

## Foliations induced by metallic structures

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ABSTRACT. We give necessary and sufficient conditions for the real distributions defined by a metallic pseudo-Riemannian structure to be integrable and geodesically invariant, in terms of associated tensor fields to the metallic structures and of adapted connections. In the integrable case, we prove a Chen-type inequality for these distributions and provide conditions for a metallic map to preserve these distributions. If the structure is metallic Norden, we describe the complex metallic distributions in the same spirit.

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### 1. Introduction

Let  $M$  be a smooth manifold and let  $J$  be a  $(1, 1)$ -tensor field on  $M$ . If  $J^2 = pJ + qI$ , for some  $p$  and  $q$  real numbers, then  $J$  is called a *metallic structure on  $M$*  and  $(M, J)$  is called a *metallic manifold*. If  $g$  is a pseudo-Riemannian metric on  $M$  such that  $J$  is  $g$ -symmetric, then  $(J, g)$  is called a *metallic pseudo-Riemannian structure on  $M$* .

The aim of this paper is to consider the complementary distributions associated to a metallic pseudo-Riemannian structure and study their integrability and geodesically invariance in terms of associated tensor fields to the metallic structure and of adapted connections. In this sense, we consider the Schouten-van Kampen, Vrăncăanu and Vidal connections, which seem to be the most important connections for the study of foliations of a pseudo-Riemannian manifold [1]. Moreover, for these distributions, we prove a Chen-type inequality giving a relation between the squared norm of the mean curvature and the Chen

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first invariant. We also prove a leaf correspondence theorem between the leaves of two metallic pseudo-Riemannian manifolds when there is given a metallic map between them with certain properties.

The sign of  $p^2 + 4q$  is important in the study of foliations induced by metallic structures; if it is positive, then  $J$  has two real eigenvalues, if it is negative,  $J$  has two complex eigenvalues. In the real case,  $J$  can be related to almost product structures and in the complex case, to Norden structures. We remark that some properties of metallic distributions have also been studied in [11]. In this paper we consider both of these cases and we describe some similarities and differences between them. In particular, in the complex case, we compute the  $\bar{\delta}$ -operator in terms of  $J$ . Moreover, we construct the metallic complex cohomology and homology groups.

## 2. Preliminaries

### 2.1. Metallic pseudo-Riemannian structures.

**Definition 2.1.** [3] Let  $(M, g)$  be a pseudo-Riemannian manifold and let  $J$  be a metallic structure on  $M$ . We say that the pair  $(J, g)$  is a *metallic pseudo-Riemannian structure on  $M$*  if  $J$  is  $g$ -symmetric. In this case,  $(M, J, g)$  is called a *metallic pseudo-Riemannian manifold*. If  $p^2 + 4q < 0$ , then  $(J, g)$  is called a *metallic Norden structure* and  $(M, J, g)$  is called a *metallic Norden manifold*.

**Remark 2.2.** Let  $(M, g)$  be a pseudo-Riemannian manifold and let  $J$  be a metallic structure on  $M$  such that  $J^2 = pJ + qI$ . If we require that  $J$  is  $g$ -skew-symmetric, then we obtain that  $p = 0$ . Namely, if we assume  $g(JX, Y) = -g(X, JY)$ , for any  $X, Y \in C^\infty(TM)$ , then we get  $g(JX, JY) = -g(X, J^2Y) = -pg(X, JY) - qg(X, Y) = pg(JX, Y) - qg(X, Y)$ . On the other hand,  $g(JX, JY) = -g(J^2X, Y) = -pg(JX, Y) - qg(X, Y)$ , therefore  $p = 0$ . In particular, for  $p \neq 0$ , it is not possible to define the concept of metallic Hermitian structure.

**Definition 2.3.** [3] (i) A linear connection  $\nabla$  on  $M$  is called a  *$J$ -connection* if  $J$  is covariantly constant with respect to  $\nabla$ , i.e.  $\nabla J = 0$ .

(ii) A metallic pseudo-Riemannian manifold  $(M, J, g)$  such that the Levi-Civita connection  $\nabla$  with respect to  $g$  is a  $J$ -connection is called a *locally metallic pseudo-Riemannian manifold*.

**2.2. Associated tensors to a metallic pseudo-Riemannian structure.** For a metallic pseudo-Riemannian structure  $(J, g)$  on the smooth manifold  $M$  with  $\nabla$  the Levi-Civita connection of  $g$ , we introduce some tensor fields [7] to characterize the properties of the metallic distributions defined by  $J$ :

(1) *the  $J$ -bracket*

$$[X, Y]_J := [JX, Y] + [X, JY] - J([X, Y]),$$

where  $[\cdot, \cdot]$  is the Lie bracket,  $[X, Y] = \nabla_X Y - \nabla_Y X$

(2) *the Nijenhuis tensor associated to  $J$*

$$N_J(X, Y) := J([X, Y]_J) - [JX, JY]$$

(3) the Jordan bracket associated to  $J$

$$\{X, Y\}_J := \{JX, Y\} + \{X, JY\} - J(\{X, Y\}),$$

where  $\{\cdot, \cdot\}$  is the Jordan bracket,  $\{X, Y\} = \nabla_X Y + \nabla_Y X$

(4) the Jordan tensor associated to  $J$

$$M_J(X, Y) := J(\{X, Y\}_J) - \{JX, JY\}$$

(5) the deformation tensor associated to  $J$

$$H_J(X, Y) := (J \circ \nabla_X J - \nabla_{JX} J)(Y),$$

which satisfies  $2H_J = N_J + M_J$ .

**Remark 2.4.** The  $J$ -bracket and the associated Nijenhuis tensor can be defined for any  $(1, 1)$ -tensor field on a smooth manifold  $M$ , the Jordan bracket, the associated Jordan tensor and the deformation tensor can be defined for  $(1, 1)$ -tensor fields on a pseudo-Riemannian manifold  $(M, g)$ .

Assume that  $J$  satisfies  $J^2 = pJ + qI$  with  $p^2 + 4q > 0$ . We denote by  $\sigma_{\pm} := \frac{p \pm \sqrt{p^2 + 4q}}{2}$  and consider the projection operators  $\mathcal{P}$  and  $\mathcal{P}'$  [8]:

$$\mathcal{P} := -\frac{1}{\sqrt{p^2 + 4q}}J + \frac{\sigma_+}{\sqrt{p^2 + 4q}}I, \quad \mathcal{P}' := \frac{1}{\sqrt{p^2 + 4q}}J - \frac{\sigma_-}{\sqrt{p^2 + 4q}}I$$

satisfying

$$\mathcal{P}^2 = \mathcal{P}, \quad \mathcal{P}'^2 = \mathcal{P}', \quad \mathcal{P} + \mathcal{P}' = I, \quad \mathcal{P} \circ \mathcal{P}' = 0, \quad \mathcal{P}' \circ \mathcal{P} = 0.$$

By a direct computation, we get the following:

**Proposition 2.5.** For the two projection operators  $\mathcal{P}$  and  $\mathcal{P}'$ , we have:

- (1)  $N_{\mathcal{P}} = N_{\mathcal{P}'} = \frac{1}{p^2 + 4q}N_J$ ;
- (2)  $M_{\mathcal{P}} = M_{\mathcal{P}'} = \frac{1}{p^2 + 4q}M_J$ ;
- (3)  $H_{\mathcal{P}} = H_{\mathcal{P}'} = \frac{1}{p^2 + 4q}H_J$ .

Consider now the deformation tensors  $H$  and  $H'$ :

$$H(X, Y) := \mathcal{P}'(\nabla_{\mathcal{P}X}\mathcal{P}Y) = \mathcal{P}'((\nabla_{\mathcal{P}X}\mathcal{P})Y),$$

$$H'(X, Y) := \mathcal{P}(\nabla_{\mathcal{P}'X}\mathcal{P}'Y) = \mathcal{P}((\nabla_{\mathcal{P}'X}\mathcal{P}')Y)$$

the twisting tensors  $L$  and  $L'$ :

$$L(X, Y) := \frac{1}{2}[H(X, Y) - H(Y, X)], \quad L'(X, Y) := \frac{1}{2}[H'(X, Y) - H'(Y, X)]$$

and the extrinsic curvature tensors  $K$  and  $K'$ :

$$K(X, Y) := \frac{1}{2}[H(X, Y) + H(Y, X)], \quad K'(X, Y) := \frac{1}{2}[H'(X, Y) + H'(Y, X)],$$

for any  $X, Y \in C^\infty(TM)$ .

By a direct computation we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned}
H(X, Y) &= \frac{1}{(p^2 + 4q)\sqrt{p^2 + 4q}} [J(\nabla_{JX}JY) - \sigma_+J(\nabla_XJY) - \sigma_+J(\nabla_{JX}Y) + \\
&\quad + \sigma_+^2J(\nabla_XY) - \sigma_- \nabla_{JX}JY - q\nabla_XJY - q\nabla_{JX}Y + q\sigma_+ \nabla_XY] = \\
&= \frac{1}{(p^2 + 4q)\sqrt{p^2 + 4q}} [J(\nabla_{JX}J) - \sigma_+J(\nabla_XJ) - \sigma_-(\nabla_{JX}J) - q(\nabla_XJ)](Y) \\
H'(X, Y) &= -\frac{1}{(p^2 + 4q)\sqrt{p^2 + 4q}} [J(\nabla_{JX}JY) - \sigma_-J(\nabla_XJY) - \sigma_-J(\nabla_{JX}Y) + \\
&\quad + \sigma_-^2J(\nabla_XY) - \sigma_+ \nabla_{JX}JY - q\nabla_XJY - q\nabla_{JX}Y + q\sigma_- \nabla_XY] = \\
&= -\frac{1}{(p^2 + 4q)\sqrt{p^2 + 4q}} [J(\nabla_{JX}J) - \sigma_-J(\nabla_XJ) - \sigma_+(\nabla_{JX}J) - q(\nabla_XJ)](Y).
\end{aligned}$$

In particular, we get:

$$\begin{aligned}
H(X, Y) + H'(X, Y) &= \frac{1}{(p^2 + 4q)\sqrt{p^2 + 4q}} (-\sigma_+ + \sigma_-)[J(\nabla_XJ) - (\nabla_{JX}J)](Y) = \\
&= \frac{1}{p^2 + 4q} H_J(X, Y).
\end{aligned}$$

Moreover:

$$\begin{aligned}
L &= \frac{1}{2(p^2 + 4q)\sqrt{p^2 + 4q}} (\sigma_-N_J - J \circ N_J), \\
L' &= -\frac{1}{2(p^2 + 4q)\sqrt{p^2 + 4q}} (\sigma_+N_J - J \circ N_J), \\
K &= \frac{1}{2(p^2 + 4q)\sqrt{p^2 + 4q}} (\sigma_-M_J - J \circ M_J), \\
K' &= -\frac{1}{2(p^2 + 4q)\sqrt{p^2 + 4q}} (\sigma_+M_J - J \circ M_J).
\end{aligned}$$

### 3. Metallic distributions

Let  $(M, J, g)$  be a metallic pseudo-Riemannian manifold such that  $J^2 = pJ + qI$  with  $p^2 + 4q > 0$ . Define the complementary distributions:

$$\mathcal{D} := \ker \mathcal{P}', \quad \mathcal{D}' := \ker \mathcal{P} \quad (1)$$

which we shall call *the metallic distributions* defined by the metallic structure  $J$ .

**Remark 3.1.** The distributions  $\mathcal{D}$  and  $\mathcal{D}'$  are  $J$ -invariant and, if  $q \neq 0$ , then  $\mathcal{D}$  and  $\mathcal{D}'$  are also  $g$ -orthogonal.

**Definition 3.2.** A distribution  $\mathcal{D} \subset TM$  on a smooth manifold  $M$  is called

- (i) *involutive* if  $X, Y \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D})$  implies  $[X, Y] \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D})$ ;
- (ii) *integrable* if for any  $x \in M$ , there exists a submanifold  $N_x$  which admits  $\mathcal{D}|_{N_x}$  as tangent bundle.

According to the Frobenius theorem, a distribution  $\mathcal{D}$  on  $M$  is involutive if and only if it is integrable. In this case, it defines a foliation whose leaves are the maximal connected submanifolds  $N_x$  of  $M$  which admit  $\mathcal{D}|_{N_x}$  as tangent bundle.

**Definition 3.3.** We say that the metallic pseudo-Riemannian manifold  $(M, J, g)$  is *doubly foliated* if both of the distributions  $\mathcal{D}$  and  $\mathcal{D}'$  given by (1) are integrable and *singly foliated* if only one of them is integrable.

**Remark 3.4.** The distribution  $\mathcal{D}$  (resp.  $\mathcal{D}'$ ) given by (1) is integrable if and only if  $(\nabla_X J)Y - (\nabla_Y J)X = 0$ , for any  $X, Y \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D})$  (resp.  $X, Y \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D}')$ ), with  $\nabla$  a torsion-free linear connection on  $M$ . Indeed, for  $X, Y \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D})$  we have  $JX = \sigma_-X, JY = \sigma_-Y$  and  $J(\nabla_X Y - \nabla_Y X) = -(\nabla_X J)Y + (\nabla_Y J)X + \sigma_-(\nabla_X Y - \nabla_Y X)$  which implies that  $[X, Y] \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D})$  if and only if  $(\nabla_X J)Y - (\nabla_Y J)X = 0$ .

In particular, in a locally metallic pseudo-Riemannian manifold, the two distributions  $\mathcal{D}$  and  $\mathcal{D}'$  given by (1) are both integrable.

**Proposition 3.5.** *If  $(M, J, g)$  is a metallic pseudo-Riemannian manifold, then the distribution  $\mathcal{D}$  is integrable if and only if:*

$$J \circ N_J(X, Y) = \sigma_- N_J(X, Y), \text{ for any } X, Y \in C^\infty(TM),$$

respectively,  $\mathcal{D}'$  is integrable if and only if:

$$J \circ N_J(X, Y) = \sigma_+ N_J(X, Y), \text{ for any } X, Y \in C^\infty(TM).$$

In particular, both  $\mathcal{D}$  and  $\mathcal{D}'$  are integrable if and only if  $N_J = 0$ .

**Proof.** The distribution  $\mathcal{D}$  is integrable if and only if

$$\mathcal{P}'([\mathcal{P}X, \mathcal{P}Y]) = 0,$$

for any  $X, Y \in C^\infty(TM)$ . Therefore, from a direct computation and using Proposition 2.5, we obtain that a necessary and sufficient condition for  $\mathcal{D}$  to be integrable is:

$$\begin{aligned} 0 = \mathcal{P}'([\mathcal{P}X, \mathcal{P}Y]) &= -\mathcal{P}'(N_{\mathcal{P}}(X, Y)) = -\frac{1}{p^2 + 4q} \mathcal{P}'(N_J(X, Y)) = \\ &= -\frac{1}{(p^2 + 4q)\sqrt{p^2 + 4q}} [J \circ N_J(X, Y) - \sigma_- N_J(X, Y)]. \end{aligned}$$

□

**Definition 3.6.** Given a linear connection  $\nabla$  on a smooth manifold  $M$ , we say that a distribution  $\mathcal{D} \subset TM$  is  $\nabla$ -geodesically invariant if  $X, Y \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D})$  implies  $\nabla_X Y + \nabla_Y X \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D})$ .

In particular, if  $\nabla$  is the Levi-Civita of the pseudo-Riemannian manifold  $(M, g)$ , then  $\mathcal{D}$  is geodesically invariant.

We remark that the above condition is equivalent to the following: the distribution  $\mathcal{D}$  is  $\nabla$ -geodesically invariant if  $X \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D})$  implies  $\nabla_X X \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D})$ .

**Remark 3.7.** For a linear connection  $\nabla$  on  $M$ , the distribution  $\mathcal{D}$  (resp.  $\mathcal{D}'$ ) given by (1) is  $\nabla$ -geodesically invariant if and only if we have  $(\nabla_X J)Y + (\nabla_Y J)X = 0$ , for any  $X, Y \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D})$  (resp.  $X, Y \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D}')$ ). Indeed, for  $X, Y \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D})$  we have  $JX = \sigma_- X, JY = \sigma_- Y$  and  $J(\nabla_X Y + \nabla_Y X) = -(\nabla_X J)Y - (\nabla_Y J)X + \sigma_-(\nabla_X Y + \nabla_Y X)$  which implies  $\nabla_X Y + \nabla_Y X \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D})$  if and only if  $(\nabla_X J)Y + (\nabla_Y J)X = 0$ .

In particular, for any  $J$ -connection  $\nabla$ , the distributions  $\mathcal{D}$  and  $\mathcal{D}'$  are  $\nabla$ -geodesically invariant.

**Proposition 3.8.** *If  $(M, J, g)$  is a metallic pseudo-Riemannian manifold, then the distribution  $\mathcal{D}$  is geodesically invariant if and only if:*

$$J \circ M_J(X, Y) = \sigma_- M_J(X, Y), \text{ for any } X, Y \in C^\infty(TM),$$

respectively,  $\mathcal{D}'$  is geodesically invariant if and only if:

$$J \circ M_J(X, Y) = \sigma_+ M_J(X, Y), \text{ for any } X, Y \in C^\infty(TM).$$

In particular, both  $\mathcal{D}$  and  $\mathcal{D}'$  are geodesically invariant if and only if  $M_J = 0$ .

**Proof.** The distribution  $\mathcal{D}$  is geodesically invariant if and only if

$$\mathcal{P}'(\{\mathcal{P}X, \mathcal{P}Y\}) = 0,$$

for any  $X, Y \in C^\infty(TM)$ . Therefore, from a direct computation and using Proposition 2.5, with a similar computation like in Proposition 3.5, we obtain the conclusion.  $\square$

**Remark 3.9.**  $J_p := \mathcal{P} - \mathcal{P}'$  is an almost product structure on  $M$  and

$$J_p X = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{p^2 + 4q}}(2J - pI)X,$$

for any  $X \in C^\infty(TM)$ .

Direct computations provide the following relationship between  $J$  and  $J_p$ -brackets,  $J$  and  $J_p$  Nijenhuis tensors, Jordan bracket and Jordan tensors of the two structures. Precisely, we have the following:

**Proposition 3.10.**

$$[X, Y]_J = -\frac{\sqrt{p^2 + 4q}}{2}[X, Y]_{J_p} + \frac{p}{2}[X, Y]$$

$$N_J(X, Y) = \frac{p^2 + 4q}{4}N_{J_p}(X, Y)$$

$$\{X, Y\}_J = -\frac{\sqrt{p^2 + 4q}}{2}\{X, Y\}_{J_p} + \frac{p}{2}\{X, Y\}$$

$$M_J(X, Y) = \frac{p^2 + 4q}{4}M_{J_p}(X, Y).$$

In particular, the deformation tensors are related as follows:

$$H_J(X, Y) = \frac{p^2 + 4q}{4} H_{J_p}(X, Y).$$

The product conjugate connection of a linear connection  $\nabla$  is [2]:

$$\nabla_X^{(J_p)} Y = \mathcal{P}(\nabla_X \mathcal{P}Y) - \mathcal{P}(\nabla_X \mathcal{P}'Y) - \mathcal{P}'(\nabla_X \mathcal{P}Y) + \mathcal{P}'(\nabla_X \mathcal{P}'Y) \quad (2)$$

and we have:

**Proposition 3.11.** [2] *If  $\nabla^{(J_p)}$  is torsion-free, then  $J_p$  is integrable, which means that  $\mathcal{D}$  and  $\mathcal{D}'$  are integrable distributions.*

**Definition 3.12.** We say that a linear connection  $\nabla$  restricts to a distribution  $\mathcal{D} \subset TM$  on a metallic pseudo-Riemannian manifold  $(M, J, g)$  if  $Y \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D})$  implies  $\nabla_X Y \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D})$ , for any  $X \in C^\infty(TM)$ .

We have:

- 1)  $\nabla$  restricts to  $\mathcal{D}$  means  $\mathcal{P}'(\nabla_X \mathcal{P}Y) = 0$  and  $\mathcal{P}(\nabla_X \mathcal{P}Y) = \nabla_X \mathcal{P}Y$ ,
- 2)  $\nabla$  restricts to  $\mathcal{D}'$  means  $\mathcal{P}(\nabla_X \mathcal{P}'Y) = 0$  and  $\mathcal{P}'(\nabla_X \mathcal{P}'Y) = \nabla_X \mathcal{P}'Y$ .

A straightforward computation shows that the product conjugate connection  $\nabla^{(J_p)}$  defined by (2) restricts to  $\mathcal{D}$  and  $\mathcal{D}'$ . Moreover, if  $\nabla$  restricts to both  $\mathcal{D}$  and  $\mathcal{D}'$ , then

$$\nabla_X^{(J_p)} Y = \nabla_X \mathcal{P}Y + \nabla_X \mathcal{P}'Y = \nabla_X Y \quad (3)$$

and so  $\nabla$  is an  $J_p$ -connection. Let us remark that the above connection (3) is exactly the Schouten-van Kampen connection of the pair  $(\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{D}')$ :

$$\nabla_X Y = \mathcal{P}(\nabla_X \mathcal{P}Y) + \mathcal{P}'(\nabla_X \mathcal{P}'Y)$$

which coincides with the metallic natural connection  $\tilde{\nabla}$  [3] if  $\nabla$  is the Levi-Civita connection of  $g$ .

Now we can express the Kirichenko tensor fields [9] in terms of the projectors  $\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{P}'$ :

**Proposition 3.13.** [2] *The structural and virtual tensor fields of  $J_p = \mathcal{P} - \mathcal{P}'$  are:*

$$\begin{cases} C_{\tilde{\nabla}}^{\mathcal{P}-\mathcal{P}'}(X, Y) = 2[\mathcal{P}(\nabla_{\mathcal{P}'X} \mathcal{P}'Y) + \mathcal{P}'(\nabla_{\mathcal{P}X} \mathcal{P}Y)] \\ B_{\tilde{\nabla}}^{\mathcal{P}-\mathcal{P}'}(X, Y) = -2[\mathcal{P}(\nabla_{\mathcal{P}X} \mathcal{P}'Y) + \mathcal{P}'(\nabla_{\mathcal{P}'X} \mathcal{P}Y)]. \end{cases}$$

Let us recall the well-known *fundamental tensor fields* of O'Neill-Gray:

$$\begin{cases} T(X, Y) = \mathcal{P}(\nabla_{\mathcal{P}'X} \mathcal{P}'Y) + \mathcal{P}'(\nabla_{\mathcal{P}'X} \mathcal{P}Y) \\ A(X, Y) = \mathcal{P}'(\nabla_{\mathcal{P}X} \mathcal{P}Y) + \mathcal{P}(\nabla_{\mathcal{P}X} \mathcal{P}'Y). \end{cases}$$

Then, a comparison of last two equations yields

$$\begin{cases} C_{\tilde{\nabla}}^{\mathcal{P}-\mathcal{P}'}(X, Y) = 2[T(X, \mathcal{P}'Y) + A(X, \mathcal{P}Y)] \\ B_{\tilde{\nabla}}^{\mathcal{P}-\mathcal{P}'}(X, Y) = -2[T(X, \mathcal{P}Y) + A(X, \mathcal{P}'Y)] \end{cases}$$

a fact which justifies the second name of  $T$  and  $A$  as *invariants* of the decomposition  $TM = \mathcal{D} \oplus \mathcal{D}'$  [6].

On  $\mathcal{D}$  with the induced metric  $g_{\mathcal{D}}$ , we consider the induced connection from the pseudo-Riemannian manifold  $(M, g, \nabla)$  by [10]:

$$\nabla^{\mathcal{D}} : \Gamma(\mathcal{D}) \times \Gamma(\mathcal{D}) \rightarrow \Gamma(\mathcal{D}), \quad \nabla_X^{\mathcal{D}} Y := \mathcal{P}(\nabla_X Y)$$

which preserves the metric  $g_{\mathcal{D}}$  and is torsion-free w.r.t. the bracket

$$[\cdot, \cdot]_{\mathcal{D}} : \Gamma(\mathcal{D}) \times \Gamma(\mathcal{D}) \rightarrow \Gamma(\mathcal{D}), \quad [X, Y]_{\mathcal{D}} := \mathcal{P}([X, Y]).$$

The bracket  $[\cdot, \cdot]_{\mathcal{D}}$  has the usual properties of a Lie bracket excepting the Jacobi identity which is satisfied if and only if  $\mathcal{D}$  is integrable.

The integrability of  $\mathcal{D}$  can also be characterized in terms of second fundamental form of  $\mathcal{D}$ :

$$h : \Gamma(\mathcal{D}) \times \Gamma(\mathcal{D}) \rightarrow \Gamma(\mathcal{D}'), \quad h(X, Y) := \nabla_X Y - \nabla_X^{\mathcal{D}} Y,$$

and we can state:

**Proposition 3.14.** [10] *The distribution  $\mathcal{D}$  is integrable if and only if one of the following assertions holds: (i)  $\nabla^{\mathcal{D}}$  is torsion-free; (ii)  $h$  is symmetric.*

Similarly, on  $(\mathcal{D}', g_{\mathcal{D}'})$  we define the induced connection from  $(M, g, \nabla)$  by:

$$\nabla^{\mathcal{D}'} : \Gamma(\mathcal{D}') \times \Gamma(\mathcal{D}') \rightarrow \Gamma(\mathcal{D}'), \quad \nabla_X^{\mathcal{D}'} Y := \mathcal{P}'(\nabla_X Y)$$

and consider the second fundamental form  $h'$  of  $\mathcal{D}'$ . Then the distribution  $\mathcal{D}'$  is integrable if and only if one of the following assertions holds: (i)  $\nabla^{\mathcal{D}'}$  is torsion-free; (ii)  $h'$  is symmetric.

We remark that the restrictions of the metallic natural connection  $\tilde{\nabla}$ , defined in [3], to  $\mathcal{D}$  and respectively, to  $\mathcal{D}'$ , coincide with the two induced connections, respectively:

$$\tilde{\nabla}|_{\Gamma(\mathcal{D}) \times \Gamma(\mathcal{D})} = \nabla^{\mathcal{D}}, \quad \tilde{\nabla}|_{\Gamma(\mathcal{D}') \times \Gamma(\mathcal{D}')} = \nabla^{\mathcal{D}'}$$

**Remark 3.15.** For  $p^2 + 4q = 0$ , we get only one distribution,  $\ker(J - \frac{p}{2}I)$ , and  $J_t := J - \frac{p}{2}I$  is an almost sub tangent structure.

#### 4. Adapted connections to $(\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{D}')$

**Definition 4.1.** We say that a linear connection  $\nabla$  on  $M$  is *adapted* to the decomposition  $TM = \mathcal{D} \oplus \mathcal{D}'$  if  $Y \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D})$  implies  $\nabla_X Y \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D})$ , for any  $X \in C^\infty(TM)$  and  $Y \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D}')$  implies  $\nabla_X Y \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D}')$ , for any  $X \in C^\infty(TM)$ .

**Remark 4.2.** If  $(M, J)$  is a metallic manifold such that  $J^2 = pJ + qI$  with  $p^2 + 4q > 0$ , then a linear connection  $\nabla$  is adapted to  $(\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{D}')$  given by (1) if and only if  $\nabla$  is a  $J$ -connection. Indeed, for  $Y \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D})$  we have  $JY = \sigma_- Y$  and  $(\nabla_X J)Y = \sigma_- \nabla_X Y - J(\nabla_X Y)$ , for any  $X \in C^\infty(TM)$ , which implies that  $\nabla_X Y \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D})$  if and only if  $\nabla J = 0$ . Similarly we deduce the second implication.



In [1], A. Bejancu and H. R. Farran gave the expression of all adapted connections to  $(\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{D}')$ , namely:

$$\nabla_X^* Y = \mathcal{P}(\nabla_X \mathcal{P}Y) + \mathcal{P}'(\nabla_X \mathcal{P}'Y) + \mathcal{P}(S(X, \mathcal{P}Y)) + \mathcal{P}'(S(X, \mathcal{P}'Y)), \quad (4)$$

for any  $X, Y \in C^\infty(TM)$ , where  $\nabla$  is a linear connection and  $S$  is a  $(1, 2)$ -tensor field on  $M$ .

**4.1. Schouten-van Kampen connection.** An adapted connection to  $(\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{D}')$  is the Schouten-van Kampen connection  $\tilde{\nabla}$  of the linear connection  $\nabla$ , obtained from (4) for  $S := 0$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\nabla}_X Y &:= \mathcal{P}(\nabla_X \mathcal{P}Y) + \mathcal{P}'(\nabla_X \mathcal{P}'Y) = \\ &= \nabla_X Y + \mathcal{P}((\nabla_X \mathcal{P})Y) + \mathcal{P}'((\nabla_X \mathcal{P}')Y). \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

If  $(M, J, g)$  is a metallic pseudo-Riemannian manifold such that  $J^2 = pJ + qI$  with  $p^2 + 4q > 0$  and  $\nabla$  is torsion-free, then  $\tilde{\nabla}$  is explicitly given by:

$$\tilde{\nabla}_X Y = \frac{1}{p^2 + 4q} [(2J - pI)(\nabla_X JY) - (pJ - (p^2 + 2q)I)(\nabla_X Y)], \quad (6)$$

for any  $X, Y \in C^\infty(TM)$ . We remark that if  $\nabla$  is the Levi-Civita connection associated to  $g$ , then  $\tilde{\nabla}$  is exactly the metallic natural connection defined in [3]. Moreover,  $\tilde{\nabla}$  is a metric  $J$ -connection, i.e.  $\tilde{\nabla}g = \tilde{\nabla}J = 0$ , whose torsion is given by:

$$T^{\tilde{\nabla}}(X, Y) = \frac{1}{p^2 + 4q} [(2J - pI)(\nabla_X JY - \nabla_Y JX) - (pJ + 2qI)(\nabla_X Y - \nabla_Y X)],$$

for any  $X, Y \in C^\infty(TM)$ .

**4.2. Vrănceanu connection.** Another adapted connection to  $(\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{D}')$  is the Vrănceanu connection  $\bar{\nabla}$  of the linear connection  $\nabla$ , obtained from (4) for

$$S(X, Y) := -\mathcal{P}(\nabla_{\mathcal{P}'X} \mathcal{P}Y) - \mathcal{P}'(\nabla_{\mathcal{P}'X} \mathcal{P}'Y) + \mathcal{P}([\mathcal{P}'X, \mathcal{P}Y]) + \mathcal{P}'([\mathcal{P}X, \mathcal{P}'Y]).$$

If  $(M, J, g)$  is a metallic pseudo-Riemannian manifold such that  $J^2 = pJ + qI$  with  $p^2 + 4q > 0$ , then  $\bar{\nabla}$  is explicitly given by:

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\nabla}_X Y &= \tilde{\nabla}_{\mathcal{P}'X} Y + \mathcal{P}([\mathcal{P}'X, \mathcal{P}Y]) + \mathcal{P}'([\mathcal{P}X, \mathcal{P}'Y]) = \\ &= \nabla_X Y + \frac{1}{p^2 + 4q} [2J((\nabla_X J)Y) - p(\nabla_X J)Y + J((\nabla_Y J)X) + \\ &\quad + (\nabla_{JY} J)X - p(\nabla_Y J)X] + \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{p^2 + 4q} [T^\nabla(JX, JY) + J(T^\nabla(JX, Y)) - pT^\nabla(JX, Y) - \\ &\quad - J(T^\nabla(X, JY)) - qT^\nabla(X, Y)], \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

for any  $X, Y \in C^\infty(TM)$ .

Moreover,  $\bar{\nabla}$  is a  $J$ -connection, i.e.  $\bar{\nabla}J = 0$ , whose torsion is given by:

$$T^{\bar{\nabla}}(X, Y) = \frac{1}{p^2 + 4q} N_J(X, Y) + \mathcal{P}'(T^\nabla(\mathcal{P}'X, \mathcal{P}'Y)) - \mathcal{P}(T^\nabla(\mathcal{P}X, \mathcal{P}Y)),$$

for any  $X, Y \in C^\infty(TM)$ .

**4.3. Vidal connection.** Let  $(M, J, g)$  be a metallic pseudo-Riemannian manifold such that  $J^2 = pJ + qI$  with  $p^2 + 4q > 0$  and let  $\nabla$  be the Levi-Civita connection of  $g$ .

Another adapted connection to  $(\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{D}')$  is the Vidal connection  $\tilde{\nabla}$  associated to  $J$ , obtained from (4) for

$$S(X, Y) := -\mathcal{P}(\nabla_{\mathcal{P}Y}\mathcal{P}')X - \mathcal{P}'(\nabla_{\mathcal{P}'Y}\mathcal{P})X,$$

therefore:

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\nabla}_X Y &= \tilde{\nabla}_X Y - \mathcal{P}(\nabla_{\mathcal{P}Y}\mathcal{P}')X - \mathcal{P}'(\nabla_{\mathcal{P}'Y}\mathcal{P})X = \\ &= \tilde{\nabla}_X Y + \frac{1}{p^2 + 4q} [(\nabla_{JY}J)X + J((\nabla_Y J)X) - p(\nabla_Y J)X] = \\ &= \nabla_X Y + \frac{1}{p^2 + 4q} [2J((\nabla_X J)Y) - p(\nabla_X J)Y + J((\nabla_Y J)X) + \\ &\quad + (\nabla_{JY}J)X - p(\nabla_Y J)X], \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

for any  $X, Y \in C^\infty(TM)$ .

Moreover,  $\tilde{\nabla}$  is a  $J$ -connection, i.e.  $\tilde{\nabla}J = 0$ , whose torsion is given by:

$$T^{\tilde{\nabla}}(X, Y) = \frac{1}{p^2 + 4q} N_J(X, Y),$$

for any  $X, Y \in C^\infty(TM)$ .

**Remark 4.3.** The Vrănceanu connection of the Levi-Civita connection coincides with the Vidal connection.

Moreover, we get:

$$\begin{aligned} (\tilde{\nabla}_X g)(Y, Z) &= -\frac{1}{p^2 + 4q} [g((\nabla_{JY}J)X - (\nabla_Y J)JX, Z) + \\ &\quad + g((\nabla_{JZ}J)X - (\nabla_Z J)JX, Y)] = \\ &= \frac{1}{p^2 + 4q} [g(M_J(Y, X), Z) + g(M_J(Z, X), Y) + g((\nabla_{JX}J)Y + (\nabla_Y J)JX, Z) + \\ &\quad + g((\nabla_{JX}J)Z + (\nabla_Z J)JX, Y)], \end{aligned}$$

for any  $X, Y, Z \in C^\infty(TM)$ .

Since  $\tilde{\nabla}J = \bar{\nabla}J = \tilde{\nabla}J = 0$ , from Remark 3.7 we deduce:

**Proposition 4.4.** *The distributions  $\mathcal{D}$  and  $\mathcal{D}'$  are  $\tilde{\nabla}$ -geodesically invariant,  $\bar{\nabla}$ -geodesically invariant and  $\tilde{\tilde{\nabla}}$ -geodesically invariant.*

Using the Vidal connection  $\tilde{\nabla}$ , we characterize the integrability and the geodesic invariance of the metallic distributions defined by  $J$  in terms of the torsion and the covariant derivative of  $g$  w.r.t. this connection. From all the above considerations, we can state:

**Theorem 4.5.** *If  $(M, J, g)$  is a metallic pseudo-Riemannian manifold such that  $J^2 = pJ + qI$  with  $p^2 + 4q > 0$ , then the following assertions are equivalent:*

- (i) *the distributions  $\mathcal{D}$  and  $\mathcal{D}'$  are integrable;*
- (ii)  *$N_J = 0$ ;*
- (iii)  *$L = 0$  and  $L' = 0$ ;*
- (iv) *the Vidal connection given by (8) is torsion-free.*

**Theorem 4.6.** *If  $(M, J, g)$  is a metallic pseudo-Riemannian manifold such that  $J^2 = pJ + qI$  with  $p^2 + 4q > 0$ , then the following assertions are equivalent:*

- (i) *the distributions  $\mathcal{D}$  and  $\mathcal{D}'$  are geodesically invariant;*
- (ii)  *$M_J = 0$ ;*
- (iii)  *$K = 0$  and  $K' = 0$ ;*
- (iv) *the Vidal connection given by (8) is metric with respect to  $g$ .*

**4.4. Leaves correspondence via metallic maps.** We shall provide the condition for a metallic map between two metallic pseudo-Riemannian manifolds to preserve the metallic distributions. We recall the following:

**Definition 4.7.** A smooth map  $\Phi : (M_1, J_1) \rightarrow (M_2, J_2)$  between two metallic manifolds is called a *metallic map* if:

$$\Phi_* \circ J_1 = J_2 \circ \Phi_*.$$

**Remark 4.8.** If  $\Phi : (M_1, J_1) \rightarrow (M_2, J_2)$  is a metallic map and  $J_i^2 = p_i J_i + q_i I$  with  $p_i$  and  $q_i$  real numbers,  $i = 1, 2$ , then:

- (i)  $\Phi_* \circ J_1^{2k+1} = J_2^{2k+1} \circ \Phi_*$ , for any  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ ;
- (ii)  $([(p_2^2 + q_2) - (p_1^2 + q_1)]J_1 + (p_2 q_2 - p_1 q_1)I)(TM_1) \subset \ker \Phi_*$ ;
- (iii) in the particular case when one the structure is product and the other one is complex, then  $Im J_1 \subset \ker \Phi_*$ .

Consider a metallic map  $\Phi : (M_1, J_1) \rightarrow (M_2, J_2)$  between the metallic manifolds  $(M_i, J_i)$  such that  $J_i^2 = p_i J_i + q_i I$  with  $p_i^2 + 4q_i > 0$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ , and assume that the distributions  $\mathcal{D}_i$  and  $\mathcal{D}'_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ , are integrable. Then they define the foliations  $\mathcal{F}_i$  and  $\mathcal{F}'_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ , whose leaves are trivial metallic pseudo-Riemannian manifolds.

Denoting by  $\Phi^* \mathcal{D}_2$  the pull-back distribution, i.e.:

$$(\Phi^* \mathcal{D}_2)_x := \{X_x \in T_x M : \Phi_{*x}(X_x) \in \mathcal{D}_{2\Phi(x)}\},$$

since  $\Phi$  is a metallic map, we get:

$$(\Phi^* \mathcal{D}_2)_x = \{X_x \in T_x M : (J_1 - \sigma_{2+} I)(X_x) \in \ker \Phi_{*x}\},$$

where  $\sigma_{i+} = \frac{p_i + \sqrt{p_i^2 + 4q_i}}{2}$ ,  $i = 1, 2$  and

$$(\Phi^* \mathcal{D}'_2)_x = \{X_x \in T_x M : (J_1 - \sigma_{2-} I)(X_x) \in \ker \Phi_{*x}\},$$

where  $\sigma_{i-} = \frac{p_i - \sqrt{p_i^2 + 4q_i}}{2}$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ .

From the above considerations, we obtain a sufficient condition for the pull-back distribution  $\Phi^* \mathcal{D}_2$  to coincide with one of the distributions  $\mathcal{D}_1$  or  $\mathcal{D}'_1$ :

**Proposition 4.9.** *If  $\ker \Phi_* = (J_1 - \sigma_{2+}I)(\ker(J_1 - \sigma_{1+}I))$ , then  $\Phi^* \mathcal{D}_2 = \mathcal{D}_1$ . Moreover, if  $\Phi$  is a surjective submersion with connected fibers, then a leaf of  $\mathcal{F}_2$  corresponds to a leaf of  $\mathcal{F}_1$ .*

## 5. A Chen-type inequality for the metallic distributions

A fundamental problem in the theory of submanifolds is the problem posed by B. Y. Chen [4], namely, to find relations between the main intrinsic and extrinsic invariants of a submanifold. In this sense, the Chen's inequalities for submanifolds in real space forms was proved by B. Y. Chen [4], in complex space forms by Y. Doğru [5], in quaternionic space forms by G. E. Vilcu [12] etc. In the same spirit, we shall prove a Chen-type inequality in the metallic case, for an integrable distribution defined by the metallic structure.

Let  $(M, J, g)$  be an  $m$ -dimensional metallic Riemannian manifold and assume that the distribution  $\mathcal{D}$  is integrable. In this case, the Riemann curvature tensors of  $\mathcal{D}$  (computed with respect to the induced connection  $\nabla^{\mathcal{D}}$  on  $\mathcal{D}$  and the Lie bracket  $[\cdot, \cdot]_{\mathcal{D}}$ ) and  $M$  satisfy [10]:

$$R^{\mathcal{D}}(X, Y, Z, W) = R^M(X, Y, Z, W) - g(h(X, Z), h(Y, W)) + g(h(X, W), h(Y, Z)), \quad (9)$$

for any  $X, Y, Z, W \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D})$ .

The relation between the mean curvature (the main extrinsic invariant) and the Chen first invariant (an intrinsic invariant), in a particular case of constant  $J$ -sectional curvature, is given in the following.

From a direct computation we obtain:

**Proposition 5.1.** *Let  $(M, J, g)$  be an  $m$ -dimensional metallic Riemannian manifold ( $m > 2$ ) such that  $J^2 = pJ + qI$  with  $p^2 + 4q > 0$ , whose Riemann curvature tensor is given by*

$$R^M(X, Y, Z, W) = c[g(X, FW)g(Y, FZ) - g(X, FZ)g(Y, FW)], \quad (10)$$

for any  $X, Y, Z, W \in C^\infty(TM)$ , where  $F := aJ + bI$  with  $a$  and  $b$  real numbers satisfying  $qa^2 - pab - b^2 = 1$ . Then the  $J$ -sectional curvature of  $M$  is constant equal to  $c$ .

Denote by  $H := \frac{1}{n} \text{tr}(h)$  the mean curvature and by  $\delta_{\mathcal{D}} := \tau^{\mathcal{D}} - \inf K^{\mathcal{D}}$  the Chen first invariant of  $\mathcal{D}$ , where  $\tau^{\mathcal{D}}$  denotes the scalar curvature of  $\mathcal{D}$  and  $K^{\mathcal{D}}$  its sectional curvature.

**Theorem 5.2.** *Let  $(M, J, g)$  be an  $m$ -dimensional metallic Riemannian manifold ( $m > 2$ ) such that  $J^2 = pJ + qI$  with  $p^2 + 4q > 0$ , whose Riemann curvature tensor is given by (10) and let  $\mathcal{D}$  given by (1) be an  $n$ -dimensional integrable distribution. Then:*

$$\delta_{\mathcal{D}} \leq \frac{c(a\sigma_- + b)^2(n^2 - n + 2)}{2} + \frac{n^2(n - 2)}{2(n - 1)} \|H\|^2.$$

**Proof.** Consider an orthonormal frame field  $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$  for  $\mathcal{D}$ ,  $\{f_1, \dots, f_{m-n}\}$  an orthonormal frame field for  $\mathcal{D}'$  and denote by

$$h_{ij}^k := g(h(e_i, e_j), f_k).$$

From (9) and (10) we get

$$2\tau^{\mathcal{D}} = c(a\sigma_- + b)^2 n(n-1) - \|h\|^2 + n^2 \|H\|^2.$$

Moreover

$$K^{\mathcal{D}}(e_1, e_2) = -c(a\sigma_- + b)^2 - \sum_{k=1}^{m-n} h_{11}^k h_{22}^k + \sum_{k=1}^{m-n} (h_{12}^k)^2$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \tau^{\mathcal{D}} - K^{\mathcal{D}}(e_1, e_2) &= \frac{c(a\sigma_- + b)^2(n^2 - n + 2)}{2} + \\ &+ \sum_{k=1}^{m-n} \left[ \sum_{3 \leq i < j \leq n} (h_{ii}^k h_{jj}^k - (h_{ij}^k)^2) + \sum_{j=3}^n (h_{11}^k + h_{22}^k) h_{jj}^k - \sum_{j=3}^n ((h_{1j}^k)^2 + (h_{2j}^k)^2) \right] \leq \\ &\leq \frac{c(a\sigma_- + b)^2(n^2 - n + 2)}{2} + \frac{n-2}{2(n-1)} \sum_{k=1}^{m-n} \sum_{j=1}^n (h_{jj}^k)^2 - \sum_{k=1}^{m-n} \sum_{j=3}^n ((h_{1j}^k)^2 + (h_{2j}^k)^2) = \\ &= \frac{c(a\sigma_- + b)^2(n^2 - n + 2)}{2} + \frac{n^2(n-2)}{2(n-1)} \|H\|^2 - \sum_{k=1}^{m-n} \sum_{j=3}^n ((h_{1j}^k)^2 + (h_{2j}^k)^2) \leq \\ &\leq \frac{c(a\sigma_- + b)^2(n^2 - n + 2)}{2} + \frac{n^2(n-2)}{2(n-1)} \|H\|^2. \end{aligned}$$

□

**Remark 5.3.** If  $p = 0$  and  $q = 1$ , i.e.  $J$  is an almost product structure, then the inequality from Theorem 5.2 becomes

$$\delta_{\mathcal{D}} \leq \frac{c(a-b)^2(n^2 - n + 2)}{2} + \frac{n^2(n-2)}{2(n-1)} \|H\|^2.$$

In particular, if  $a = 1$  and  $b = 0$ , i.e.  $F = J$ , we get

$$\delta_{\mathcal{D}} \leq \frac{c(n^2 - n + 2)}{2} + \frac{n^2(n-2)}{2(n-1)} \|H\|^2.$$

### 6. Metallic Norden structures

**6.1. Complex metallic distributions.** Let  $(M, J, g)$  be a metallic Norden manifold such that  $J^2 = pJ + qI$  with  $p^2 + 4q < 0$  and let  $T^{\mathbb{C}}M := TM \otimes_{\mathbb{R}} \mathbb{C}$  be the complexified tangent bundle. Then we can define the complexified metallic pseudo-Riemannian structure:

$$J^{\mathbb{C}}(X + iY) := JX + iJY,$$

$$g^{\mathbb{C}}(X_1 + iY_1, X_2 + iY_2) := g(X_1, X_2) - g(Y_1, Y_2) + i[g(X_1, Y_2) + g(Y_1, X_2)],$$

for any  $X, X_1, X_2, Y, Y_1, Y_2 \in C^\infty(TM)$ .

Denote by  $\sigma_{\pm}^{\mathbb{C}} := \frac{p \pm \sqrt{p^2 + 4q}}{2}$  and consider the projection operators  $\mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}}$  and  $\mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}'}$ :

$$\mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}} := -\frac{1}{\sqrt{p^2 + 4q}}J^{\mathbb{C}} + \frac{\sigma_+^{\mathbb{C}}}{\sqrt{p^2 + 4q}}I^{\mathbb{C}}, \quad \mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}'} := \frac{1}{\sqrt{p^2 + 4q}}J^{\mathbb{C}} - \frac{\sigma_-^{\mathbb{C}}}{\sqrt{p^2 + 4q}}I^{\mathbb{C}}$$

satisfying

$$\mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}^2} = \mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}}, \quad \mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}'^2} = \mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}'}, \quad \mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}} + \mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}'} = I^{\mathbb{C}}, \quad \mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}} \circ \mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}'} = 0, \quad \mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}'} \circ \mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}} = 0$$

and define the complementary distributions:

$$\mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}} := \ker \mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}'}, \quad \mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}'} := \ker \mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}} \quad (11)$$

which we shall call *the complex metallic distributions* defined by  $J$ .

**Remark 6.1.** If  $(M, J, g)$  is a metallic Norden manifold such that  $J^2 = pJ + qI$  with  $p^2 + 4q < 0$ , then  $\mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}}$  and  $\mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}'}$  are  $J^{\mathbb{C}}$ -invariant.

**Lemma 6.2.**

$$\mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}'} = \overline{\mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}}}$$

**Proof.** It follows from  $\sigma_+^{\mathbb{C}} = \overline{\sigma_-^{\mathbb{C}}}$ .  $\square$

In particular, if  $J$  is not trivial, that it admits two complex eigenvalues, or the two distributions are both different from 0, then the complexified tangent bundle splits as a direct sum of two conjugate subbundles:

$$T^{\mathbb{C}}M = \mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}} \oplus \overline{\mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}}}.$$

Extending the Lie bracket to:

$$[X_1 + iY_1, X_2 + iY_2]^{\mathbb{C}} := [X_1, X_2] - [Y_1, Y_2] + i([X_1, Y_2] + [Y_1, X_2]),$$

for any  $X_1, X_2, Y_1, Y_2 \in C^{\infty}(TM)$ , we say that:

**Definition 6.3.** A distribution  $\mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}} \subset T^{\mathbb{C}}M$  is called *integrable* if  $X, Y \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}})$  implies  $[X, Y]^{\mathbb{C}} \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}})$ .

**Lemma 6.4.** *The distribution  $\mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}}$  is integrable if and only if*

$$\mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}'}([\mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}}X, \mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}}Y]^{\mathbb{C}}) = 0,$$

for any  $X, Y \in C^{\infty}(T^{\mathbb{C}}M)$ .

**Proposition 6.5.** *The distribution  $\mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}}$  (resp.  $\mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}'}$ ) given by (11) is integrable if and only if  $N_J = 0$ .*

Extending the Levi-Civita connection  $\nabla$  of  $g$  to:

$$\nabla_{X_1 + iY_1}^{\mathbb{C}}(X_2 + iY_2) := \nabla_{X_1}X_2 - \nabla_{Y_1}Y_2 + i(\nabla_{X_1}Y_2 + \nabla_{Y_1}X_2),$$

for any  $X_1, X_2, Y_1, Y_2 \in C^{\infty}(TM)$ , we pose the following:

**Definition 6.6.** Given a complex linear connection  $\nabla^{\mathbb{C}}$  on a smooth manifold  $M$ , a distribution  $\mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}} \subset T^{\mathbb{C}}M$  is called  $\nabla^{\mathbb{C}}$ -geodesically invariant if  $X, Y \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}})$  implies  $\nabla_X^{\mathbb{C}}Y + \nabla_Y^{\mathbb{C}}X \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}})$ .

In particular, if  $\nabla^{\mathbb{C}}$  is the Levi-Civita connection of the pseudo-Riemannian manifold  $(M, g^{\mathbb{C}})$ , then  $\mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}}$  is called *geodesically invariant*.

**Lemma 6.7.** *The distribution  $\mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}}$  is geodesically invariant if and only if*

$$\mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}}(\{\mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}}X, \mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}}Y\}^{\mathbb{C}}) = 0,$$

for any  $X, Y \in C^{\infty}(T^{\mathbb{C}}M)$ , where  $\{X, Y\}^{\mathbb{C}} := \nabla_X^{\mathbb{C}}Y + \nabla_Y^{\mathbb{C}}X$ .

**Proposition 6.8.** *The distribution  $\mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}}$  (resp.  $\mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}'}$ ) given by (11) is geodesically invariant if and only if  $M_J = 0$ .*

**Remark 6.9.** For a complex linear connection  $\nabla^{\mathbb{C}}$  on  $M$ , the distribution  $\mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}}$  (resp.  $\mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}'}$ ) given by (11) is  $\nabla^{\mathbb{C}}$ -geodesically invariant if and only if  $(\nabla_X^{\mathbb{C}}J^{\mathbb{C}})Y + (\nabla_Y^{\mathbb{C}}J^{\mathbb{C}})X = 0$ , for any  $X, Y \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}})$  (resp.  $X, Y \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}'})$ ). Indeed, for  $X, Y \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}})$  we have  $J^{\mathbb{C}}X = \sigma_-^{\mathbb{C}}X$ ,  $J^{\mathbb{C}}Y = \sigma_-^{\mathbb{C}}Y$  and  $J^{\mathbb{C}}(\nabla_X^{\mathbb{C}}Y + \nabla_Y^{\mathbb{C}}X) = -(\nabla_X^{\mathbb{C}}J^{\mathbb{C}})Y - (\nabla_Y^{\mathbb{C}}J^{\mathbb{C}})X + \sigma_-^{\mathbb{C}}(\nabla_X^{\mathbb{C}}Y + \nabla_Y^{\mathbb{C}}X)$  which implies that  $\nabla_X^{\mathbb{C}}Y + \nabla_Y^{\mathbb{C}}X \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}})$  if and only if  $(\nabla_X^{\mathbb{C}}J^{\mathbb{C}})Y + (\nabla_Y^{\mathbb{C}}J^{\mathbb{C}})X = 0$ .

In particular, for any  $J^{\mathbb{C}}$ -connection  $\nabla^{\mathbb{C}}$ , the distributions  $\mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}}$  and  $\mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}'}$  are  $\nabla^{\mathbb{C}}$ -geodesically invariant.

**Remark 6.10.**  $J_c := i(\mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}} - \mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}'})$  is a Norden structure on  $M$  and

$$J_cX = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{-p^2 - 4q}}(2J - pI)X,$$

for any  $X \in C^{\infty}(TM)$ .

By a direct computation we get:

**Proposition 6.11.** *The Nijenhuis tensors of  $J_c$  and  $J$  are related as follows:*

$$N_{J_c}(X, Y) = \frac{4}{-p^2 - 4q}N_J(X, Y),$$

for any  $X, Y \in C^{\infty}(TM)$ .

Moreover, if

$$T^{\mathbb{C}}M = T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M$$

is the decomposition of the complexified tangent bundle into  $(1, 0)$  and  $(0, 1)$  parts, with respect to the almost complex structure  $J_c$ , we have:

$$\mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}'} = T^{(1,0)}M, \quad \mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}} = T^{(0,1)}M.$$

**Definition 6.12.** We say that a complex linear connection  $\nabla^{\mathbb{C}}$  on  $M$  is *adapted* to the decomposition  $T^{\mathbb{C}}M = \mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}} \oplus \mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}'}$  if  $Y \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}})$  implies  $\nabla_X^{\mathbb{C}}Y \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}})$ , for any  $X \in C^{\infty}(T^{\mathbb{C}}M)$  and  $Y \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}'})$  implies  $\nabla_X^{\mathbb{C}}Y \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}'})$ , for any  $X \in C^{\infty}(T^{\mathbb{C}}M)$ .

**Remark 6.13.** If  $(M, J, g)$  is a metallic Norden manifold such that  $J^2 = pJ + qI$  with  $p^2 + 4q < 0$ , then a complex linear connection  $\nabla^{\mathbb{C}}$  is adapted to  $(\mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}}, \mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}'})$  given by (11) if and only if  $\nabla^{\mathbb{C}}$  is a  $J^{\mathbb{C}}$ -connection. Indeed, for  $Y \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}})$  we have  $J^{\mathbb{C}}Y = \sigma_-^{\mathbb{C}}Y$  and  $(\nabla_X^{\mathbb{C}}J^{\mathbb{C}})Y = \sigma_-^{\mathbb{C}}\nabla_X^{\mathbb{C}}Y - J^{\mathbb{C}}(\nabla_X^{\mathbb{C}}Y)$ , for any  $X \in C^\infty(T^{\mathbb{C}}M)$ , which implies that  $\nabla_X^{\mathbb{C}}Y \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}})$  if and only if  $\nabla^{\mathbb{C}}J^{\mathbb{C}} = 0$ . Similarly we deduce the second implication.

**Proposition 6.14.** All adapted connections to  $(\mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}}, \mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}'})$  are of the form:

$$\begin{aligned} (\nabla^{\mathbb{C}})_X^* Y &= \mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}}(\nabla_X^{\mathbb{C}}\mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}}Y) + \mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}'}(\nabla_X^{\mathbb{C}}\mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}'}Y) + \\ &+ \mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}}(S(X, \mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}}Y)) + \mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}'}(S(X, \mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}'}Y)), \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

for any  $X, Y \in C^\infty(T^{\mathbb{C}}M)$ , where  $\nabla^{\mathbb{C}}$  is a complex linear connection and  $S$  is a complex  $(1, 2)$ -tensor field on  $M$ .

**Proof.** We follow the same steps like in the real case [1].  $\square$

Consider the following adapted connection to  $(\mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}}, \mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}'})$ :

1) *The complex Schouten-van Kampen connection*  $\tilde{\nabla}^{\mathbb{C}}$  of the complex linear connection  $\nabla^{\mathbb{C}}$ , obtained from (12) for  $S := 0$ :

$$\tilde{\nabla}_X^{\mathbb{C}}Y := \mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}}(\nabla_X^{\mathbb{C}}\mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}}Y) + \mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}'}(\nabla_X^{\mathbb{C}}\mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}'}Y).$$

If  $(M, J, g)$  is a metallic Norden manifold such that  $J^2 = pJ + qI$  with  $p^2 + 4q < 0$  and  $\nabla^{\mathbb{C}}$  is torsion-free, then  $\tilde{\nabla}^{\mathbb{C}}$  is explicitly given by:

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\nabla}_X^{\mathbb{C}}Y &= \frac{1}{p^2 + 4q} [(2J^{\mathbb{C}} - pI^{\mathbb{C}})(\nabla_X^{\mathbb{C}}JY) - (pJ^{\mathbb{C}} - (p^2 + 2q)I^{\mathbb{C}})(\nabla_X^{\mathbb{C}}Y)] = \\ &= \nabla_X^{\mathbb{C}}Y + \frac{1}{p^2 + 4q} [2J^{\mathbb{C}}(\nabla_X^{\mathbb{C}}J^{\mathbb{C}}) - p(\nabla_X^{\mathbb{C}}J^{\mathbb{C}})]Y, \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

for any  $X, Y \in C^\infty(T^{\mathbb{C}}M)$ .

We remark that if  $\nabla^{\mathbb{C}}$  is the Levi-Civita connection associated to  $g^{\mathbb{C}}$ , then  $\tilde{\nabla}^{\mathbb{C}}$  is a metric  $J^{\mathbb{C}}$ -connection, i.e.  $\tilde{\nabla}^{\mathbb{C}}g^{\mathbb{C}} = \tilde{\nabla}^{\mathbb{C}}J^{\mathbb{C}} = 0$ , whose torsion is given by:

$$\begin{aligned} T^{\tilde{\nabla}^{\mathbb{C}}}(X, Y) &= \frac{1}{p^2 + 4q} [(2J^{\mathbb{C}} - pI^{\mathbb{C}})(\nabla_X^{\mathbb{C}}JY - \nabla_Y^{\mathbb{C}}J^{\mathbb{C}}X) - \\ &-(pJ^{\mathbb{C}} + 2qI^{\mathbb{C}})(\nabla_X^{\mathbb{C}}Y - \nabla_Y^{\mathbb{C}}X)], \end{aligned}$$

for any  $X, Y \in C^\infty(T^{\mathbb{C}}M)$ .

2) *The complex Vrănceanu connection*  $\bar{\nabla}^{\mathbb{C}}$  of the complex linear connection  $\nabla^{\mathbb{C}}$ , obtained from (12) for

$$\begin{aligned} S(X, Y) &:= -\mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}}(\nabla_{\mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}'X}}^{\mathbb{C}}\mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}}Y) - \mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}'}(\nabla_{\mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}X}}^{\mathbb{C}}\mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}'}Y) + \\ &+ \mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}}([\mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}'}X, \mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}}Y]^{\mathbb{C}}) + \mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}'}([\mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}}X, \mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}'}Y]^{\mathbb{C}}). \end{aligned}$$

If  $(M, J, g)$  is a metallic Norden manifold such that  $J^2 = pJ + qI$  with  $p^2 + 4q < 0$ , then  $\bar{\nabla}^{\mathbb{C}}$  is explicitly given by:

$$\bar{\nabla}_X^{\mathbb{C}}Y = \tilde{\nabla}_{\mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}X}}^{\mathbb{C}}Y + \mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}}([\mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}'}X, \mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}}Y]^{\mathbb{C}}) + \mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}'}([\mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}}X, \mathcal{P}^{\mathbb{C}'}Y]^{\mathbb{C}}), \quad (14)$$



for any  $X, Y \in C^\infty(T^C M)$ .

Moreover,  $\tilde{\nabla}^C$  is a  $J^C$ -connection, i.e.  $\tilde{\nabla}^C J^C = 0$ , whose torsion is given by:

$$T^{\tilde{\nabla}^C}(X, Y) = \frac{1}{p^2 + 4q} N_{J^C}(X, Y) + \mathcal{P}^{C'}(T^{\nabla^C}(\mathcal{P}^{C'} X, \mathcal{P}^{C'} Y)) - \mathcal{P}^C(T^{\nabla^C}(\mathcal{P}^C X, \mathcal{P}^C Y)),$$

for any  $X, Y \in C^\infty(T^C M)$ .

3) The complex Vidal connection  $\tilde{\tilde{\nabla}}^C$  associated to the metallic Norden structure  $(J, g)$ , obtained from (12) for

$$S(X, Y) := -\mathcal{P}^C(\nabla_{\mathcal{P}^C Y} \mathcal{P}^{C'}) X - \mathcal{P}^{C'}(\nabla_{\mathcal{P}^{C'} Y} \mathcal{P}^C) X,$$

therefore:

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\tilde{\nabla}}^C_X Y &= \tilde{\nabla}^C_X Y - \mathcal{P}^C(\nabla_{\mathcal{P}^C Y} \mathcal{P}^{C'}) X - \mathcal{P}^{C'}(\nabla_{\mathcal{P}^{C'} Y} \mathcal{P}^C) X = & (15) \\ &= \tilde{\nabla}^C_X Y + \frac{1}{p^2 + 4q} [(\nabla_{J^C Y} J^C) X + J^C((\nabla_Y J^C) X) - p(\nabla_Y J^C) X], \end{aligned}$$

for any  $X, Y \in C^\infty(T^C M)$ , where  $\nabla^C$  is the Levi-Civita connection of  $g^C$ .

Moreover,  $\tilde{\tilde{\nabla}}^C$  is a  $J^C$ -connection, i.e.  $\tilde{\tilde{\nabla}}^C J^C = 0$ , whose torsion is given by:

$$T^{\tilde{\tilde{\nabla}}^C}(X, Y) = \frac{1}{p^2 + 4q} N_{J^C}(X, Y),$$

for any  $X, Y \in C^\infty(T^C M)$ .

Moreover, we get:

$$\begin{aligned} (\tilde{\tilde{\nabla}}^C_X g^C)(Y, Z) &= -\frac{1}{p^2 + 4q} [g^C((\nabla_{J^C Y} J^C) X - (\nabla_Y J^C) J^C X, Z) + \\ &\quad + g^C((\nabla_{J^C Z} J^C) X - (\nabla_Z J^C) J^C X, Y)] = \\ &= \frac{1}{p^2 + 4q} [g^C(M_{J^C}(Y, X), Z) + g^C(M_{J^C}(Z, X), Y) + \\ &\quad + g^C((\nabla_{J^C X} J^C) Y + (\nabla_Y J^C) J^C X, Z) + g^C((\nabla_{J^C X} J^C) Z + (\nabla_Z J^C) J^C X, Y)], \end{aligned}$$

for any  $X, Y, Z \in C^\infty(T^C M)$ .

Since  $\tilde{\nabla}^C J^C = \tilde{\tilde{\nabla}}^C J^C = \tilde{\tilde{\nabla}}^C J^C = 0$ , from Remark 6.9 we deduce:

**Proposition 6.15.** *The distributions  $\mathcal{D}^C$  and  $\mathcal{D}^{C'}$  are  $\tilde{\tilde{\nabla}}^C$ -geodesically invariant,  $\tilde{\nabla}^C$ -geodesically invariant and  $\tilde{\tilde{\nabla}}^C$ -geodesically invariant.*

From all the above considerations, we can state:

**Theorem 6.16.** *If  $(M, J, g)$  is a metallic Norden manifold such that  $J^2 = pJ + qI$  with  $p^2 + 4q < 0$ , then the following assertions are equivalent:*

- (i) *the distributions  $\mathcal{D}^C$  and  $\mathcal{D}^{C'}$  are integrable;*
- (ii)  *$(M, J_c)$  is a complex manifold;*
- (iii) *the complex Vidal connection given by (15) is torsion-free.*

**Theorem 6.17.** *If  $(M, J, g)$  is a metallic Norden manifold such that  $J^2 = pJ + qI$  with  $p^2 + 4q < 0$ , then the following assertions are equivalent:*

- (i) *the distributions  $\mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}}$  and  $\mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}'}$  are geodesically invariant;*
- (ii) *the complex Vidal connection given by (15) is metric with respect to  $g^{\mathbb{C}}$ .*

## 6.2. The $\bar{\delta}$ -operator of a metallic complex structure.

**Definition 6.18.** A metallic manifold  $(M, J)$  such that  $J^2 = pJ + qI$  with  $p^2 + 4q < 0$  and  $J$  integrable is called *metallic complex manifold*.

Let  $(M, J)$  be a metallic complex manifold and let  $J_c = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{-p^2-4q}}(2J - pI)$  be the associated complex structure. Consider its dual map  $J_c^* : T^*M \rightarrow T^*M$ , defined by  $(J_c^*\alpha)(X) := \alpha(J_c X)$ , for any  $\alpha \in C^\infty(T^*M)$  and for any  $X \in C^\infty(TM)$ .

We shall define the real differential operator  $d^c$  acting on forms:

$$d^c := J_c^* \circ d \circ J_c^*,$$

where  $d$  is the real differential operator.

If  $(M, J, g)$  is an integrable metallic Norden manifold, we can consider the real codifferential operator  $\delta^c$  acting on forms:

$$\delta^c := \star \circ d^c \circ \star,$$

where  $\star$  is the Hodge-star operator with respect to the metric  $g$ .

We obtain

$$\begin{aligned} d^c \circ d^c &= 0, & d \circ d^c + d^c \circ d &= 0, \\ \delta^c \circ \delta^c &= 0, & \delta \circ \delta^c + \delta^c \circ \delta &= 0, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\delta$  is the codifferential operator, and with respect to the scalar product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  induced by  $g$ , the operators  $d^c$  and  $\delta^c$  are adjoint, i.e.

$$\langle d^c \alpha, \beta \rangle = \langle \alpha, \delta^c \beta \rangle,$$

for any  $\alpha, \beta \in C^\infty(T^*M)$ .

Remark that  $J^* \circ \star = \star \circ J^*$  (and  $J_c^* \circ \star = \star \circ J_c^*$ ) implies  $\delta^c = J_c^* \circ \delta \circ J_c^*$  and

$$\begin{aligned} d^c \circ J_c^* &= -J_c^* \circ d, & J_c^* \circ d^c &= -d \circ J_c^*, \\ \delta^c \circ J_c^* &= -J_c^* \circ \delta, & J_c^* \circ \delta^c &= -\delta \circ J_c^*. \end{aligned}$$

From the above relations, we can state:

**Proposition 6.19.** *Let  $\alpha$  be a real form on  $M$ .*

- (i) *If  $\alpha$  is  $d^c$ -closed (resp.  $\delta^c$ -coclosed), then  $J_c^*\alpha$  is closed (resp. coclosed).*
- (ii) *If  $\alpha$  is closed (resp. coclosed), then  $J_c^*\alpha$  is  $d^c$ -closed (resp.  $\delta^c$ -coclosed).*
- (iii) *If  $\alpha$  is  $J_c^*$ -invariant, i.e.  $J_c^*\alpha = \alpha$ , then  $\alpha$  is  $d^c$ -closed (resp.  $\delta^c$ -coclosed) if and only if it is closed (resp. coclosed).*

Therefore, the  $d^c$ -closed (resp.  $\delta^c$ -coclosed) forms are the  $J_c^*$ -invariant closed (resp. coclosed) forms. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \ker(d^c) &= \ker(d) \cap \{J_c^* - \text{invariant forms}\}, & \text{Im}(d^c) &= J_c^*(\text{Im}(d)), \\ \ker(\delta^c) &= \ker(\delta) \cap \{J_c^* - \text{invariant forms}\}, & \text{Im}(\delta^c) &= J_c^*(\text{Im}(\delta)). \end{aligned}$$

Then we can consider *the metallic cohomology groups*

$$H^r(M) := \ker(d_r^c) / \text{Im}(d_{r-1}^c),$$

where

$$d_r^c : C^\infty(\Lambda^r(M)) \rightarrow C^\infty(\Lambda^{r+1}(M))$$

and *the metallic homology groups*

$$H_r(M) := \ker(\delta_r^c) / \text{Im}(\delta_{r+1}^c),$$

where

$$\delta_r^c : C^\infty(\Lambda^r(M)) \rightarrow C^\infty(\Lambda^{r-1}(M)).$$

Now we can introduce *the metallic Hodge-Laplace operator*

$$\Delta^c : C^\infty(\Lambda^r(M)) \rightarrow C^\infty(\Lambda^r(M)), \quad \Delta^c := d^c \circ \delta^c + \delta^c \circ d^c,$$

which is symmetric and self-adjoint w.r.t.  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ . Remark that

$$\Delta^c = -J_c^* \circ \Delta \circ J_c^*,$$

where  $\Delta = d \circ \delta + \delta \circ d$  is the Hodge-Laplace operator, and  $\Delta^c$  satisfies

$$\Delta^c \circ J_c^* = J_c^* \circ \Delta, \quad J_c^* \circ \Delta^c = \Delta \circ J_c^*.$$

**Definition 6.20.** A real form  $\alpha$  is called *J-harmonic* if it belongs to the kernel of the metallic Hodge-Laplace operator, i.e.  $\Delta^c \alpha = 0$ .

From the above relations, we get:

**Proposition 6.21.** *Let  $\alpha$  be a real form on  $M$ .*

- (i) *If  $\alpha$  is J-harmonic, then  $J_c^* \alpha$  is harmonic.*
- (ii) *If  $\alpha$  is harmonic, then  $J_c^* \alpha$  is J-harmonic.*
- (iii) *If  $\alpha$  is  $J_c^*$ -invariant, i.e.  $J_c^* \alpha = \alpha$ , then  $\alpha$  is J-harmonic if and only if it is harmonic.*
- (iv)  *$\alpha$  is J-harmonic if and only if it is  $d^c$ -closed and  $\delta^c$ -coclosed.*

Therefore, the J-harmonic forms are the  $J_c^*$ -invariant harmonic forms. Then

$$\ker(\Delta^c) = \ker(\Delta) \cap \{J_c^* - \text{invariant forms}\}, \quad \text{Im}(\Delta^c) = J_c^*(\text{Im}(\Delta)).$$

Let

$$T^{\mathbb{C}}M = T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M = \mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}'} \oplus \mathcal{D}^{\mathbb{C}}$$

be the decomposition of the complexified tangent bundle into (1, 0) and (0, 1) parts, with respect to the complex structure  $J_c$  or, equivalently, with respect to the distributions defined by  $J$ .

The  $\bar{\delta}$ -operator and  $\bar{\delta}^{\bar{\bar{c}}}$ -operator acting on  $(r, s)$ -forms on  $M$  are defined as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\delta} : C^\infty(\Lambda^{(r,s)}(M)) &\rightarrow C^\infty(\Lambda^{(r,s+1)}(M)), & \bar{\delta} &:= \frac{1}{2}(d - id^c), \\ \bar{\delta}^{\bar{\bar{c}}} : C^\infty(\Lambda^{(r,s+1)}(M)) &\rightarrow C^\infty(\Lambda^{(r,s)}(M)), & \bar{\delta}^{\bar{\bar{c}}} &:= \frac{1}{2}(\delta - i\delta^c). \end{aligned}$$

Remark that the integrability of  $J$  (which is equivalent to the integrability of  $J_c$ ) implies

$$\bar{\partial} \circ \bar{\partial} = 0, \quad \bar{\bar{\partial}} \circ \bar{\bar{\partial}} = 0,$$

therefore we can consider *the metallic complex cohomology groups*

$$H^{(r,s)}(M) := \ker(\bar{\partial}_{(r,s)}) / \text{Im}(\bar{\partial}_{(r,s-1)}),$$

where

$$\bar{\partial}_{(r,s)} : C^\infty(\Lambda^{(r,s)}(M)) \rightarrow C^\infty(\Lambda^{(r,s+1)}(M))$$

and *the metallic complex homology groups*

$$H_{(r,s)}(M) := \ker(\bar{\bar{\partial}}_{(r,s)}) / \text{Im}(\bar{\bar{\partial}}_{(r,s+1)}),$$

where

$$\bar{\bar{\partial}}_{(r,s)} : C^\infty(\Lambda^{(r,s)}(M)) \rightarrow C^\infty(\Lambda^{(r,s-1)}(M)).$$

Now, if

$$T^{*\mathbb{C}}M = \mathcal{D}^{*\mathbb{C}} \oplus \overline{\mathcal{D}^{*\mathbb{C}}}$$

is the decomposition of the complexified cotangent bundle defined by  $J^*$ , then we get the following:

**Proposition 6.22.** *Let  $(M, J)$  be a metallic complex manifold such that  $J^2 = pJ + qI$  with  $p^2 + 4q < 0$ . Then the  $\bar{\partial}$ -operator:*

$$\bar{\partial} = \frac{1}{2(p^2 + 4q)} [(p^2 + 4q)d + i(4J^* \circ d \circ J^* - 2pd \circ J^* - 2pJ^* \circ d + p^2d)]$$

is acting on  $C^\infty(\Lambda^r(\mathcal{D}^*)) \otimes C^\infty(\Lambda^s(\overline{\mathcal{D}^{*\mathbb{C}}}))$ .

**Proof.** We have:

$$\begin{aligned} d^c &= \left[ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{-p^2 - 4q}}(2J^* - pI) \right] \circ d \circ \left[ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{-p^2 - 4q}}(2J^* - pI) \right] = \\ &= -\frac{1}{p^2 + 4q} (4J^* \circ d \circ J^* - 2pd \circ J^* - 2pJ^* \circ d + p^2d). \end{aligned}$$

Then the statement follows.  $\square$

Similarly, we prove that:

**Proposition 6.23.** *Let  $(M, J, g)$  be a metallic Norden manifold such that  $J^2 = pJ + qI$  with  $p^2 + 4q < 0$ . Then the  $\bar{\bar{\partial}}$ -operator:*

$$\bar{\bar{\partial}} = \frac{1}{2(p^2 + 4q)} [(p^2 + 4q)\delta + i(4J^* \circ \delta \circ J^* - 2p\delta \circ J^* - 2pJ^* \circ \delta + p^2\delta)]$$

is acting on  $C^\infty(\Lambda^r(\mathcal{D}^*)) \otimes C^\infty(\Lambda^s(\overline{\mathcal{D}^{*\mathbb{C}}}))$ .

**Remark 6.24.** The operators  $d^c$  and  $\bar{\partial}$  can be defined on metallic complex manifolds and  $\delta^c$ ,  $\Delta^c$  and  $\bar{\bar{\partial}}$  only on metallic Norden manifolds.

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