}}X, \mathcal{J})$ for a manifold with an almost complex structure: define the complexified tangent bundle to be $T^{\mathbb{C}}X := T^{\mathbb{R}}X \otimes_{\mathbb{R}} \mathbb{C}$ and we have the decomposition $T^{\mathbb{C}}X = T^{1,0}X \oplus T^{0,1}X$, which are the $\sqrt{-1}$ and $-\sqrt{-1}$ eigenspaces of \mathcal{J} , respectively. When \mathcal{J} is integrable, $T^{1,0}X$ is locally generated by $\{\frac{\partial}{\partial z_i}\}_{i=1}^n$, so we can again identify it with T^hX .

Complex differential forms

We define $T^{*1,0}X$ to be the subspace of $T^{*\mathbb{C}}X := T^{*\mathbb{R}}X \otimes_{\mathbb{R}} \mathbb{C}$ that annihilates $T^{0,1}X$. And similarly define $T^{*0,1}X$. Then

$$T^{*\mathbb{C}}X = T^{*1,0}X \oplus T^{*0,1}X.$$

(When J is integrable, $T^{*1,0}X$ is locally generated by $\{dz_i\}_{1 \leq i \leq n}$ and $T^{*0,1}X$ is generated by $\{d\bar{z}_i\}_{1 \leq i \leq n}$.) We define $\Lambda^{p,q}T^*X$, the C^∞ bundle of (p, q) -forms to be the sub-bundle of $\Lambda^{p+q}T^{*\mathbb{C}}X$, generated by $\Lambda^p T^{*1,0}X$ and $\Lambda^q T^{*0,1}X$. Then we have

$$\Lambda^k T^{*\mathbb{C}}X = \bigoplus_{p=0}^k \Lambda^{p, k-p} T^*X,$$

and we denote the projection map of $\Lambda^{p+q}T^{*\mathbb{C}}X$ onto $\Lambda^{p,q}T^*X$ by $\Pi_{p,q}$. The set of smooth sections of $\Lambda^{p,q}T^*X$ (or $\Lambda^k T^{*\mathbb{C}}X$) over an open set U is denoted by $A^{p,q}(U)$ (or $A^k(U)$).

The operators ∂ and $\bar{\partial}$

The exterior differential operator d extends \mathbb{C} -linearly to $d : A^k(U) \rightarrow A^{k+1}(U)$. We define the operators

$$\partial := \Pi_{p+1,q} \circ d : A^{p,q}(U) \rightarrow A^{p+1,q}(U),$$

and

$$\bar{\partial} := \Pi_{p,q+1} \circ d : A^{p,q}(U) \rightarrow A^{p,q+1}(U).$$

Integrable case

When J is integrable, a smooth section of $\Lambda^{p,q}T^*X$ over a coordinate open set U is of the forms

$$\eta = \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_p \leq n, 1 \leq j_1 < \dots < j_q \leq n} a_{i_1 \dots i_p \bar{j}_1 \dots \bar{j}_q} dz_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dz_{i_p} \wedge d\bar{z}_{j_1} \wedge \dots \wedge d\bar{z}_{j_q},$$

where $a_{i_1 \dots i_p \bar{j}_1 \dots \bar{j}_q} \in C^\infty(U; \mathbb{C})$. We write $\eta = \sum_{|I|=p, |J|=q} a_{I\bar{J}} dz_I \wedge d\bar{z}_J \in A^{p,q}(U)$ for short.

In this case, we have

$$\begin{aligned} d\eta &= \sum_{I,J} da_{I\bar{J}} \wedge dz_I \wedge d\bar{z}_J \\ &= \sum_{I,J} \partial a_{I\bar{J}} \wedge dz_I \wedge d\bar{z}_J + \sum_{I,J} \bar{\partial} a_{I\bar{J}} \wedge dz_I \wedge d\bar{z}_J \in A^{p+1,q}(U) \oplus A^{p,q+1}(U). \end{aligned}$$

So we always have $d = \partial + \bar{\partial}$ in the integrable case.

The Newlander-Nirenberg Theorem

Theorem (Newlander-Nirenberg)

An almost complex structure is integrable if and only if $d = \partial + \bar{\partial}$ for any $A^{p,q}(U)$ (equivalently, $[T^{1,0}X, T^{1,0}X] \subset T^{1,0}X$).

- Note that on 0-forms (smooth functions) $d = \partial + \bar{\partial}$ always holds. The first non-trivial situation is on 1-forms. Since k -forms are linear combinations of wedge products of 1-forms, it also suffices to check $d = \partial + \bar{\partial}$ on 1-forms.
- Besides the original proof of Newlander-Nirenberg, there is another proof by J.J. Kohn based on techniques for solving the “ $\bar{\partial}$ -equation”, which can be found in Hörmander’s book.

Dolbeault cohomology

In the following, we always assume X is a complex manifold. Now $d = \partial + \bar{\partial}$. Since we always have $d^2 = 0$, we have $0 = \partial^2 + \bar{\partial}^2 + (\partial\bar{\partial} + \bar{\partial}\partial)$, acting on $A^{p,q}(X)$.

Comparing types, we get $\partial^2 = 0$, $\bar{\partial}^2 = 0$, $\partial\bar{\partial} + \bar{\partial}\partial = 0$.

We can define from these identities several differential cochain complexes:

- The de Rham complex $0 \rightarrow A^0(X) \xrightarrow{d} A^1(X) \xrightarrow{d} \dots \xrightarrow{d} A^{2n}(X) \rightarrow 0$. From this we can define the de Rham cohomology (with coefficient \mathbb{C})
 $H_{dR}^k(X, \mathbb{C}) := \text{Ker } d|_{A^k(X)} / dA^{k-1}(X)$. Its dimension b_k is called the “k-th Betti number” of X .

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Comparing types, we get $\partial^2 = 0$, $\bar{\partial}^2 = 0$, $\partial\bar{\partial} + \bar{\partial}\partial = 0$.

We can define from these identities several differential cochain complexes:

- The de Rham complex $0 \rightarrow A^0(X) \xrightarrow{d} A^1(X) \xrightarrow{d} \dots \xrightarrow{d} A^{2n}(X) \rightarrow 0$. From this we can define the de Rham cohomology (with coefficient \mathbb{C}) $H_{dR}^k(X, \mathbb{C}) := \text{Ker } d|_{A^k(X)} / dA^{k-1}(X)$. Its dimension b_k is called the “k-th Betti number” of X .
- The Dolbeault complex $0 \rightarrow A^{p,0}(X) \xrightarrow{\bar{\partial}} A^{p,1}(X) \xrightarrow{\bar{\partial}} \dots \xrightarrow{\bar{\partial}} A^{p,n}(X) \rightarrow 0$. We define the Dolbeault cohomology $H_{\bar{\partial}}^{p,q}(X) := \text{Ker } \bar{\partial}|_{A^{p,q}(X)} / \bar{\partial}A^{p,q-1}(X)$. Its dimension is denoted by $h^{p,q}$. They are important invariants of the complex manifold.