

# The twistor transform and the ADHM construction

Augusto Pereira

November 27, 2018

# Summary

- 1 Magnetic monopole
  - Introduction
  - The Hopf bundle
  - Principal bundles
- 2 Twistor correspondence
- 3 ADHM construction
- 4 References

# Spoilers

- Magnetic monopole as a prototype of a gauge theory with group  $U(1)$ , seen as the Hopf fibration.
- Generalize it to  $SU(2)$  gauge theory, habitat of instantons.
- ADHM construction of instantons via twistor correspondence.

## Electric charge

A point electric charge  $q$  located at the origin of an inertial frame determines an electric field  $\mathbf{E}$  given by Coulomb's Law (written here in spherical coordinates  $\rho, \phi, \theta$ ):

$$\mathbf{E} = \frac{q}{\rho^2} \mathbf{e}_\rho.$$

The magnetic field associated to the charge  $q$ , in this frame, is given by  $\mathbf{B} = 0$ .

# Maxwell's equations

**E** and **B** satisfy the static, source-free Maxwell equations on  $\mathbb{R}^3 \setminus \{0\}$ :

$$\operatorname{div} \mathbf{E} = 0$$

$$\operatorname{div} \mathbf{B} = 0$$

$$\operatorname{curl} \mathbf{E} = 0$$

$$\operatorname{curl} \mathbf{B} = 0.$$

## Magnetic charge

Suppose that Coulomb's Law also holds for a “magnetic point charge” (which has never been observed in nature). Thus we would have, by analogy,

$$\mathbf{E} = 0$$

$$\mathbf{B} = \frac{g}{\rho^2} \mathbf{e}_\rho,$$

where the constant  $g$  is the strength (“magnetic charge”) of this magnetic monopole.

# Maxwell's equations

- $\mathbf{E}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$  clearly satisfy the static, source-free Maxwell equations on  $\mathbb{R}^3 \setminus \{0\}$ . In particular,

$$\begin{aligned}\operatorname{div} \mathbf{B} &= 0 \text{ on } \mathbb{R}^3 \setminus \{0\}, \\ \operatorname{curl} \mathbf{B} &= 0 \text{ on } \mathbb{R}^3 \setminus \{0\}.\end{aligned}\tag{1}$$

- (1) + simple-connectedness of  $\mathbb{R}^3 \setminus \{0\} \implies$  existence of *scalar* potential for  $\mathbf{B}$ .
- Want: vector potential for  $\mathbf{B}$ : vector field  $\mathbf{A}$  such that  $\mathbf{B} = \operatorname{curl} \mathbf{A}$  for physical reasons.

# Potentials

- $\operatorname{div} \mathbf{B} = 0$  is **necessary** for the existence of a vector potential ( $\operatorname{div} \operatorname{curl} = 0$ ), **but not sufficient**.
- Stokes' theorem tells us that there is no vector potential for  $\mathbf{B}$  on  $\mathbb{R}^3 \setminus \{0\}$ .



# Simple-connectedness

- Simple-connectedness + vanishing curl  $\implies$  existence of *scalar* potential.
- Topological condition: vanishing of “fundamental group”  
 $\pi_1(\mathbb{R}^3 \setminus \{0\}) = 0$ .
- Fundamental group encodes classes of loops (maps from the circle  $S^1$  to the space) deformable to one another.
- Also called 1-connectedness.

## 2-connectedness

- 2-connectedness: classes of maps from  $S^2$  to a space  $U$  which form a group  $\pi_2(U)$ .
- Intuitively, if  $U$  is 1-connected,  $\pi_2(U) = 0$  means that any copy of  $S^2$  in  $U$  encloses only points of  $U$ .
- $\pi_2(\mathbb{R}^3 \setminus \{0\}) \neq 0$ ; take any sphere around the origin.

# Existence of vector potential

## Proposition

$U \subset \mathbb{R}^3$  open 1-connected,  $\mathbf{F}$  smooth vector field on  $U$ . If  $\operatorname{div} \mathbf{F} = 0$  and  $\pi_2(U) = 0$ , then there exists a smooth vector field  $\mathbf{A}$  on  $U$  such that  $\mathbf{F} = \operatorname{curl} \mathbf{A}$ .

# Example

- Let  $Z_- = \{(0, 0, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid z \leq 0\}$ ,  
 $Z_+ = \{(0, 0, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid z \geq 0\}$ .
- The complements  $U_{\mp} = \mathbb{R}^3 \setminus Z_{\pm}$  are simply-connected and 2-connected  $\implies \exists$  vector potentials  $\mathbf{A}_{\pm}$  for  $\mathbf{B}$  on  $U_{\pm}$ .
- If  $\mathbf{B} = (g/\rho^2)\mathbf{e}_{\rho}$ , then we can calculate

$$\mathbf{A}_+ = \frac{g}{\rho \sin \phi} (1 - \cos \phi) \mathbf{e}_{\theta}, \quad \mathbf{A}_- = -\frac{g}{\rho \sin \phi} (1 + \cos \phi) \mathbf{e}_{\theta}.$$

## Example

- Note that  $U_+ \cup U_- = \mathbb{R}^3 \setminus \{0\}$ .
- On the overlap  $U_+ \cap U_- = \mathbb{R}^3 \setminus \{z \text{ axis}\}$ , we have

$$\mathbf{A}_+ - \mathbf{A}_- = \frac{2g}{\rho \sin \phi} \mathbf{e}_\theta = \nabla(2g\theta),$$

i.e. they differ by a gradient, which means

$$\text{curl } \mathbf{A}_+ = \text{curl } \mathbf{A}_-,$$

and so  $\mathbf{B}$  is well-defined on the overlap.

# Physical significance of potentials

Consider now that, apart from the magnetic monopole at the origin of an inertial frame, we have an electric charge  $q$  free to move in space.

- Classically, the dynamics of the charge are determined by the Lorentz Force Law and Newton's second law.
- In quantum mechanics, the dynamical variable is the wavefunction and it is determined by Schrödinger's equation.

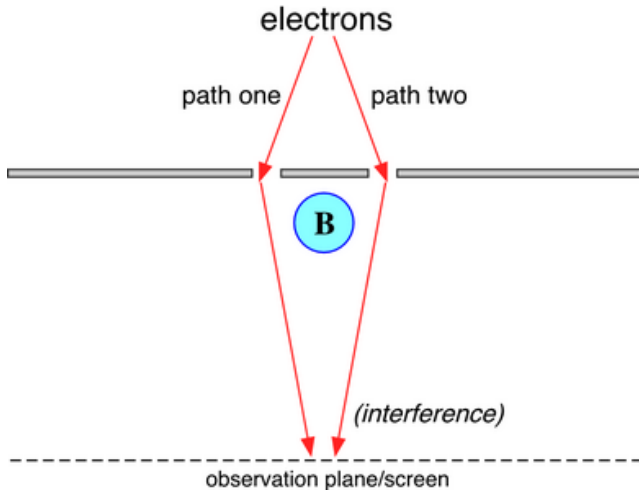
## Physical significance of potentials

- In classical theory, the motion of the charge is unchanged by a transformation  $\mathbf{A} \rightarrow \mathbf{A} + \nabla\Omega$  of the potential. Thus, it has no physical significance, only the field.
- In the quantum picture, Schrödinger's equation tells us that replacing  $\mathbf{A} \rightarrow \mathbf{A} + \nabla\Omega$  transforms the wavefunction as

$$\psi \rightarrow e^{iq\Omega}\psi,$$

changing only the amplitude (phase change) of the wavefunction.

# The Aharonov-Bohm effect



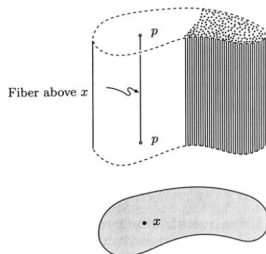


# Bundles

- Lack of global potential introduces phase differences.
- How to keep track of the phase of a particle as it travels through space?

# Bundles

- Associated to each point  $x$  in space, we have a circle (line segment with ends identified) of possible phase values.
- These circles (“fibers”) are “bundled” together.
- A phase change corresponds to an action of  $S^1$  on each fiber.



# Bundles

- Keeping track of the charge's phase is a “lifting problem”:  
given the trajectory of the charge in space and a value of the phase at some given point, specify a curve through the total bundle space.
- The phase should vary continuously, so the fibers  $S^1$  need to be bundled together topologically.

# Differential forms

Let  $U \subset \mathbb{R}^3$  be an open set.

- 0-forms on  $U$  are by definition real-valued functions on  $U$ .
- 1-forms on  $U$ :  $f_1 dx + f_2 dy + f_3 dz$
- 2-forms on  $U$ :  $g_1 dy \wedge dz + g_2 dz \wedge dx + g_3 dx \wedge dy$ .
- Both correspond to a vector field on  $U$  with components  $(f_1, f_2, f_3)$  and  $(g_1, g_2, g_3)$ , respectively.
- 3-forms on  $U$ :  $fdx \wedge dy \wedge dz$ .
- A  $p$ -form eats  $p$  vectors (skew-symmetric when exchange order) and spits out a number.

# Differential forms

Let  $f$  be a 0-form,  $\omega$  a 1-form and  $F$  a 2-form.

- Exterior differentiation takes a  $p$ -form to a  $(p + 1)$ -form.
- $f \rightarrow df$  corresponds to  $\nabla f$ .
- $\omega \rightarrow d\omega$  corresponds to  $\text{curl } \omega$
- $F \rightarrow dF$  corresponds to  $\text{div } F$ .

## Bundles over $S^2$

- The monopole field  $\mathbf{B} = (g/\rho^2)\mathbf{e}_\rho$  has a corresponding 2-form  $F$ , and the vector potential can now be thought of as a 1-form  $A$  such that  $F = dA$ .
- The vector potentials  $\mathbf{A}_+$  and  $\mathbf{A}_-$  correspond to the 1-forms

$$A_+ = g(1 - \cos \phi)d\theta, \quad A_- = -g(1 + \cos \phi)d\theta.$$

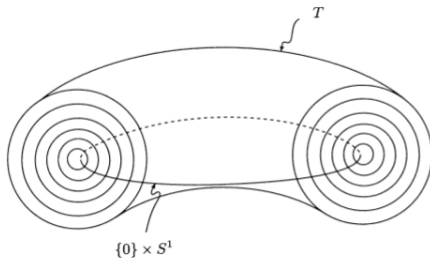
- Independence of  $\rho \implies$  phase is constant in radial direction. Thus, only need to consider bundles over  $S^2$ .

# The Hopf bundle

- Define  $S^3$  as the set of  $(z_1, z_2) \in \mathbb{C}^2$  with  $|z_1|^2 + |z_2|^2 = 1$ .
- Use polar coordinates in each entry:  $z_1 = \cos(\phi/2)e^{i\xi_1}$ ,  
 $z_2 = \sin(\phi/2)e^{i\xi_2}$  for  $\phi \in [0, \pi]$  and  $\xi_1, \xi_2 \in \mathbb{R}$ .
- Let  $T \subset S^3$  be given by  $|z_1| = |z_2|$ , i.e. all the points  
 $(z_1, z_2) = (1/\sqrt{2})(e^{i\xi_1}, e^{i\xi_2})$ , clearly a torus (product of two circles).

# The Hopf bundle

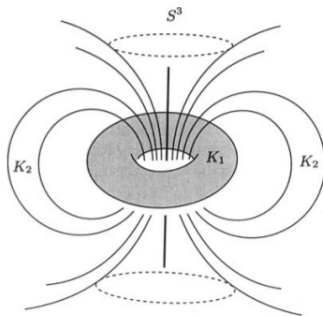
- Let  $K_1 \subset S^3$  be given by  $|z_1| \leq |z_2|$ , i.e.  
 $\cos(\phi/2) \leq \sin(\phi/2) \implies \pi/4 \leq \phi/2 \leq \pi/2$ .
- $\phi/2 = \pi/4$  gives us  $T$ ;  $\phi/2 = \pi/2$  means  $z_1 = 0$  and so we have  $\{0\} \times S^1$ , a circle.





# The Hopf bundle

- Let  $K_2 \subset S^3$  be given by  $|z_1| \geq |z_2|$ . Similarly, we have  $0 \leq \phi/2 \leq \pi/4$ .
- Also a solid torus bounded by  $T$ , degenerating into a circle (here seen as a line through infinity).



# The Hopf bundle

- Action of  $U(1)$  (more traditional in gauge theory instead of  $S^1$ ) on  $S^3$ :

$$(z_1, z_2) \cdot g = (z_1 g, z_2 g).$$

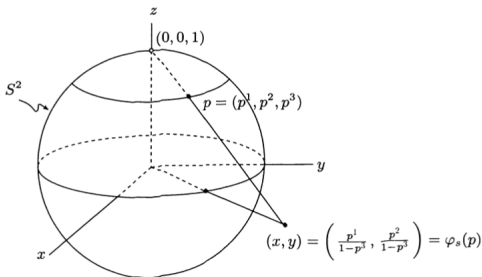
- Each orbit of the action corresponds to a point in  $S^2$ : if  $(z_1, z_2) \sim (w_1, w_2)$ , then  $z_1/z_2 = w_1/w_2$ , so it suffices to take one point of the orbit and take its ratio, which is a complex number (possibly  $\infty$ ).

# The Hopf bundle

Consider the map  $\pi : S^3 \rightarrow S^2$  given by

$$\pi(z_1, z_2) = \varphi_S^{-1} \left( \frac{z_1}{z_2} \right),$$

where  $\varphi_S$  is stereographic projection from the north pole onto the extended complex plane.



# The Hopf bundle

- In terms of the parameters  $\phi, \xi_1, \xi_2$  given by  $(z_1, z_2) = (\cos(\phi/2)e^{i\xi_1}, \sin(\phi/2)e^{i\xi_2})$ , we can write

$$\pi(\phi, \xi_1, \xi_2) = (\sin \phi \cos \theta, \sin \phi \sin \theta, \cos \phi),$$

where  $\theta = \xi_1 - \xi_2$ .

- $\pi$  maps  $S^3$  onto  $S^2$  and for any  $x \in S^2$ , the *fiber*  $\pi^{-1}(x)$  is the orbit of any  $(z_1, z_2)$  above  $x$ , i.e. such that  $\pi(z_1, z_2) = x$ .

# The Hopf bundle

Conclusion:

- $\pi : S^3 \rightarrow S^2$  identifies each orbit in  $S^3$  (a copy of  $S^1$ ) with a point in  $S^2$ .

## Definition

Let  $M$  be a manifold (e.g.  $S^2$ ) and  $G$  a Lie group (e.g.  $U(1)$ ). A *principal bundle* over  $M$  (the *base space*) with *structure group*  $G$  consists of

- A manifold  $P$  (e.g.  $S^3$ ), called *total space*,
- A map  $\pi : P \rightarrow M$ , called *projection*,
- An action of  $G$  on  $P$ .

## Definition

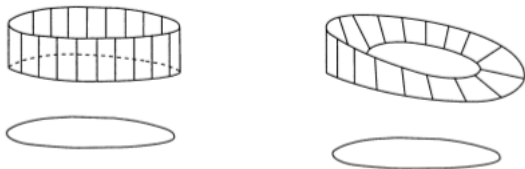
Moreover, we require that

- 1 The action of  $G$  on  $P$  leave the fibers invariant, i.e.  
 $\pi(p \cdot g) = \pi(p)$ .
- 2 (*Local triviality*) For each  $x \in M$  there exists an open set  $U \ni x$  and a diffeo  $\Psi : \pi^{-1}(U) \rightarrow U \times G$  of the form  $\Psi(p) = (\pi(p), \psi(p))$ , where  $\psi : \pi^{-1}(U) \rightarrow G$  satisfies

$$\psi(p \cdot g) = \psi(p)g \text{ for all } p \in \pi^{-1}(U) \text{ and } g \in G.$$

## Local triviality

- The Hopf map  $\pi : S^3 \rightarrow S^2$  is similar to the natural projection  $S^2 \times U(1) \rightarrow S^2$ .
- Both slice the total space into a disjoint union of circles hovering above each point of  $S^2$ .
- The fibers are glued together differently when viewed globally, but can “untwist” them locally so as to be the same:





# Local triviality of the Hopf bundle

- Cover the sphere with  $U_S \cup U_N = S^2$ .
- Can trivialize the Hopf bundle  $\pi : S^3 \rightarrow S^2$  on each open set of the cover

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_S : \pi^{-1}(U_S) &\rightarrow S^2 \times U(1) \\ (z_1, z_2) &\mapsto \left( \pi(z_1, z_2), \frac{z_2}{|z_2|} \right), \\ \psi_N : \pi^{-1}(U_N) &\rightarrow S^2 \times U(1) \\ (z_1, z_2) &\mapsto \left( \pi(z_1, z_2), \frac{z_1}{|z_1|} \right). \end{aligned}$$

# Transition functions for the Hopf bundle

- If  $x \in U_S \cap U_N$ , then  $\psi_S$  and  $\psi_N$  identify  $\pi^{-1}(x)$  with  $U(1)$  differently. Let  $\psi_{S,x}, \psi_{N,x} : \pi^{-1}(x) \rightarrow U(1)$  be the restriction to the fiber. We have

$$\psi_{S,x} \circ \psi_{N,x}^{-1}(g) = \left( \frac{z_2/|z_2|}{z_1/|z_1|} \right) g,$$

$$\psi_{N,x} \circ \psi_{S,x}^{-1}(g) = \left( \frac{z_1/|z_1|}{z_2/|z_2|} \right) g,$$

for any  $(z_1, z_2) \in \pi^{-1}(x)$ .

# Transition functions for the Hopf bundle

- Get functions

$$g_{SN} : U_S \cap U_N \rightarrow U(1), \quad g_{NS} : U_S \cap U_N \rightarrow U(1)$$

called *transition functions*, defined by

$$\psi_{S,x} \circ \psi_{N,x}^{-1}(g) = g_{SN}(x)g, \quad \psi_{N,x} \circ \psi_{S,x}^{-1}(g) = g_{NS}(x)g.$$

- In terms of the parameters  $\phi, \xi_1, \xi_2$ , with  $\theta = \xi_1 - \xi_2$ , we have

$$g_{SN}(\sin \phi \cos \theta, \sin \phi \sin \theta, \cos \phi) = e^{-i\theta},$$
$$g_{NS}(\sin \phi \cos \theta, \sin \phi \sin \theta, \cos \phi) = e^{i\theta}.$$

# Connections on principal bundles

Consider again  $A_+ = g(1 - \cos \phi)d\theta$ ,  $A_- = -g(1 + \cos \phi)d\theta$  for  $g = 1/2$  (physical reasons).

- Correspond to potential 1-forms on  $U_S, U_N \subset S^2$ .

$$A_N = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \cos \phi)d\theta, \quad A_S = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \cos \phi)d\theta.$$

- $A_N = A_S + d\theta$  on  $U_S \cap U_N$ .
- Replace  $A_N \rightarrow -iA_N$  and  $A_S \rightarrow -iA_S$ , can write above equation as

$$\begin{aligned} A_N &= e^{i\theta} A_S e^{-i\theta} + e^{i\theta} de^{-i\theta} \\ &= g_{SN}^{-1} A_S g_{SN} + g_{SN}^{-1} dg_{SN}. \end{aligned}$$

# Lie algebra-valued 1-forms

- Locally defined 1-forms  $A_1, A_2$  cannot be spliced together into a globally-defined form unless they agree on the intersection.
- Lie algebra-valued 1-forms *can*, if they satisfy the consistency condition

$$A_2 = g_{12}^{-1} A_1 g_{12} + g_{12}^{-1} dg_{12},$$

be spliced together into a globally-defined Lie algebra-valued form *on the principal bundle*.

## Wrapping up

- Lie algebra of  $U(1)$  is  $T_1 U(1) \cong \text{Im } \mathbb{C}$ . Rotating the circle identifies  $T_\theta U(1) \cong T_1 U(1) \cong \text{Im } \mathbb{C}$ .
- Each  $p \in S^3$  has through it a  $U(1)$  fiber  $\implies$  each  $T_p S^3$  has  $T_1 U(1) \cong \text{Im } \mathbb{C}$  as subspace.
- A Lie algebra-valued 1-form  $\omega$  on  $S^3$  is a correspondence  $p \mapsto \omega_p : T_p S^3 \rightarrow \text{Im } \mathbb{C} \subset T_p S^3$  (like a projection).
- The collection  $\ker \omega_p$  as  $p$  varies in  $S^3$  determine a 2-dim. distribution and the derivative of  $\pi : S^3 \rightarrow S^2$  restricts to an isomorphism  $\ker \omega_p \cong T_{\pi(p)} S^2$  for each  $p$ .

## Wrapping up

- Each velocity vector along a curve in  $S^2$  lifts to a unique vector in the tangent space of  $S^3$  via the isomorphisms.
- Given an initial condition, i.e. an initial phase, the lifted vectors can be fitted with a unique integral curve lifting the original curve in  $S^2$ .

# Nomenclature

- These Lie algebra-valued 1-forms  $\omega$  are called *connections* on the principal bundle.
- The exterior derivative  $\Omega = d\omega$  is called the *curvature* of the connection.
- In the Hopf bundle, the connection replaces the potential and its curvature corresponds to the field of the magnetic monopole.



# Instantons

- Analogous Hopf bundle replacing  $\mathbb{C}$  by *quaternions*  
 $\mathbb{H} \cong \mathbb{R}^4$ .
- $S^7 \subset \mathbb{H}^2$  as pairs of quaternions  $(q_1, q_2)$  with  
 $|q_1|^2 + |q_2|^2 = 1$ .
- $S^3$  can be identified with unit quaternions, so there is  
action on  $S^7$ .
- Identify orbits of this action with points in  $S^4$  via  
stereographic projection.
- Principal bundle over  $S^4$  with structure group  $SU(2) \cong S^3$ .

# Instantons

- Models particles with *isotopic spin*.
- Interesting connections satisfy the *Yang-Mills* equations (restricts to Maxwell's equations for  $G = U(1)$ ):

$$\begin{aligned}d_A F_A &= 0 \\d_A * F_A &= 0,\end{aligned}$$

with the first being an identity (Bianchi's identity; holds for every curvature 2-form).

## (Anti-)Self-duality

- Hodge star: operator on oriented Riemannian manifolds. Spits out the remaining form for the volume form with sign respecting orientation:

$$*(dx_1 \wedge dx_2) = dx_3 \wedge dx_4$$

$$*(dx_1 \wedge dx_4 \wedge dx_3) = -dx_2.$$

- In dimension 4,  $*$  takes 2-forms into 2-forms and  $*^2 = \text{Id} \implies$  eigenvalues  $\pm 1$ . We can then decompose the space of 2-forms as

$$\Omega^2 = \Omega_+ \oplus \Omega_-,$$

*self-dual* and *anti-self-dual* parts.

## (Anti-)Self-duality

- If a curvature 2-form  $F$  is SD or ASD, i.e.  $*F = \pm F$ , then Yang-Mills equation  $d_A * F_A = 0$  follows trivially from Bianchi's identity  $d_A F_A = 0$ .
- (Anti-)self-dual solutions to the Yang-Mills equations are called *instantons*.
- Basic instanton is given by

$$A(x) = \text{Im} \left( \frac{x d\bar{x}}{1 + |x|^2} \right)$$

(Lie algebra of  $SU(2)$  can be identified with imaginary quaternions).

# Vector bundles

- $\pi : E \rightarrow M$  projection from total space to base space.
- Each fiber  $E_x = \pi^{-1}(x)$  is now a vector space.
- Trivializations are linear when restricted to each fiber.
- Operations on vector spaces carry on to bundles (fiberwise):  $E^*$ ,  $E \oplus F$ ,  $E \otimes F$ ,  $\wedge^r E$ ,  $E/F$ , etc.
- Arise from principal bundles by choosing a representation of the structure group.

## Idea

- Any conformal transformation of  $S^4$  will give a new instanton, since the Hodge star is conformally invariant.

**Problem:** exhibit all instantons.

- The twistor correspondence gives a 1-1 correspondence between instanton bundles over  $S^4$  and holomorphic bundles over  $\mathbb{P}^3$ , called the twistor space.
- The ADHM construction is a recipe to build such holomorphic bundles over  $\mathbb{P}^3$  and it can be proven that it exhausts all instantons.

# Complex manifolds

- Transition functions between open sets of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  are holomorphic.
- Introduce *complex structure* on  $TM$ , i.e.  $J : TM \rightarrow TM$  with  $J^2 = -1$ .
- Action of  $\mathbb{C}$  on each tangent space:  $i \cdot v := J(v)$ .
- Complexify each tangent space  $\implies J$  has eigenvalues  $\pm i$ .
- $TM = T^{1,0}M \oplus T^{0,1}M$  splits into holomorphic and anti-holomorphic parts.
- Decomposition carries over to  $T^*M$  and its exterior powers:  $(p, q)$  forms.

# Holomorphic bundles

- Defined over complex manifolds; admits holomorphic trivialization maps.
- Complex vector spaces as fibers.

## Proposition

Given a hermitian metric on each fiber, there is a unique connection such that its Lie algebra-valued 1-form  $A$  satisfies

- 1  $A^* = -A$  under unitary trivializations,
  - 2  $A$  is of type  $(1, 0)$  under holomorphic trivializations,
- called the *Chern connection*.



# Twistor fibration

- In complex projective space  $\mathbb{P}^3$ , every  $\ell \in \mathbb{P}^3$  is a (complex) line passing through the origin in  $\mathbb{C}^4 \cong \mathbb{H}^2$ .
- Associate to each  $\ell \in \mathbb{P}^3$  the *quaternionic* line  $\mathbb{H}\ell$  passing through the origin in  $\mathbb{H}^2$ , which gives us a map  $\pi : \mathbb{P}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{H}\mathbb{P}^1$ .
- Each quaternionic line  $L \in \mathbb{H}\mathbb{P}^1$  is a copy of  $\mathbb{C}^2$ , and thus the fiber  $\pi^{-1}(L)$  is the set of lines through the origin in this  $\mathbb{C}^2$ , i.e.  $\pi^{-1}(L) \cong \mathbb{P}^1$ .
- Identifying  $S^4 \cong \mathbb{H}\mathbb{P}^1$ , we have a map  $\pi : \mathbb{P}^3 \rightarrow S^4$  whose fibers are  $\pi^{-1}(L) \cong \mathbb{P}^1$ . This map is called the *twistor fibration*.

# Twistor fibration

- Can identify  $\mathbb{C}^4 \cong \mathbb{H}^2$  via

$$(z_1, z_2, z_3, z_4) \mapsto (z_1 + z_2j, z_3 + z_4j).$$

- $(z_1 + z_2j, z_3 + z_4j) \in \mathbb{H}^2$  left multiplied by  $j$  corresponds to  $(-\bar{z}_2, \bar{z}_1, -\bar{z}_4, \bar{z}_3) \in \mathbb{C}^4$ .
- Have map  $\sigma : \mathbb{P}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^3$  given by

$$(z_1, z_2, z_3, z_4) \mapsto (-\bar{z}_2, \bar{z}_1, -\bar{z}_4, \bar{z}_3)$$

in homogeneous coordinates.

- $\sigma$  has invariant lines  $\mathbb{P}^1$  which are precisely the fibers of the twistor fibration.

# ASD and complex structures

## Lemma

A 2-form on  $S^4$  is ASD if and only if its lift (pullback via  $\pi$ ) to twistor space is of type  $(1, 1)$ .

Applying this result to the curvature 2-form:

## Proposition

A  $U(n)$ -bundle with a metric-compatible connection on  $S^4$  has ASD curvature iff the lifted bundle on twistor space has curvature of type  $(1, 1)$ .

# Instantons and holomorphic bundles

- The lifted bundle has a natural holomorphic structure: let  $E \rightarrow X$  be a Hermitian vector bundle over a complex manifold, equipped with a connection  $\nabla$  such that  $F_\nabla \in \Omega^{1,1}(E)$ .

## Proposition

$E$  has a natural holomorphic structure such that  $\nabla$  is the Chern connection of  $E$ .

- As a pullback bundle, each fiber  $\tilde{E}_z = E_{\pi(z)} \implies$  topologically trivial on the  $\mathbb{P}^1$  fibers, can show they are holomorphically trivial on the fibers.

# Instantons and holomorphic bundles

## Theorem

Let  $E \rightarrow S^4$  be an Hermitian vector bundle with an ASD connection and let  $F = \pi^*E$  be the lifted bundle, where  $\pi : \mathbb{P}^3 \rightarrow S^4$  is the twistor fibration. Then

- 1  $F$  is holomorphic.
- 2  $F$  restricts to a holomorphic trivial bundle over each fiber  $P_x := \pi^{-1}(x)$ .
- 3 There is a holomorphic isomorphism  $\tau : \sigma^*\bar{F} \rightarrow F^*$  such that  $\tau$  induces an Hermitian inner product on  $H^0(P_x, F)$ .

Conversely, every such bundle  $F \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^3$  is given by  $F = \pi^*E$  for some bundle  $E \rightarrow S^4$  with ASD connection.

# ADHM construction

- There is a non-degenerate skew-form on  $\mathbb{C}^4$  defined by  $\omega(u, jv) = \langle u, v \rangle$ .
- Let  $L_z \subset \mathbb{C}^4$  be the line corresponding to the point  $[z] \in \mathbb{P}^3$ .
- Consider the complement wrt this skew-form  $L_z^\omega$  which has dimension 3.
- The collection of  $E_z = L_z^\omega / L_z$  with  $[z]$  varying over  $\mathbb{P}^3$  defines a vector bundle  $E$  over  $\mathbb{P}^3$  with fiber  $\mathbb{C}^2$ .

## ADHM construction

- $E$  is holomorphic because it is the quotient of two holomorphic vector bundles.
- The definition of the skew-form  $\omega$  implies that  $L_z^\omega = L_{jz}^\perp$ .  
Have orthogonal decomposition

$$\mathbb{C}^4 = L_z \oplus R_x \oplus L_{jz},$$

with  $R_x = L_z^\omega \cap L_{jz}^\omega$  depending only on the fiber, i.e. on the point of  $S^4 \implies E$  is trivial on the fibers of the twistor fibration.

- Corresponds to  $SU(2)$ -instanton bundle via twistor correspondence.

## References

- Gregory L. Naber. *Topology, Geometry and Gauge fields: Foundations*. Springer, 2010.
- M. F. Atiyah. *Geometry of Yang-Mills fields*. Pisa, 1979.
- M. F. Atiyah, N. J. Hitchin and I. M. Singer. *Self-duality in four-dimensional Riemannian geometry*. 1978.