# Kähler manifolds and holonomy

lecture 4

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#### Kähler manifolds

**DEFINITION:** An Riemannian metric g on an almost complex manifold M is called **Hermitian** if g(Ix, Iy) = g(x, y). In this case,  $g(x, Iy) = g(Ix, I^2y) = -g(y, Ix)$ , hence  $\omega(x, y) := g(x, Iy)$  is skew-symmetric.

**DEFINITION:** The differential form  $\omega \in \Lambda^{1,1}(M)$  is called the Hermitian form of (M, I, g).

**REMARK:** It is U(1)-invariant, hence of Hodge type (1,1).

**DEFINITION:** A complex Hermitian manifold  $(M, I, \omega)$  is called **Kähler** if  $d\omega = 0$ . The cohomology class  $[\omega] \in H^2(M)$  of a form  $\omega$  is called **the Kähler** class of M, and  $\omega$  the Kähler form.

## Graded vector spaces and algebras

**DEFINITION:** A graded vector space is a space  $V^* = \bigoplus_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} V^i$ .

**REMARK:** If  $V^*$  is graded, the endomorphisms space  $\operatorname{End}(V^*) = \bigoplus_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} \operatorname{End}^i(V^*)$  is also graded, with  $\operatorname{End}^i(V^*) = \bigoplus_{j \in \mathbb{Z}} \operatorname{Hom}(V^j, V^{i+j})$ 

**DEFINITION:** A graded algebra (or "graded associative algebra") is an associative algebra  $A^* = \bigoplus_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} A^i$ , with the product compatible with the grading:  $A^i \cdot A^j \subset A^{i+j}$ .

**REMARK:** A bilinear map of graded paces which satisfies  $A^i \cdot A^j \subset A^{i+j}$  is called **graded**, or **compatible with grading**.

**REMARK:** The category of graded spaces can be defined as a **category of vector spaces with** U(1)-action, with the weight decomposition providing the grading. Then a graded algebra is an associative algebra in the category of spaces with U(1)-action.

**DEFINITION:** An operator on a graded vector space is called **even (odd)** if it shifts the grading by even (odd) number. The **parity**  $\tilde{a}$  of an operator a is 0 if it is even, 1 if it is odd. We say that an operator is **pure** if it is even or odd.

#### **Supercommutator**

**DEFINITION:** A supercommutator of pure operators on a graded vector space is defined by a formula  $\{a,b\} = ab - (-1)^{\tilde{a}\tilde{b}}ba$ .

**DEFINITION:** A graded associative algebra is called **graded commutative** (or "supercommutative") if its supercommutator vanishes.

**EXAMPLE:** The Grassmann algebra is supercommutative.

**DEFINITION:** A graded Lie algebra (Lie superalgebra) is a graded vector space  $\mathfrak{g}^*$  equipped with a bilinear graded map  $\{\cdot,\cdot\}: \mathfrak{g}^* \times \mathfrak{g}^* \longrightarrow \mathfrak{g}^*$  which is graded anticommutative:  $\{a,b\} = -(-1)^{\tilde{a}\tilde{b}}\{b,a\}$  and satisfies the super Jacobi identity  $\{c,\{a,b\}\} = \{\{c,a\},b\} + (-1)^{\tilde{a}\tilde{c}}\{a,\{c,b\}\}$ 

**EXAMPLE:** Consider the algebra  $\operatorname{End}(A^*)$  of operators on a graded vector space, with supercommutator as above. Then  $\operatorname{End}(A^*), \{\cdot, \cdot\}$  is a graded Lie algebra.

**Lemma 1:** Let d be an odd element of a Lie superalgebra, satisfying  $\{d,d\}=0$ , and L an even or odd element. Then  $\{\{L,d\},d\}=0$ .

**Proof:** 
$$0 = \{L, \{d, d\}\} = \{\{L, d\}, d\} + (-1)^{\tilde{L}} \{d, \{L, d\}\} = 2\{\{L, d\}, d\}.$$

#### **Hodge** \* **operator**

Let V be a vector space. A metric g on V induces a natural metric on each of its tensor spaces:  $g(x_1 \otimes x_2 \otimes ... \otimes x_k, x_1' \otimes x_2' \otimes ... \otimes x_k') = g(x_1, x_1')g(x_2, x_2')...g(x_k, x_k').$ 

This gives a natural positive definite scalar product on differential forms over a Riemannian manifold (M,g):  $g(\alpha,\beta) := \int_M g(\alpha,\beta) \operatorname{Vol}_M$ 

Another non-degenerate form is provided by the Poincare pairing:  $\alpha, \beta \longrightarrow \int_M \alpha \wedge \beta$ .

**DEFINITION:** Let M be a Riemannian n-manifold. Define the Hodge \* operator  $*: \Lambda^k M \longrightarrow \Lambda^{n-k} M$  by the following relation:  $g(\alpha, \beta) = \int_M \alpha \wedge *\beta$ .

**REMARK:** The Hodge \* operator always exists. It is defined explicitly in an orthonormal basis  $\xi_1,...,\xi_n \in \Lambda^1 M$ :

$$*(\xi_{i_1} \wedge \xi_{i_2} \wedge ... \wedge \xi_{i_k}) = (-1)^s \xi_{j_1} \wedge \xi_{j_2} \wedge ... \wedge \xi_{j_{n-k}},$$

where  $\xi_{j_1}, \xi_{j_2}, ..., \xi_{j_{n-k}}$  is a complementary set of vectors to  $\xi_{i_1}, \xi_{i_2}, ..., \xi_{i_k}$ , and s the signature of a permutation  $(i_1, ..., i_k, j_1, ..., j_{n-k})$ .

**REMARK:** 
$$*^2|_{\Lambda^k(M)} = (-1)^{k(n-k)} \operatorname{Id}_{\Lambda^k(M)}$$

#### **Hodge theory**

**CLAIM:** On a compact Riemannian n-manifold, one has  $d^*|_{\Lambda^k M} = (-1)^{nk} * d *$ , where  $d^*$  denotes the adjoint operator, which is defined by the equation  $(d\alpha, \gamma) = (\alpha, d^*\gamma)$ .

**Proof:** Since

$$0 = \int_{M} d(\alpha \wedge \beta) = \int_{M} d(\alpha) \wedge \beta + (-1)^{\tilde{\alpha}} \alpha \wedge d(\beta),$$

one has  $(d\alpha, *\beta) = (-1)^{\tilde{\alpha}}(\alpha, *d\beta)$ . Setting  $\gamma := *\beta$ , we obtain

$$(d\alpha,\gamma) = (-1)^{\tilde{\alpha}}(\alpha,*d(*)^{-1}\gamma) = (-1)^{\tilde{\alpha}}(-1)^{\tilde{\alpha}(\tilde{n}-\tilde{\alpha})}(\alpha,*d*\gamma) = (-1)^{\tilde{\alpha}\tilde{n}}(\alpha,*d*\gamma).$$

**DEFINITION:** The anticommutator  $\Delta := \{d, d^*\} = dd^* + d^*d$  is called **the Laplacian** of M. It is self-adjoint and positive definite:  $(\Delta x, x) = (dx, dx) + (d^*x, d^*x)$ . Also,  $\Delta$  commutes with d and  $d^*$  (Lemma 1).

THEOREM: (The main theorem of Hodge theory)
There is a basis in the Hilbert space  $L^2(\Lambda^*(M))$  consisting of eigenvectors of  $\Delta$ .

THEOREM: ("Elliptic regularity for  $\Delta$ ") Let  $\alpha \in L^2(\Lambda^k(M))$  be an eigenvector of  $\Delta$ . Then  $\alpha$  is a smooth k-form.

#### **De Rham cohomology**

**DEFINITION:** The space  $H^i(M) := \frac{\ker d|_{\Lambda^i M}}{d(\Lambda^{i-1}M)}$  is called **the de Rham cohomology of** M.

**DEFINITION:** A form  $\alpha$  is called **harmonic** if  $\Delta(\alpha) = 0$ .

**REMARK:** Let  $\alpha$  be a harmonic form. Then  $(\Delta x, x) = (dx, dx) + (d^*x, d^*x)$ , hence  $\alpha \in \ker d \cap \ker d^*$ 

REMARK: The projection  $\mathcal{H}^i(M) \longrightarrow H^i(M)$  from harmonic forms to cohomology is injective. Indeed, a form  $\alpha$  lies in the kernel of such projection if  $\alpha = d\beta$ , but then  $(\alpha, \alpha) = (\alpha, d\beta) = (d^*\alpha, \beta) = 0$ .

**THEOREM:** The natural map  $\mathcal{H}^i(M) \longrightarrow H^i(M)$  is an isomorphism (see the next page).

REMARK: Poincare duality immediately follows from this theorem.

## Hodge theory and the cohomology

**THEOREM:** The natural map  $\mathcal{H}^i(M) \longrightarrow H^i(M)$  is an isomorphism.

**Proof. Step 1:** Since  $d^2 = 0$  and  $(d^*)^2 = 0$ , one has  $\{d, \Delta\} = 0$ . This means that  $\Delta$  commutes with the de Rham differential.

**Step 2:** Consider the eigenspace decomposition  $\Lambda^*(M) = \bigoplus_{\alpha} \mathcal{H}^*_{\alpha}(M)$ , where  $\alpha$  runs through all eigenvalues of  $\Delta$ , and  $\mathcal{H}^*_{\alpha}(M)$  is the corresponding eigenspace. For each  $\alpha$ , de Rham differential defines a complex

$$\mathcal{H}^0_{\alpha}(M) \stackrel{d}{\longrightarrow} \mathcal{H}^1_{\alpha}(M) \stackrel{d}{\longrightarrow} \mathcal{H}^2_{\alpha}(M) \stackrel{d}{\longrightarrow} \dots$$

**Step 3:** On  $\mathcal{H}^*_{\alpha}(M)$ , one has  $dd^* + d^*d = \alpha$ . When  $\alpha \neq 0$ , and  $\eta$  closed, this implies  $dd^*(\eta) + d^*d(\eta) = dd^*\eta = \alpha\eta$ , hence  $\eta = d\xi$ , with  $\xi := \alpha^{-1}d^*\eta$ . This implies that the complexes  $(\mathcal{H}^*_{\alpha}(M), d)$  don't contribute to cohomology.

**Step 4:** We have proven that

$$H^*(\Lambda^*M,d) = \bigoplus_{\alpha} H^*(\mathcal{H}^*_{\alpha}(M),d) = H^*(\mathcal{H}^*_{0}(M),d) = \mathcal{H}^*(M).$$

## Supersymmetry in Kähler geometry

Let (M, I, g) be a Kaehler manifold,  $\omega$  its Kaehler form. On  $\Lambda^*(M)$ , the following operators are defined.

- 0. d,  $d^*$ ,  $\Delta$ , because it is Riemannian.
- 1.  $L(\alpha) := \omega \wedge \alpha$
- 2.  $\Lambda(\alpha) := *L * \alpha$ . It is easily seen that  $\Lambda = L^*$ .
- 3. The Weil operator  $W|_{\Lambda^{p,q}(M)} = \sqrt{-1} \ (p-q)$

THEOREM: These operators generate a Lie superalgebra  $\mathfrak{a}$  of dimension (5|4), acting on  $\Lambda^*(M)$ . Moreover, the Laplacian  $\Delta$  is central in  $\mathfrak{a}$ , hence  $\mathfrak{a}$  also acts on the cohomology of M.

**REMARK:** This is a convenient way to summarize the Kähler relations and the Lefschetz'  $\mathfrak{sl}(2)$ -action.

#### **Reference:**

JM Figueroa-O'Farrill, C Koehl, B Spence, Supersymmetry and the cohomology of (hyper)Kaehler manifolds, arXiv:hep-th/9705161, Nucl.Phys. B503 (1997) 614-626

M. Verbitsky, Hyperkaehler manifolds with torsion, supersymmetry and Hodge theory, arXiv:math/0112215, Asian J. Math. Vol. 6, No. 4, pp. 679-712 (2002)

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#### The coordinate operators

Let V be an even-dimensional real vector space equipped with a scalar product, and  $v_1,...,v_{2n}$  an orthonormal basis. Denote by  $e_{v_i}: \Lambda^k V \longrightarrow \Lambda^{k+1} V$  an operator of multiplication,  $e_{v_i}(\eta) = e_i \wedge \eta$ . Let  $i_{v_i}: \Lambda^k V \longrightarrow \Lambda^{k-1} V$  be an adjoint operator,  $i_{v_i} = *e_{v_i}*$ .

CLAIM: The operators  $e_{v_i}$ ,  $i_{v_i}$ , Id are a basis of an odd Heisenberg Lie superalgebra  $\mathfrak{H}$ , with the only non-trivial supercommutator given by the formula  $\{e_{v_i}, i_{v_i}\} = \delta_{i,j} \operatorname{Id}$ .

Now, consider the tensor  $\omega = \sum_{i=1}^{n} v_{2i-1} \wedge v_{2i}$ , and let  $L(\alpha) = \omega \wedge \alpha$ , and  $\Lambda := L^*$  be the corresponding **Hodge operators**.

**CLAIM:** From the commutator relations in  $\mathfrak{H}$ , one obtains immediately that

$$H := [L, \Lambda] = \left[ \sum_{i=1}^{n} e_{v_{2i-1}} e_{v_{2i}}, \sum_{i=1}^{n} i_{v_{2i-1}} i_{v_{2i}} \right] = \sum_{i=1}^{2n} e_{v_i} i_{v_i} - \sum_{i=1}^{2n} i_{v_i} e_{v_i},$$

is a scalar operator acting as k-n on k-forms.

#### Integrability of the complex structure

**CLAIM:** ("Cartan's formula") The de Rham differential of can be expressed through the commutator of vector fields:

$$d\eta(X_1, ... X_{d+1}) = \sum_{i=1}^{d+1} D_{X_i}(\eta(X_1, ..., \check{X}_i, ..., X_{d+1}) - \sum_{i=1}^{d+1} (-1)^{i+j+1} \eta([X_i, X_j], X_1, ..., \check{X}_i, ..., \check{X}_j, ..., X_{d+1}).$$

For a 1-form  $\eta$ , this gives  $d\eta(X_1, X_2) = D_{X_1}\eta(X_2) - D_{X_2}\eta(X_1) - \eta([X_1, X_2])$ .

**COROLLARY:** Let (M,I) be an almost complex manifold. Then the following assertions are equivalent.

- (i)  $d\eta \subset \Lambda^{0,2}(M) \oplus \Lambda^{1,1}(M)$  for any  $\eta \in \Lambda^{0,1}(M)$ .
- (ii) *I* is integrable.

**REMARK:** This is equivalent to  $d|_{\Lambda^1 M}$  having only two Hodge components:  $d=d^{1,0}+d^{0,1}$  (for a non-integrable complex structure, there are 4:  $d=d^{2,-1}+d^{1,0}+d^{0,1}+d^{-1,2}$ ).

**REMARK:** Since  $\Lambda^*M$  is multiplicatively generated by  $\Lambda^1(M)$ , the decomposition  $d=d^{2,-1}+d^{1,0}+d^{0,1}+d^{-1,2}$  holds for any almost complex manifold.

## Integrability and the Hodge decomposition

**CLAIM:** A manifold (M,I) is integrable if and only if  $(d^{0,1})^2|_{C^{\infty}M}=0$ .

**Proof. Step 1: The bundle**  $\Lambda^{1,0}(M)$  is generated over  $C^{\infty}M$  by  $d^{1,0}(C^{\infty}M)$ . Indeed, it is n-dimensional,  $n=\dim_{\mathbb{C}}M$  and to prove this one needs to find n functions  $f_1,...,f_n$  with  $d^{1,0}f_i$  linearly independent at a point. This is done by taking 2n functions  $f_1,...,f_{2n}$  with  $df_i$  linearly independent, and finding an appropriate subset.

**Step 2:** Then, the integrability condition  $d(\Lambda^{1,0}(M)) \subset \Lambda^{2,0}(M) \oplus \Lambda^{1,1}(M)$  is equivalent to  $dd^{1,0}(C^{\infty}M) \subset \Lambda^{2,0}(M) \oplus \Lambda^{1,1}(M) \Leftrightarrow d^{-1,2}(d^{1,0}(C^{\infty}M)) = 0$ .

**Step 3:** The (0,2) component of  $d^2 = 0$  gives  $\{d^{-1,2}, d^{1,0}\} = \{d^{0,1}, d^{0,1}\} = 2(d^{0,1})^2 = 0$ . From Step 2, we obtain that  $(d^{0,1})^2|_{C^{\infty}M} = 0$  is equivalent to integrability. ■

**REMARK:** The above claim provides an equivalence  $d^{2,-1}=0\Leftrightarrow \{d^{-1,2},d^{1,0}\}=0\Leftrightarrow (d^{0,1})^2=0.$ 

#### The twisted differential $d^c$

**DEFINITION:** The **twisted differential** is defined as  $d^c := IdI^{-1}$ .

**CLAIM:** Let (M,I) be a complex manifold. Then  $\partial:=\frac{d+\sqrt{-1}\,d^c}{2}$ ,  $\overline{\partial}:=\frac{d-\sqrt{-1}\,d^c}{2}$  are the Hodge components of d,  $\partial=d^{1,0}$ ,  $\overline{\partial}=d^{0,1}$ .

**Proof:** Let V be a space generated by d, IdI. The natural action of U(1) generated by  $e^{\mathcal{W}}$  preserves V. Since d has only two Hodge components. U(1) acts with weights  $\sqrt{-1}$  and  $-\sqrt{-1}$ , and its Hodge components are expressed as above.  $\blacksquare$ 

**CLAIM:** On a complex manifold, one has  $d^c = [\mathcal{W}, d]$ .

**Proof:** Clearly,  $[\mathcal{W}, d^{1,0}] = \sqrt{-1} d^{1,0}$  and  $[\mathcal{W}, d^{0,1}] = -\sqrt{-1} d^{0,1}$ . Adding these equations, obtain  $d^c = [\mathcal{W}, d]$ .

**COROLLARY:**  $\{d, d^c\} = \{d, \{d, W\}\} = 0$  (Lemma 1).

#### De Rham differential on Kaehler manifolds

THEOREM: The following statements are equivalent.

1. I is integrable. 2.  $\partial^2 = 0$ . 3.  $\overline{\partial}^2 = 0$ . 4.  $dd^c = -d^c d$  5.  $dd^c = 2\sqrt{-1} \partial \overline{\partial}$ .

**DEFINITION:** The operator  $dd^c$  is called the pluri-Laplacian.

**THEOREM:** Let M be a Kaehler manifold. One has the following identities ("Kähler identities").

$$[\Lambda, \partial] = \sqrt{-1} \,\overline{\partial}^*, \quad [L, \overline{\partial}] = -\sqrt{-1} \,\partial^*, \quad [\Lambda, \overline{\partial}^*] = -\sqrt{-1} \,\partial, \quad [L, \partial^*] = \sqrt{-1} \,\overline{\partial}.$$

Equivalently,

$$[\Lambda, d] = (d^c)^*, \qquad [L, d^*] = -d^c, \qquad [\Lambda, d^c] = -d^*, \qquad [L, (d^c)^*] = d.$$

#### **Laplacians and supercommutators**

THEOREM: Let

$$\Delta_d := \{d, d^*\}, \quad \Delta_{d^c} := \{d^c, d^{c*}\}, \quad \Delta_{\partial} := \{\partial, \partial^*\}, \Delta_{\overline{\partial}} := \{\overline{\partial}, \overline{\partial}^*\}.$$

Then  $\Delta_d = \Delta_{d^c} = 2\Delta_{\overline{\partial}} = 2\Delta_{\overline{\partial}}$ . In particular,  $\Delta_d$  preserves the Hodge decomposition.

**Proof:** By Kodaira relations,  $\{d, d^c\} = 0$ . Graded Jacobi identity gives

$${d, d^*} = -{d, {\Lambda, d^c}} = {{\Lambda, d}, d^c} = {d^c, d^{c^*}}.$$

Same calculation with  $\partial, \overline{\partial}$  gives  $\Delta_{\partial} = \Delta_{\overline{\partial}}$ . Also,  $\{\partial, \overline{\partial}^*\} = \sqrt{-1} \{\partial, \{\Lambda, \partial\}\} = 0$ , (Lemma 1), and the same argument implies that **all anticommutators**  $\partial, \overline{\partial}^*$ , etc. all vanish except  $\{\partial, \partial^*\}$  and  $\{\overline{\partial}, \overline{\partial}^*\}$ . This gives  $\Delta_d = \Delta_{\partial} + \Delta_{\overline{\partial}}$ .

**DEFINITION:** The operator  $\Delta := \Delta_d$  is called the Laplacian.

**REMARK:** We have proved that operators  $L, \Lambda, d, W$  generate a Lie superalgebra of dimension (5|4) (5 even, 4 odd), with a 1-dimensional center  $\mathbb{R}\Delta$ .

# The Lefschetz $\mathfrak{s}l(2)$ -action

**COROLLARY:** The operators  $L, \Lambda, H$  form a basis of a Lie algebra isomorphic to  $\mathfrak{sl}(2)$ , with relations

$$[L, \Lambda] = H, \quad [H, L] = 2L, \quad [H, \Lambda] = -2\Lambda.$$

**DEFINITION:**  $L, \Lambda, H$  is called the Lefschetz  $\mathfrak{sl}(2)$ -triple.

**REMARK:** Finite-dimensional representations of  $\mathfrak{sl}(2)$  are semisimple.

**REMARK:** A simple finite-dimensional representation V of  $\mathfrak{sl}(2)$  is generated by  $v \in V$  which satisfies  $\Lambda(v) = 0$ , H(v) = pv ("lowest weight vector"), where  $p \in \mathbb{Z}^{\geqslant 0}$ . Then  $v, L(v), L^2(v), ..., L^p(v)$  form a basis of  $V_p := V$ . This representation is determined uniquely by p.

**REMARK:** In this basis, H acts diagonally:  $H(L^i(v)) = (2i - p)L^i(v)$ .

**REMARK:** One has  $V_p = \operatorname{Sym}^p V_1$ , where  $V_1$  is a 2-dimensional tautological representation. It is called a weight p representation of  $\mathfrak{sl}(2)$ .

**COROLLARY:** For a finite-dimensional representation V of  $\mathfrak{sl}(2)$ , denote by  $V^{(i)}$  the eigenspaces of H, with  $H|_{V^{(i)}}=i$ . Then  $L^i$  induces an isomorphism  $V^{(-i)} \stackrel{L^i}{\longrightarrow} V^{(i)}$  for any i>0.

#### Lefschetz action on cohomology.

From the supersymmetry theorem, the following result follows.

**COROLLARY:** The  $\mathfrak{s}l(2)$ -action  $\langle L, \Lambda, H \rangle$  and the action of Weil operator commute with Laplacian, hence **preserve the harmonic forms on a Kähler manifold**.

**COROLLARY:** Any cohomology class can be represented as a sum of closed (p,q)-forms, giving a decomposition  $H^i(M) = \bigoplus_{p+q=i} H^{p,q}(M)$ , with  $\overline{H^{p,q}(M)} = H^{q,p}(M)$ .

COROLLARY: odd cohomology of a compact Kähler manifold are even-dimensional.

**COROLLARY:** Let M be a compact, Kähler manifold of complex dimension n, and i+p+q=n. Then  $L^i$  defines the Lefschetz isomorphism  $H^{p,q} \stackrel{L^i}{\longrightarrow} H^{p+2i,q+2i}(M)$ 

# The Hodge diamond:

 $H^{n,n}$  $H^{n,n-1}$  $H^{n-1,n}$  $H^{n-1,n-1}$  $H^{n,n-2}$  $H^{n-2,n}$  $H^{n,n-3}(M)$   $H^{n-1,n-2}(M)$  $H^{n-2,n-1}(M)$   $H^{n-3,n}(M)$  $H^{2,1}(M)$  $H^{1,2}(M)$  $H^{3,0}(M)$  $H^{0,3}(M)$  $H^{2,0}$  $H^{1,1}$  $H^{0,2}$  $H^{1,0}$  $H^{0,1}$  $H^{0,0}$ 

#### Hyperkähler manifolds

**DEFINITION:** (E. Calabi, 1978)

Let (M,g) be a Riemannian manifold equipped with three complex structure operators  $I, J, K: TM \longrightarrow TM$ , satisfying the quaternionic relation

$$I^2 = J^2 = K^2 = IJK = -\operatorname{Id}$$
.

Suppose that I, J, K are Kähler. Then (M, I, J, K, g) is called hyperkähler.

**REMARK:** A hyperkähler manifold M is equipped with 3 symplectic forms  $\omega_I$ ,  $\omega_J$ ,  $\omega_K$ . The form  $\Omega := \omega_J + \sqrt{-1} \, \omega_K$  is a holomorphic symplectic 2-form on (M,I).

**THEOREM:** (Calabi-Yau) Let M be a compact, holomorphically symplectic Kähler manifold. Then M admits a hyperkähler metric, which is uniquely determined by the cohomology class of its Kähler form  $\omega_I$ .

Hyperkähler geometry is essentially the same as holomorphic symplectic geometry

## Supersymmetry in hyperkähler geometry

Let (M, I, J, K, g) be a hyperkaehler manifold,  $\omega_I$ ,  $\omega_J$ ,  $\omega_K$  its Kaehler forms. On  $\Lambda^*(M)$ , the following operators are defined.

- 0. d,  $d^*$ ,  $\Delta$ , because it is Riemannian.
- 1.  $L_I(\alpha) := \omega_I \wedge \alpha$
- 2.  $\Lambda_I(\alpha) := *L_I * \alpha$ . It is easily seen that  $\Lambda_I = L_J^*$ .
- 3. Three Weil operators  $W_I\big|_{\Lambda^{p,q}(M,I)}=\sqrt{-1}\,(p-q)$ ,  $W_J\big|_{\Lambda^{p,q}(M,J)}=\sqrt{-1}\,(p-q)$ ,  $W_K\big|_{\Lambda^{p,q}(M,K)}=\sqrt{-1}\,(p-q)$

THEOREM: These operators generate a Lie superalgebra  $\mathfrak{a}$  of dimension (11|8), acting on  $\Lambda^*(M)$ . Moreover, the Laplacian  $\Delta$  is central in  $\mathfrak{a}$ , hence  $\mathfrak{a}$  also acts on the cohomology of M.

**REMARK:** The Weil operators form the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{su}(2)$  of unitary quaternions. This means that the quaternionic action belongs to  $\mathfrak{a}$ . In particular,  $L_J, L_K, \Lambda_J$  and  $\Lambda_K$ .

**REMARK:** The twisted de Rham differentials  $d_I, d_J, d_K$ , associated to I, J, K also belong to  $\mathfrak{a}$ :  $d_I = [W_I, d]$ ,  $d_J = [W_J, d]$ ,  $d_K = [W_K, d]$ 

#### Supersymmetry and the Hodge decomposition

**REMARK:** 1.  $[L_I, \Lambda_J] = W_K$ ,  $[L_J, \Lambda_K] = W_I$ ,  $[L_I, \Lambda_K] = -W_J$ .

- 2. The even part of  $\mathfrak{a}$  is isomorphic to  $\mathfrak{sp}(1,1,\mathbb{H}) \oplus \mathbb{R} \cdot \Delta$ .
- 3. The odd part  $\langle d, d_I, d_J, d_K, d, d_I^*, d_J^*, d_K^* \rangle$  generates the 9-dimensional odd Heisenberg algebra, with the only non-trivial supercommutators being  $\{d, d^*\} = \{d_I, d_I^*\} = \{d_J, d_J^*\} = \{d_K, d_K^*\} = \Delta$
- 4. The action of  $\mathfrak{a}_{even}$  on  $\mathfrak{a}_{odd}$  is the fundamental representation of  $\mathfrak{sp}(1,1,\mathbb{H})$  in  $\mathbb{H}^2$ , with the quaternionic Hermitian metric on  $\mathfrak{a}_{odd}$  provided by the anticommutator.

**REMARK:** The weight decomposition of the  $\mathfrak{sp}(1,1,\mathbb{H}) = \mathfrak{so}(1,4)$ -action on  $H^*(M)$  coincides with the Hodge decomposition.