

February 1

Suppose  $\{e_i\}$  is an orthonormal frame  
for  $T_M$ , then

$$\Delta^{\bar{E}} = - \nabla_{e_i}^{\bar{E}} \nabla_{e_i}^{\bar{E}} + \nabla_{\nabla_{e_i}^{\bar{E}}}^{\bar{E}}.$$

Or, if  $\{x^i\}$  is any smooth coordinate,  
then

$$\Delta^{\bar{E}} = - g^{ij}(x) \left( \nabla_{\partial_i}^{\bar{E}} \nabla_{\partial_j}^{\bar{E}} - \Gamma_{ij}^k \nabla_{\partial_k}^{\bar{E}} \right)$$

where  $\{\Gamma_{ij}^k\}$  are Christoffel symbols

$$\nabla_{\partial_i}^{\bar{E}} \partial_k = \Gamma_{ij}^k \partial_k.$$

The standard or "scalar" Laplacian is the  
case  $E$  is trivial and  $\nabla^{\bar{E}} = d$ . Then

$$\Delta f = - \text{Tr}(\nabla d f).$$

or in local coordinates:

$$\Delta f = -g^{ij}(x) \left( \partial_i \partial_j - \Gamma_{ij}^k \partial_k \right) f.$$

We will show that any generalized Laplacian  $H$  is of the form

$$H = \Delta^{\bar{E}} + F$$

where  $F \in \Gamma(M, \text{End } E)$

Prop: If  $H$  is generalized Laplacian, there exists a connection  $\nabla^{\bar{E}}$  s.t.  $\forall f \in C^\infty(M)$ :

$$[H, f] = -2 \langle \text{grad } f, \nabla^{\bar{E}} \rangle + \Delta f,$$

as first-order differential operators acting on  $\Gamma(M, \bar{E})$ .

Pf: Define  $\nabla^E$  by the formula

$$\langle f_0 \operatorname{grad} f_1, \nabla^E s \rangle$$

$$\stackrel{df_0}{=} \frac{1}{2} f_0 \left( -H(f_1, s) + f_1 Hs + (\Delta f_1) s \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} f_0 \left( -[H, f_1] s + (\Delta f_1) s \right)$$

Claim:  $\nabla^E$  is well-defined.

(Sps  $f_0, f_1, f_2 \in C^\infty(M)$ ). Then

$$f_0 \operatorname{grad} f_1 f_2 = f_0 f_1 \operatorname{grad} f_2 + f_0 f_2 \operatorname{grad} f_1$$

Now:  $\left( [H, f_1], f_2 \right) s = -2 (df_1, df_2) s$

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$$\left( H f_1 - f_1 H, f_2 \right) s$$

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$$H(f_1 f_2 s) - f_1 H(f_2 s) - f_2 H(f_1 s)$$

$$+ f_1 f_2 Hs$$

$$\Rightarrow \langle f_0 \operatorname{grad} f_1 f_2, \nabla^E s \rangle$$

$$= \langle f_1 \operatorname{grad} f_1 + f_0 f_1 \operatorname{grad} f_2, \nabla^E s \rangle \quad ]$$

Claim:  $\nabla^E (h s) = dh \otimes s + h \nabla^E s$ .

$$\left( \left[ \langle \operatorname{grad} f, \nabla^E \rangle, h \right] \right)$$

$$= \left[ -\frac{1}{2} [H, f] + \frac{1}{2} \Delta f, h \right]$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2} \left( [H, f], h \right) = \langle \operatorname{grad} f, dh \rangle. \quad \square$$

Note: the operator

$$F \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} H - \Delta^E$$

satisfies

$$[F, f] = [H, f] - [\Delta^E, f]$$

$$= -2 \langle \text{grad } f, \nabla^E \rangle - (-2 \langle \text{grad } f, \nabla^E \rangle).$$

$$= 0.$$

$\Rightarrow$   $F$  is a zeroth order operator.

Summary: A generalized Laplacian is determined by:

- ① A metric  $g$  on  $M$ , this determines the second-order piece.
- ② A connection  $\nabla^E$  on  $E$ , this determines the first-order piece.
- ③ A section  $F$  of  $\text{End } E$ , this is the zeroth order piece.

Densities:  $M$  any smooth manifold. Let

$$\text{Dens}_M \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{Fr}_M^{GL_n} \times \mathbb{R} |\det|^{-1}$$

where  $\Phi_{|\det|}$  is the 1-dim'l repr

$$\begin{array}{ccc} GL_n & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{R}^\times \\ A & \longmapsto & |\det A|^{-1} \end{array}$$

The line bundle  $\text{Dens}_M$  is always trivializable.  
Nowhere vanishing section  $|dx|$ :

$$|dx| (\partial_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \partial_n) = 1.$$

↑ gluing is a choice.

Integration:

$$\int_M : \Gamma_c(M, \text{Dens}_M) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}.$$

In local coordinates

$$\int_M f(x) |dx| = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(x) dx^1 \wedge \dots \wedge dx^n.$$

More generally, for  $s \in \mathbb{R}$  let

$$\text{Dens}_M^s = \text{Fr}_M^{GL_n} \times \mathbb{R} |\det|^{-s}.$$

An orientation is a choice of isomorphism

$$\text{Dens}_M \stackrel{1-1}{\cong} \wedge^n T^*M.$$

In this case define  $\int_M \alpha = \int_M |\alpha|$

- If  $E$  is any vector bundle, there is a pairing

$$\Gamma_c(M, E) \times \Gamma(M, E^{\otimes 2} \otimes \text{Dens}_M) \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$(\alpha, \beta) \longmapsto \int_M \langle \alpha, \beta \rangle$$

- A Hermitian vector bundle is a complex vector bundle  $\bar{E}$  w/ a fiberwise Hermitian inner product that varies smoothly.

In this case  $\Gamma_c(M, E \otimes \text{Dens}_M^{1/2})$  has a natural inner product.



Dfn : 1) Let  $E_1, E_2$  be v.b.'s and

let  $D: \Gamma(M, E_1) \rightarrow \Gamma(M, E_2)$  be a differential operator. The formal adjoint

$$D^{\#}: \Gamma(M, E_2^{\otimes 2} \otimes \text{Dens}_M) \rightarrow \Gamma(M, E_1^{\otimes 2} \otimes \text{Dens}_M)$$

is:

$$\int_M \langle D\alpha, \beta \rangle = \int_M \langle \alpha, D^{\#}\beta \rangle,$$

where  $\alpha \in \Gamma_c(M, E_1)$ ,  $\beta \in \Gamma(M, E_2^{\otimes 2} \otimes \text{Dens}_M)$ .

2) If  $E$  is Hermitian and

$$D \in \mathcal{D}(M, E \otimes \text{Dens}^{1/2})$$

we say  $D$  is symmetric if

$$D = D^{\#}.$$