

The index of a transverse Dirac-type operator: the case of abelian Molino sheaf

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Abstract. We give a local formula for the index of a transverse Dirac-type operator on a compact manifold with a Riemannian foliation, under the assumption that the Molino sheaf is a sheaf of abelian Lie algebras.

1. Introduction

An important test case for noncommutative geometry comes from index theory on compact foliated manifolds, as pioneered by Connes and his collaborators. The most commonly considered case is that of a leafwise Dirac-type operator D . Its index $\text{Index}(D)$ lies in the K -theory of a stabilized version of the foliation groupoid algebra. The local index theorem gives an explicit formula for the pairing of $\text{Index}(D)$ with cyclic cohomology classes of the foliation groupoid algebra. For more information on this well-developed theory, we refer to [15], [16], [22], [23].

This paper is concerned with a different index problem for compact foliated manifolds, namely that of a transverse Dirac-type operator. Such an operator differentiates in directions normal to the leaves. In order to make sense of the operator, we must assume that the foliation is Riemannian, i.e. the normal bundle to the leaves carries a holonomy-invariant inner product. Then there is a notion of a “basic” Dirac-type operator D , a first-order differential operator that acts on the holonomy-invariant sections of a normal Clifford module. It was shown by El Kacimi [18] and Glazebrook–Kamber [21] that D is Fredholm and hence has a well-defined index $\text{Index}(D) \in \mathbb{Z}$. (In fact, this is true for any basic transversally elliptic operator [18].) The index problem, which has been open for twenty years ([18], Problème 2.8.9), is to give an explicit formula for $\text{Index}(D)$, in terms of the Riemannian foliation. A prototypical example is that of a compact manifold foliated by points, in which case the index is given by the Atiyah–Singer formula.

From the noncommutative geometry viewpoint, a leafwise Dirac-type operator is a family of Dirac-type operators parametrized by the “leaf space” of the foliation, where

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the “leaf space” is defined in terms of algebras. In contrast, a transverse Dirac-type operator is a differential operator on such a “leaf space”. As will be seen, the transverse index problem can be usefully formulated in terms of Riemannian groupoids. Such groupoids also arose in work of Petrunin–Tuschmann on the collapsing theory of Riemannian manifolds [39] and work of the second author on Ricci flow [34], [35]. Our interest in the transverse index problem comes from the more general program of doing analysis on Riemannian groupoids.

To a Riemannian foliation \mathcal{F} on a compact connected manifold M , one can canonically associate a locally constant sheaf of Lie algebras on M , called the Molino sheaf [37]. Let \mathfrak{g} denote the finite-dimensional Lie algebra which appears as the stalk of the Molino sheaf. (A priori, it could be any finite-dimensional Lie algebra.) If $\mathfrak{g} = 0$, which happens if and only if the leaves are compact, then the leaf space is an orbifold and the transverse index theorem reduces to Kawasaki’s orbifold index theorem [32], [33]. In this paper we give the first local formula for $\text{Index}(D)$ in a case when $\mathfrak{g} \neq 0$. The case that we consider is when \mathfrak{g} is an abelian Lie algebra \mathbb{R}^k .

To state our index theorem, we recall some information about Riemannian foliations. Although the leaf space of such a foliation may be pathological (for example non-Hausdorff), the space W of leaf closures is a nice Hausdorff space which is stratified by manifolds. A neighborhood of a point $w \in W$ is homeomorphic to V_w/K_w , where K_w is a compact Lie group that is canonically associated to w , and V_w is a representation space of K_w .

Assumption 1. 1. *The Molino Lie algebra is an abelian Lie algebra \mathbb{R}^k .*

2. *The Molino sheaf has trivial holonomy on M .*

3. *For all $w \in W$, the group K_w is connected.*

Here Assumptions 1.1 and 1.2 automatically hold if M is simply-connected.

If Assumption 1 holds then K_w is isomorphic to T^{j_w} for some $j_w \in [0, k]$. Put

$$W_{\max} = \{w \in W : K_w \cong T^k\}.$$

Then W_{\max} is a smooth manifold which is the deepest stratum of W . Note that W_{\max} may be the empty set.

Theorem 1. *Let M be a compact connected manifold equipped with a Riemannian foliation \mathcal{F} . Suppose that Assumption 1 holds. Let \mathcal{E} be a holonomy-invariant normal Clifford module on M , on which the Molino sheaf acts. Let D be the basic Dirac-type operator acting on holonomy-invariant sections of \mathcal{E} . Then*

$$(1.1) \quad \text{Index}(D) = \int_{W_{\max}} \hat{A}(TW_{\max}) \mathcal{N}_{\mathcal{E}, Q}.$$

Here $\mathcal{N}_{\mathcal{E}, Q}$ is a “renormalized” characteristic class which is computed from the normal data of W_{\max} along with the restriction of \mathcal{E} to W_{\max} . More precisely, it arises by mul-

tipling the Atiyah–Singer normal characteristic class and an equivariant Chern class for $\mathcal{E}|_{W_{\max}}$, and performing an averaging process; see Definition 2. Because of the computability of $\mathcal{N}_{\mathcal{E}, Q}$, we can derive the following consequences.

Corollary 1. *Under Assumption 1, the following hold:*

1. *The basic Euler characteristic of (M, \mathcal{F}) equals the Euler characteristic of W_{\max} .*
2. *If \mathcal{F} is transversely oriented then the basic signature of (M, \mathcal{F}) equals the signature of W_{\max} .*
3. *Suppose that \mathcal{F} has a transverse spin structure. Let D be the basic Dirac operator. Then $\text{Index}(D) = \hat{A}(W_{\max})$ if $k = 0$, while $\text{Index}(D) = 0$ if $k > 0$.*

The proof of Theorem 1 requires some new techniques. To motivate these, we start with a special case. An especially tractable example of a Riemannian foliation comes from a suspension construction, as described in Examples 1–8 and Section 4. In this case, the transverse structure can be described by the following data:

- (1) a discrete finitely presented group Γ ,
- (2) a compact Lie group G ,
- (3) an injection $i : \Gamma \rightarrow G$ with dense image, and
- (4) a closed Riemannian manifold Z on which G acts isometrically.

With this data, a transverse Dirac-type operator on the suspension foliation amounts to a Dirac-type operator on Z which is Γ -invariant or, equivalently, G -invariant. In this case, the index problem amounts to computing the index of D , the restriction of the Dirac-type operator to the G -invariant sections of the Clifford module. Such an index can easily be computed as $\text{Index}(D) = \int_G \text{Index}(g) d\mu_G(g)$, where $\text{Index}(g) \in \mathbb{R}$ is the G -index and $d\mu_G$ is the Haar measure on G .

The Atiyah–Singer G -index theorem [5] tells us that $\text{Index}(g) = \int_{Z^g} \mathcal{L}(g)$, where Z^g is the fixed-point set of $g \in G$ and $\mathcal{L}(g) \in \Omega^*(Z^g)$ is an explicit characteristic class. Suppose that G is a torus group T^k . After performing the integral over $g \in T^k$, only the submanifolds with $Z^g = Z^{T^k}$ will contribute, where Z^{T^k} denotes the fixed-point set of T^k . Hence we can write

$$(1.2) \quad \text{Index}(D) = \int_{T^k} \int_{Z^{T^k}} \mathcal{L}(g) d\mu_{T^k}(g).$$

In order to give a local expression for $\text{Index}(D)$, we would like to exchange integrals and write

$$(1.3) \quad \text{Index}(D) \stackrel{?}{=} \int_{Z^{T^k}} \int_{T^k} \mathcal{L}(g) d\mu_{T^k}(g).$$

But there is a surprise: the integral $\int_{T^k} \mathcal{L}(g) d\mu_{T^k}(g) \in \Omega^*(Z^{T^k})$ generally diverges! The reason that (1.2) makes sense is that there are cancellations of singularities arising from the various connected components of Z^{T^k} . After identifying these singularities (which will cancel in the end) one can subtract them by hand and thereby obtain a valid “renormalized” local index formula

$$(1.4) \quad \text{Index}(D) = \int_{Z^{T^k}} \hat{A}(TZ^{T^k}) \mathcal{N}.$$

In general, the transverse structure of a Riemannian foliation does not admit a global Lie group action like in the suspension case. This is a problem for seeing the cancellation of singularities. Instead, if the Molino sheaf has trivial holonomy then there is a global *Lie algebra* action, by \mathfrak{g} . Because of this, we use the Kirillov delocalized approach to equivariant index theory [6], Chapter 8. If \mathfrak{g} is abelian then we can replace the nonexistent “integration over G ” by an averaging over \mathfrak{g} . In summary, our proof of Theorem 1 combines a parametrix construction, using local models for the transverse structure, with Kirillov-type equivariant index formulas and an averaging over \mathfrak{g} .

It is not clear to us whether our methods extend beyond the restrictions in Assumption 1. If we remove Assumption 1.3 then the analog of W_{\max} is an orbifold and the right-hand side of (1.1) makes sense. However, in this case it is not clear whether our proof extends if $k > 0$.

In this paper we focus on the transverse structure of the foliation, as opposed to the leafwise structure. More precisely, we choose a complete transversal Z for the foliation and work with the étale groupoid $\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{F}}$ whose unit space is Z , as opposed to the foliation groupoid whose unit space is M . Let us mention an attractive alternative approach to the transverse index theorem. It consists of passing to the normal frame bundle $F_{O(q)}M$ of M , where one obtains an $O(q)$ -transversally elliptic differential operator. Atiyah showed that such an operator has an index which is a distribution on $O(q)$; see [1]. The numerical index $\text{Index}(D)$ is the result of pairing this distribution with the identity function. There is an index formula for G -transversally elliptic operators, due to Berline and Vergne [7], [38]. Unfortunately, this index formula is not explicit enough to yield a local formula for $\text{Index}(D)$. Consequently, we stick to the Riemannian groupoid $\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{F}}$, although we do use frame bundles for some technical points.

Let us also mention that there is a transverse index theorem developed by Brüning–Kamber–Richardson [11], [12], [13], based on doing analysis on the singular space W . In this way they obtain an index formula involving integrals over desingularizations of strata along with eta-invariants of normal spheres.

The structure of this paper is as follows. In Section 2 we review material about Riemannian foliations and Riemannian groupoids. We discuss the groupoid closure and construct a Haar system for it. In Section 3 we describe basic Dirac-type operators in the setting of spectral triples. We prove an isomorphism between the image of a certain projection operator, acting on all smooth sections of the transverse Clifford module, and the space of holonomy-invariant smooth sections of the transverse Clifford module. We use this to define the invariant Dirac-type operator as a self-adjoint operator. In Section 4, which can be read independently of the rest of the paper, we consider the special case of a

Riemannian foliation which arises as the suspension of a group of isometries of a compact manifold. In Section 5 we specialize to the case of abelian Molino sheaf. We construct a parametrix and prove a delocalized index theorem. In Section 6 we localize this result and prove Theorem 1. We also compute the indices in some geometric examples.

More detailed descriptions can be found at the beginnings of the sections.

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2. Riemannian groupoids and their closures

In this section we collect material, some of it well known and some of it not so well known, about Riemannian foliations and Riemannian groupoids. For basic information about foliations and groupoids, we refer to [36]. A survey on Riemannian foliations is in [28].

In Subsection 2.1 we introduce some notation and basic ideas about Riemannian groupoids.

It will be important for us to be able to take the closure of a Riemannian groupoid, in an appropriate sense. This is because the closure is a proper Lie groupoid, which allows for averaging. Hence in Subsection 2.2 we recall the construction of the groupoid closure. In order to do averaging, we need a Haar system on the groupoid closure. Our construction of the Haar system is based on passing to the frame bundle of a transversal, which is described in Subsection 2.3. Subsection 2.4 contains the construction of the Haar system, along with certain mean curvature one-forms.

In Subsection 2.5 we summarize Molino theory in terms of the Lie algebroid of the groupoid closure. Subsection 2.6 recalls Haefliger’s local models for the transverse structure of a Riemannian foliation. Finally, in Subsection 2.7, we recall Sergiescu’s dualizing sheaf for a Riemannian groupoid and show how a square root of the dualizing sheaf allows one to define a basic signature.

2.1. Riemannian groupoids. Suppose that \mathcal{G} is a smooth effective étale groupoid ([36], Chapter 5.5). The space of units is denoted $\mathcal{G}^{(0)}$. We will denote the source and range maps of \mathcal{G} by s and r , respectively. Our conventions are that $g_1 g_2$ is defined if and only if $s(g_1) = r(g_2)$. We write \mathcal{G}^p for $r^{-1}(p)$, \mathcal{G}_p for $s^{-1}(p)$ and \mathcal{G}_p^p for the isotropy group $s^{-1}(p) \cap r^{-1}(p)$. For simplicity of notation, we write $g \in \mathcal{G}$ instead of $g \in \mathcal{G}^{(1)}$ when referring to an element of the groupoid. We write $dg_{s(g)} : T_{s(g)}\mathcal{G}^{(0)} \rightarrow T_{r(g)}\mathcal{G}^{(0)}$ for the linearization of g .

For us, an action of \mathcal{G} on a manifold Z is a right action. That is, one first has a submersion $\pi : Z \rightarrow \mathcal{G}^{(0)}$. Putting

$$(2.1) \quad Z \times_{\mathcal{G}^{(0)}} \mathcal{G} = \{(p, g) \in Z \times \mathcal{G} : \pi(p) = r(g)\},$$

we must also have a smooth map $Z \times_{\mathcal{G}^{(0)}} \mathcal{G} \rightarrow Z$, denoted $(p, g) \rightarrow pg$, such that $\pi(pg) = s(g)$ and $(pg_1)g_2 = p(g_1g_2)$ for all composable g_1, g_2 . There is an associated cross-product groupoid $Z \rtimes \mathcal{G}$ with $s(p, g) = pg$ and $r(p, g) = p$.

Our notion of equivalence for smooth effective étale groupoids is *weak equivalence* ([36], Chapter 5.4), which is sometimes called Morita equivalence. (This is distinct from groupoid isomorphism.) A useful way to characterize weak equivalence (for étale groupoids) is the following ([9], Exercise III.9.2.8 (2)): two smooth étale groupoids \mathcal{G} and \mathcal{G}' are weakly equivalent if there are open covers \mathcal{U} and \mathcal{U}' of their unit spaces so that the localizations $\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{U}}$ and $\mathcal{G}'_{\mathcal{U}'}$ are isomorphic smooth groupoids.

A smooth étale groupoid \mathcal{G} is *Riemannian* if there is a Riemannian metric on $\mathcal{G}^{(0)}$ so that the groupoid elements act by local isometries. That is, for each $g \in \mathcal{G}$, the map $dg_{s(g)}$ is an isometric isomorphism. There is an evident notion of isomorphism for Riemannian groupoids. Two Riemannian groupoids are *equivalent* if there are localizations $\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{U}}$ and $\mathcal{G}'_{\mathcal{U}'}$ which are isomorphic Riemannian groupoids.

A Riemannian groupoid is *complete* in the sense of [26], Definition 3.1.1, if for all $p_1, p_2 \in \mathcal{G}^{(0)}$, there are neighborhoods U_1 of p_1 and U_2 of p_2 so that any groupoid element g with $s(g) \in U_1$ and $r(g) \in U_2$ has an extension to all of U_1 . That is, for any such g , there is a smooth map $\tau : U_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{G}$ with $\tau(s(g)) = g$ and $s \circ \tau = \text{Id}$.

2.2. Groupoid closures. Let M be a connected closed n -dimensional manifold with a codimension- q foliation \mathcal{F} . A *Riemannian foliation* structure on \mathcal{F} is an inner product on the normal bundle $TM/T\mathcal{F}$ which is holonomy-invariant. See [36], Chapter 2.2, for some equivalent formulations. In what follows, we assume that \mathcal{F} has a fixed Riemannian foliation structure.

There is a partition of M by the leaf closures. The quotient space W is Hausdorff but is generally not a manifold.

Let $F_{O(q)}M$ denote the orthonormal normal frame bundle to \mathcal{F} ; see [36], Chapter 4.2.2. It has a lifted codimension- q foliation $\tilde{\mathcal{F}}$. The leaf closures of $\tilde{\mathcal{F}}$ form the fibers of a smooth fiber bundle $F_{O(q)}M \rightarrow \hat{W}$, which is $O(q)$ -equivariant ([36], Theorem 4.26 (ii)). Also, $W = \hat{W}/O(q)$. Let $\iota : \hat{W} \rightarrow W$ denote the quotient map.

Let \mathcal{T} be a *complete transversal* to \mathcal{F} ; see [36], Example 5.19. Because M is compact, we can assume that \mathcal{T} has a finite number of connected components, each being the interior of a smooth manifold-with-boundary. Let $\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}$ be the corresponding *étale holonomy groupoid* ([36], Example 5.19). Its space of units is \mathcal{T} . Then $\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}$ is a complete Riemannian groupoid. Its weak equivalence class is independent of the choice of complete transversal \mathcal{T} .

We write $d\mu_{\mathcal{T}}$ for the Riemannian density measure on \mathcal{T} .

Example 1. Let Γ be a finitely presented discrete group. Let G be a compact Lie group which acts isometrically and effectively on a connected compact Riemannian manifold Z . Suppose that $i : \Gamma \rightarrow G$ is an injective homomorphism. Suppose that Y is a connected compact manifold with $\pi_1(Y, y_0) = \Gamma$. Let $c : \tilde{Y} \rightarrow Y$ be the universal cover. Then $M = (\tilde{Y} \times Z)/\Gamma$ has a Riemannian foliation whose leaves are the images in M of $\{\tilde{Y} \times \{z\}\}_{z \in Z}$. It is an example of a suspension foliation. There is a complete transversal $(c^{-1}(y_0) \times Z)/\Gamma \cong Z$. Then $\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}$ is the cross-product groupoid $Z \rtimes \Gamma$.

We will want to take the closure of $\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}$ in a certain sense, following [26], [41], [42]. To do so, let

$$(2.2) \quad J^1(\mathcal{T}) = \{(p_1, p_2, A) : p_1, p_2 \in \mathcal{T}, A \in \text{Isom}(T_{p_1}\mathcal{T}, T_{p_2}\mathcal{T})\}$$

be the groupoid of isometric 1-jet elements, with the 1-jet topology. It is a Lie groupoid in the sense of [36], Chapter 5.1, but is not an étale groupoid unless $\dim(\mathcal{T}) = 0$.

Lemma 1. $J^1(\mathcal{T})$ is a proper Lie groupoid in the sense of [36], Chapter 5.6.

Proof. The map $(s, r) : J^1(\mathcal{T}) \rightarrow \mathcal{T} \times \mathcal{T}$ sends (p_1, p_2, A) to (p_1, p_2) . It defines a fiber bundle with fibers diffeomorphic to the compact Lie group $O(q)$. Hence it is a proper map. \square

There is a homomorphism of $\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}$ into $J^1(\mathcal{T})$ that sends $g \in \mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}$ to

$$(s(g), r(g), dg_{s(g)}) \in J^1(\mathcal{T}).$$

This homomorphism is injective, as follows from the fact that $\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}$ is effective, along with the fact that if I is an isometry of a Riemannian manifold such that $I(p) = p$ and $dI_p = \text{Id}$ then I is the identity in a neighborhood of p .

Let $\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}}$ be the closure of $\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}$ in $J^1(\mathcal{T})$. It is a subgroupoid of $J^1(\mathcal{T})$, again with unit space \mathcal{T} . (Note that \mathcal{T} is a smooth manifold in its own right. The fact that it is the interior of a compact manifold-with-boundary will not enter until Subsection 3.3.) Now $\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}}$ is a smooth subgroupoid of $J^1(\mathcal{T})$ and so inherits a Lie groupoid structure; see [42], Section 2, and (2.6) below. Note that $dg_{s(g)} : T_{s(g)}\mathcal{T} \rightarrow T_{r(g)}\mathcal{T}$ can be defined for all $g \in \overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}}$.

Lemma 2. $\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}}$ is a proper Lie groupoid.

Proof. This follows from Lemma 1, along with the fact that $\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}}$ is a closed subset of $J^1(\mathcal{T})$. \square

The orbit space of $\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}}$ is W , the space of leaf closures. Let $\sigma : \mathcal{T} \rightarrow W$ denote the quotient map.

Example 2. Continuing with Example 1, suppose that the homomorphism $i : \Gamma \rightarrow G$ has dense image. Then $\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}}$ is the cross-product groupoid $Z \rtimes G$.

In addition to its subspace topology from $J^1(\mathcal{T})$, the groupoid $\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}}$ has an étale topology, for which s and r are local homeomorphisms. In particular, each $g \in \overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}}$ has a local extension to an isometry between neighborhoods of $s(g)$ and $r(g)$; this follows from the fact that g is a limit of elements of $\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}$ that have this property in a uniform way. We will call this the *extendability* property of g . The local extension of g is given explicitly by $\exp_{r(g)} \circ dg_{s(g)}^{-1} \circ \exp_{s(g)}$. In what follows, when we refer to $\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}}$ we will give it the subspace topology, unless we say otherwise.

Example 3. Continuing with Example 2, when we convert from the (proper) Lie groupoid topology on $\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}}$ to the étale topology, the result is $Z \rtimes G_{\delta}$, where G_{δ} denotes the discrete topology on G .

2.3. Normal frame bundle. Let $\pi : F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{T}$ be the orthonormal frame bundle of \mathcal{T} . Then $\overline{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{T}}$ acts on $F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T}$ by saying that if $g \in \overline{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{T}}$ and f is an orthonormal frame at $r(g)$ then $f \cdot g$ is the frame $(dg_{s(g)})^{-1}(f)$ at $s(g)$.

Let $\widehat{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{T}}$ be the cross-product groupoid

$$(2.3) \quad F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T} \rtimes \overline{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{T}} = \{(f, g) : g \in \overline{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{T}}, f \text{ an orthonormal frame at } r(g)\}.$$

It has unit space $F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T}$, with $s(f, g) = f \cdot g$ and $r(f, g) = f$, and orbit space \widehat{W} , with the quotient map $\hat{\sigma} : F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T} \rightarrow \widehat{W}$ being a smooth submersion ([41], Theorem 4.2). With abuse of terminology, we may call the subsets $\hat{\sigma}^{-1}(\hat{w})$ fibers. There is a commutative diagram

$$(2.4) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T} & \xrightarrow{\hat{\sigma}} & \widehat{W} \\ \pi \downarrow & & \downarrow \iota \\ \mathcal{T} & \xrightarrow{\sigma} & W \end{array}$$

where $\hat{\sigma}$ is $O(q)$ -equivariant, and π and ι are the results of taking $O(q)$ -quotients.

The groupoid $\widehat{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{T}}$ can be considered as a lift of $\overline{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{T}}$ to $F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T}$. It has trivial isotropy groups and comes from the equivalence relation on $F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T}$ given by saying that $f \sim f'$ if and only if $\hat{\sigma}(f) = \hat{\sigma}(f')$. There is an $O(q)$ -equivariant isomorphism

$$(2.5) \quad \widehat{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{T}} = (F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T} \times_{\widehat{W}} F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T}).$$

Hence

$$(2.6) \quad \overline{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{T}} = (F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T} \times_{\widehat{W}} F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T})/O(q)$$

as Lie groupoids.

The groupoid $\widehat{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{T}}$ also has an étale structure, coming from that of $\overline{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{T}}$. To see this in terms of local diffeomorphisms, given $\hat{g} \in \widehat{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{T}}$, write it as a pair (f, g) with $g \in \overline{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{T}}$ and f an orthonormal frame at $r(g)$. Let $L : U \rightarrow V$ be an extension of g to an isometry, where U is a neighborhood of $s(g) \in \mathcal{T}$ and V is a neighborhood of $r(g) \in \mathcal{T}$. Then the lift $\hat{L} : F_{O(q)}U \rightarrow F_{O(q)}V$ is a diffeomorphism from a neighborhood of $s(\hat{g}) \in F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T}$ to a neighborhood of $t(\hat{g}) \in F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T}$.

In particular,

$$(2.7) \quad d\hat{g}_{s(\hat{g})} : T_{s(\hat{g})}F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T} \rightarrow T_{r(\hat{g})}F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T}$$

is well-defined.

There is a transverse Levi–Civita connection on $F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T}$, by means of which one can construct a canonical *parallelism* of $F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T}$, i.e. vector fields $\{V^i\}$ that are pointwise linearly independent and span $TF_{O(q)}\mathcal{T}$; see [36], Chapter 4.2.2. This parallel structure is $\widehat{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{T}}$ -invariant in the sense that for all $\hat{g} \in \widehat{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{T}}$ we have $d\hat{g}_{s(\hat{g})}(V_{s(\hat{g})}^i) = V_{r(\hat{g})}^i$.

There is also a canonical Riemannian metric on $F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T}$, which comes from saying that the vector fields $\{V^i\}$ are pointwise orthonormal. With respect to this Riemannian metric, the vertical $O(q)$ -directions are orthogonal to the horizontal directions (coming from the transverse Levi-Civita connection), the $O(q)$ -fibers are all isometric to the standard $O(q)$ with the bi-invariant Riemannian metric of total volume one, and the horizontal planes are isometric to their projections to \mathcal{T} .

With this Riemannian metric on $F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T}$, the submersion $\hat{\sigma} : F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T} \rightarrow \hat{W}$ becomes a Riemannian submersion.

Finally, we note that if \mathcal{T} is transversely oriented then the above statements have analogs in which $O(q)$ is replaced by $SO(q)$. Similarly, if \mathcal{T} has a transverse spin structure then the statements have analogs in which $O(q)$ is replaced by $\text{Spin}(q)$.

2.4. Haar system. For $f \in F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T}$, let $d\mu^f$ be the measure on $\widehat{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{T}}$ which is supported on $\widehat{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{T}}^f \cong \hat{\sigma}^{-1}(\hat{\sigma}(f))$ and is given there by the fiberwise Riemannian density.

To define the mean curvature form $\hat{\tau} \in \Omega^1(F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T})$ of the fibers, choose $f \in F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T}$. Given a vector $\hat{X}_f \in T_f F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T}$, extend it to a vector field \hat{X} on $\widehat{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{T}}^f \cong \hat{\sigma}^{-1}(\hat{\sigma}(f))$, the $\widehat{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{T}}$ -orbit of f , so that for all $\hat{g} \in \widehat{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{T}}^f$ we have $d\hat{g}_{s(\hat{g})}(\hat{X}_{s(\hat{g})}) = \hat{X}_f$. We can find $\varepsilon > 0$ and a small neighborhood U of f in $\hat{\sigma}^{-1}(\hat{\sigma}(f))$ so that the geodesic flow $\phi_t(f') = \exp_{f'}(t\hat{X}_{f'})$ is defined for all $t \in (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon)$ and $f' \in U$, and ϕ_t maps U diffeomorphically to its image in a fiber $\hat{\sigma}^{-1}(\gamma(t))$. Here γ is the geodesic on \hat{W} starting from $\hat{\sigma}(f)$, with initial vector $d\hat{\sigma}_f(\hat{X}_f)$. Define the Lie derivative

$$(2.8) \quad (\mathcal{L}_{\hat{X}} d\mu)^f = \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} \phi_t^* d\mu^{\phi_t(f)}.$$

Then

$$(2.9) \quad \hat{\tau}(\hat{X}_f) = \left. \frac{(\mathcal{L}_{\hat{X}} d\mu)^f}{d\mu^f} \right|_f.$$

Lemma 3. $\hat{\tau}$ is a closed 1-form which is $\widehat{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{T}}$ -basic and $O(q)$ -basic.

Proof. The form $\hat{\tau}$ is clearly $\widehat{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{T}}$ -invariant and $O(q)$ -invariant. As $\widehat{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{T}}$ and $O(q)$ act on $F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T}$ isometrically, if $\hat{X}_f \in T_f F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T}$ is tangent to the $\widehat{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{T}}$ -orbit of f , or the $O(q)$ -orbit of f , then $(\mathcal{L}_{\hat{X}} d\mu)^f = 0$. Hence $\hat{\tau}$ is $\widehat{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{T}}$ -basic and $O(q)$ -basic.

To see that $\hat{\tau}$ is closed, we will define a smooth positive function \hat{F} in a neighborhood N of f so that $\hat{\tau} = d \log \hat{F}$ there. (The neighborhood N will be taken small enough so that the following construction makes sense.) For $f' \in N$, we write $\hat{\sigma}(f') = \exp_{\hat{\sigma}(f)} \hat{V}$ for a unique $\hat{V} \in T_{\hat{\sigma}(f)} \hat{W}$. Let \hat{X} be the horizontal lift of \hat{V} to $\hat{\sigma}^{-1}(\hat{\sigma}(f))$. For $f'' \in \hat{\sigma}^{-1}(\hat{\sigma}(f))$, put $\phi_1(f'') = \exp_{f''} \hat{X}_{f''}$. Put

$$(2.10) \quad \hat{F}(f') = \left. \frac{d\mu^{f'}}{(\phi_1^*)^{-1} d\mu^f} \right|_{f'}.$$

This defines \hat{F} on N so that $\hat{\tau} = d \log \hat{F}$ on N . Hence $\hat{\tau}$ is closed. \square

Corollary 2. *Let $\tau \in \Omega^1(\mathcal{T})$ be the unique 1-form such that $\hat{\tau} = \pi^*\tau$. Then τ is closed and $\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}}$ -basic.*

Recall the notion of a Haar system for a Lie groupoid; see, for example, [45], Definition 1.1. Now $\{d\mu^f\}_{f \in F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T}}$ is a Haar system for $\widehat{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}}$. In particular, $d\mu^f$ is a measure on $\widehat{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}}$ whose support is $\hat{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{T}}^f$, and the family of measures $\{d\mu^f\}_{f \in F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T}}$ is $\widehat{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}}$ -invariant in an appropriate sense.

Given $p \in \mathcal{T}$, choose $f \in F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T}$ so that $\pi(f) = p$. There is a diffeomorphism $i_{p,f} : \overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}^p} \rightarrow \widehat{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}^f}$ given by $i_{p,f}(g) = (f, g)$. Let $d\mu^p$ be the measure on $\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}^p}$ which is supported on $\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}^p}$ and is given there by $i_{p,f}^* d\mu^f$, where we think of $d\mu^f$ as a density on $\widehat{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}^f}$. Then $d\mu^p$ is independent of the choice of f , as follows from the fact that the family $\{d\mu^f\}_{p \in \mathcal{T}}$ is $O(q)$ -equivariant. One can check that $\{d\mu^p\}_{p \in \mathcal{T}}$ is a Haar system for $\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}}$.

Example 4. Continuing with Example 3, given $p \in Z$, the measure $d\mu^p$ on $\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}^p} \cong G$ can be described as follows. Let $\{e_i\}$ be a basis for \mathfrak{g} such that the normalized Haar measure on G is $d\mu_G = \wedge_i e_i^*$. Let $\{V_i\}$ be the corresponding vector fields on Z . The action of V_i on $F_{O(q)}Z$ breaks up as $V^i \oplus \nabla V^i$, with respect to the decomposition $TF_{O(q)}Z = \pi^*TZ \oplus TO(q)$ of $TF_{O(q)}Z$ into its horizontal and vertical subbundles. (Note that because V^i is Killing, ∇V^i is a skew-symmetric 2-tensor.) Put

$$(2.11) \quad M_{ij}(p) = \langle V_i(p), V_j(p) \rangle + \langle \nabla V_i(p), \nabla V_j(p) \rangle.$$

Note that the matrix $M(p)$ is positive-definite. Then $d\mu^p = \sqrt{\det(M(p))} d\mu_G$.

We now construct a cutoff function for $\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}}$.

Lemma 4. *There is a nonnegative cutoff function $\phi \in C_c^\infty(\mathcal{T})$ for $\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}}$, meaning that for all $p \in \mathcal{T}$,*

$$(2.12) \quad \int_{\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}^p}} \phi^2(s(g)) d\mu^p(g) = 1.$$

Proof. The proof is similar to that of [44], Proposition 6.11. The difference is that we use ϕ^2 instead of ϕ as in [44], Proposition 6.11. Choose any nonnegative $\psi \in C_c^\infty(\mathcal{T})$ such that $\int_{\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}^p}} \psi^2(s(g)) d\mu^p(g) > 0$ for all $p \in \mathcal{T}$. (Such a ψ exists because the orbit space of $\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}}$ is compact.) Then set

$$(2.13) \quad \phi = \frac{\psi}{\sqrt{\int_{\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}^p}} \psi^2(s(g)) d\mu^p(g)}}. \quad \square$$

Example 5. Continuing with Example 4, we can take $\phi^2(p) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\det(M(p))}}$.

2.5. The Lie algebroid of the groupoid closure. Molino theory is phrased as a structure on the foliated manifold M in [36], Chapter 4, and [37], and as a structure on the transversal \mathcal{T} in [26], [41], [42]. The relationship between them is that the structure on M pulls back from the structure on \mathcal{T} ; see [41], Section 3.4.

Let $\overline{\mathfrak{g}}_{\mathcal{F}}$ be the Lie algebroid of $\overline{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{F}}$, as defined in [36], Chapter 6. Then $\overline{\mathfrak{g}}_{\mathcal{F}}$ is a $\overline{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{F}}$ -equivariant flat vector bundle over \mathcal{F} whose fibers are copies of a fixed Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} . (The flat connection on $\overline{\mathfrak{g}}_{\mathcal{F}}$ is related to the extendability of elements of $\overline{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{F}}$.) The holonomy of the flat connection on $\overline{\mathfrak{g}}_{\mathcal{F}}$ lies in $\text{Aut}(\mathfrak{g})$. If $P : (U \times \mathfrak{g}) \rightarrow \overline{\mathfrak{g}}_{\mathcal{F}}$ is a local parallelization of $\overline{\mathfrak{g}}_{\mathcal{F}}$ and an $\overline{\mathfrak{g}}_{\mathcal{F}} \rightarrow T\mathcal{F}$ is the anchor map then $\text{an} \circ P$ describes a Lie algebra of Killing vector fields on U , isomorphic to \mathfrak{g} .

The pullback $\pi^*\overline{\mathfrak{g}}_{\mathcal{F}}$ of $\overline{\mathfrak{g}}_{\mathcal{F}}$ to $F_{O(q)}\mathcal{F}$ is isomorphic to the vertical tangent bundle $T^V F_{O(q)}\mathcal{F}$ of the submersion $\hat{\sigma} : F_{O(q)}\mathcal{F} \rightarrow \hat{W}$.

If M is simply-connected then \mathfrak{g} is abelian and $\overline{\mathfrak{g}}_{\mathcal{F}} = \mathcal{F} \times \mathfrak{g}$; see, for example, [29].

Example 6. Continuing with Example 5, let \mathfrak{g} be the Lie algebra of G . Then $\overline{\mathfrak{g}}_{\mathcal{F}}$ is the product bundle $Z \times \mathfrak{g}$, whose flat connection has trivial holonomy. The corresponding vector fields on $\mathcal{F} = Z$ come from the G -action.

Example 7. Let G be a finite-dimensional connected Lie group. Let \mathfrak{g} be its Lie algebra. Give G a right-invariant Riemannian metric. Let Γ be a finite-presented discrete group. Let $\Gamma \rightarrow G$ be an injective homomorphism with dense image. Let Y be a connected compact manifold with $\pi_1(Y, y_0) = \Gamma$. Let \tilde{Y} be the universal cover. Suppose that $h : \tilde{Y} \rightarrow G$ is a Γ -equivariant fiber bundle, where Γ acts on the right on G .

Then Y has a Riemannian foliation \mathcal{F} whose leaves are the images, in Y , of the connected components of the fibers of h . The foliation has dense leaves and is transversally parallelizable. Conversely, any Riemannian foliation on a connected compact manifold, which has dense leaves and is transversally parallelizable, arises from this construction ([36], Theorem 4.24).

A transversal \mathcal{T} to \mathcal{F} can be formed by taking appropriate local sections $U_i \rightarrow \tilde{Y}$ of h . Then $\overline{\mathfrak{g}}_{\mathcal{F}}$ is the product bundle $\mathcal{T} \times \mathfrak{g}$, whose flat connection has trivial holonomy. The corresponding vector fields on $\mathcal{F} \cong \coprod_i U_i$ are the restrictions of the left-invariant vector fields on G .

Note that in this construction, \mathfrak{g} could be any finite-dimensional Lie algebra.

2.6. Local transverse structure of a Riemannian foliation. We describe the local transverse structure of a Riemannian foliation, following [26], [27].

Fix $p \in \mathcal{F}$. Let K denote the isotropy group at p for $\overline{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{F}}$. Let \mathfrak{k} denote the Lie algebra of K . There is an injection $i : \mathfrak{k} \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}$. Also, there is a representation $\text{ad} : K \rightarrow \text{Aut}(\mathfrak{g})$ so that

1. $\text{ad}|_{\mathfrak{k}}$ is the adjoint representation of K on \mathfrak{k} ;
2. $d \text{ad}_e$ is the adjoint representation of \mathfrak{k} on \mathfrak{g} , as defined using i .

Let O_p be the $\overline{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{F}}$ -orbit of p . Its tangent space $T_p O_p$ at p is isomorphic to $\mathfrak{g}/\mathfrak{k}$. Put $V = (T_p O_p)^\perp \subset T_p \mathcal{F}$. A slice-type theorem gives a representation $\rho : K \rightarrow \text{Aut}(V)$ with the property that $\text{ad} \oplus \rho : K \rightarrow \text{Aut}((\mathfrak{g}/\mathfrak{k}) \oplus V)$ is injective.

The quintuple $(\mathfrak{g}, K, i, \text{ad}, \rho)$ determines the weak equivalence class of the restriction of $\overline{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{F}}$ (with the étale topology) to a small invariant neighborhood of the orbit O_p .

Given such a quintuple, one can construct an explicit local model for the transverse structure. We will restrict here to the case when \mathfrak{g} is solvable. Then there is a Lie group G with Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} , containing K as a subgroup, such that the restriction of $\overline{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{F}}$ to a small invariant neighborhood of the orbit O_p is weakly equivalent to the cross-product groupoid $(B(V) \times_K G) \rtimes G_{\delta}$, where $B(V)$ is a metric ball in V .

Finally, define a normal orbit type to be a quintuple $(\mathfrak{g}, K, i, \text{ad}, \rho)$ such that the invariant subspace V^K vanishes. Given a point $p \in \mathcal{F}$ and its associated quintuple $(\mathfrak{g}, K, i, \text{ad}, \rho)$, one obtains its normal orbit type from replacing V by V/V^K . There is a natural equivalence relation on the set of possible normal orbit types. Then there is a stratification of \mathcal{F} , where each stratum is associated to a given equivalence class of normal orbit types ([26], Section 3.3).

2.7. The dualizing sheaf. Let $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{F}}$ be the orientation bundle of \mathcal{F} . It is a flat real line bundle on \mathcal{F} . Put $\mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{F}} = \Lambda^{\max} \overline{\mathfrak{g}}_{\mathcal{F}} \otimes \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{F}}$. It is a $\overline{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{F}}$ -equivariant flat real line bundle on \mathcal{F} .

The Haar system $\{d\mu^f\}_{f \in F_{O(q)}\mathcal{F}}$ gives a nowhere-zero $O(q)$ -invariant section of the pullback bundle $\pi^* \Lambda^{\max} \overline{\mathfrak{g}}_{\mathcal{F}} \cong \Lambda^{\max} T^V F_{O(q)}\mathcal{F}$ on $F_{O(q)}\mathcal{F}$. Tensoring with this section gives an $O(q)$ -equivariant isomorphism $\hat{\mathcal{F}} : \Omega^*(F_{O(q)}\mathcal{F}; \pi^* \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{F}}) \rightarrow \Omega^*(F_{O(q)}\mathcal{F}; \pi^* \mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{F}})$. This isomorphism descends to an isomorphism $\mathcal{I} : \Omega^*(\mathcal{F}; \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{F}}) \rightarrow \Omega^*(\mathcal{F}; \mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{F}})$.

Lemma 5. $\mathcal{I}^{-1} \circ d \circ \mathcal{I} = d - \tau \wedge$ on $\Omega^*(\mathcal{F}; \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{F}})$.

Proof. This follows from the local description of $\hat{\tau} = \pi^* \tau$ as $d \log \hat{F}$ in the proof of Lemma 3. \square

Let $H_{\text{inv}}^*(\mathcal{F})$ be the cohomology of the $\overline{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{F}}$ -invariant differential forms on \mathcal{F} , and similarly for $H_{\text{inv}}^*(\mathcal{F}; \mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{F}})$. Then $H_{\text{inv}}^*(\mathcal{F})$ is isomorphic to the basic cohomology $H_{\text{bas}}^*(M)$ of the foliated manifold M , which is invariant under foliated homeomorphisms ([19]). Also, $H_{\text{inv}}^*(\mathcal{F}; \mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{F}})$ is isomorphic to $H_{\text{bas}}^*(M; \mathcal{D}_M)$, where \mathcal{D}_M is the pullback of $\mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{F}}$ from \mathcal{F} to M . From [43], for all $0 \leq i \leq \dim(\mathcal{F})$, there is a nondegenerate pairing

$$(2.14) \quad H_{\text{inv}}^i(\mathcal{F}) \times H_{\text{inv}}^{\dim(\mathcal{F})-i}(\mathcal{F}; \mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{F}}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}.$$

More generally, if E is a $\overline{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{F}}$ -equivariant flat real vector bundle on \mathcal{F} then there is a nondegenerate pairing

$$(2.15) \quad H_{\text{inv}}^i(\mathcal{F}; E) \times H_{\text{inv}}^{\dim(\mathcal{F})-i}(\mathcal{F}; E^* \otimes \mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{F}}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}.$$

The closed 1-form τ itself defines a class $[\tau] \in H_{\text{inv}}^1(\mathcal{F})$.

If $\mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{F}}$ is topologically trivial, as a $\overline{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{F}}$ -equivariant real line bundle on \mathcal{F} , then we can take the (positive) square root of its holonomies to obtain $\mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{F}}^{\frac{1}{2}}$, a $\overline{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{F}}$ -equivariant flat real line bundle. We obtain a nondegenerate bilinear form on $H_{\text{inv}}^*(\mathcal{F}; \mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{F}}^{\frac{1}{2}})$ from (2.15). Hence if $\dim(\mathcal{F})$ is divisible by four then the basic signature $\sigma(M, \mathcal{F}; \mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{F}}^{\frac{1}{2}})$ can be defined to be the index of the quadratic form on $H_{\text{inv}}^{\dim(\mathcal{F})/2}(\mathcal{F}; \mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{F}}^{\frac{1}{2}})$. Note that $H_{\text{inv}}^*(\mathcal{F}; \mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{F}}^{\frac{1}{2}})$ is isomor-

phic to the cohomology of $d - \frac{1}{2}\tau \wedge$ on $\Omega^*(\mathcal{T})$. If in addition $[\tau] = 0$ then we can write $\tau = dH$ for some $H \in C_{\text{inv}}^\infty(\mathcal{T})$, so $d - \frac{1}{2}\tau \wedge = e^{H/2} \circ d \circ e^{-H/2}$ is conjugate to d on $\Omega^*(\mathcal{T})$.

Similarly, we can define a basic Euler characteristic $\chi(M, \mathcal{F}; \mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{T}}^{\frac{1}{2}})$.

3. Transverse Dirac-type operators

In this section we construct the basic Dirac-type operator. Subsection 3.1 relates transverse differentiation with groupoid integration. In Subsection 3.2 we define a map α from holonomy-invariant sections of the transverse Clifford module to non-invariant sections, and a map β which goes the other way. We show that $\beta \circ \alpha = \text{Id}$ and $\beta = \alpha^*$. A projection operator is then defined by $P = \alpha \circ \beta$. It comes from the action of an idempotent in the groupoid algebra. The invariant Dirac-type operator D_{inv} is the compression of the transverse Dirac-type operator D_{APS} by P . In Subsection 3.3, we write D_{inv} explicitly as a differential operator.

3.1. Transverse differentiation. Let E be a $\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}}$ -equivariant vector bundle on \mathcal{T} . Given $g \in \overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}}$ and $e \in E_{s(g)}$, let $e \cdot g^{-1} \in E_{r(g)}$ denote the action of g^{-1} on e . Given a compactly-supported element $\zeta \in C_c^\infty(\mathcal{T}; E)$, with a slight abuse of notation we write

$$(3.1) \quad \int_{\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}^p}} \zeta_{s(g)} \cdot g^{-1} d\mu^p(g)$$

for the element of $C^\infty(\mathcal{T}; E)$ whose value at $p \in \mathcal{T}$ is given by (3.1).

Lemma 6. *We have an identity in $\Omega^1(\mathcal{T}; E)$:*

$$(3.2) \quad \nabla^E \int_{\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}^p}} \zeta_{s(g)} \cdot g^{-1} d\mu^p(g) = \int_{\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}^p}} (\nabla^E \zeta)_{s(g)} \cdot g^{-1} d\mu^p(g) + \tau_p \int_{\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}^p}} \zeta_{s(g)} \cdot g^{-1} d\mu^p(g).$$

Proof. Put $\hat{\nabla}^E = \pi^* \nabla^E$ and $\hat{\zeta} = \pi^* \zeta$. Choose $f \in F_{O(q)} \mathcal{T}$ so that $\pi(f) = p$. Given a vector $\hat{X}_f \in T_f F_{O(q)} \mathcal{T}$, extend it to a vector field \hat{X} on $\hat{\sigma}^{-1}(\hat{\sigma}(f))$, the $\widehat{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}}$ -orbit of f , so that for all $\hat{g} \in \widehat{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}^f}$, we have $d\hat{g}_{s(\hat{g})}(\hat{X}_{s(\hat{g})}) = \hat{X}_f$. By the $\widehat{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}}$ -invariance of $\hat{\nabla}^E$,

$$(3.3) \quad \begin{aligned} \hat{\nabla}_{\hat{X}}^E \int_{\widehat{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}^f}} \hat{\zeta}_{s(\hat{g})} \cdot \hat{g}^{-1} d\mu^f(\hat{g}) &= \int_{\widehat{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}^f} } (\hat{\nabla}_{\hat{X}}^E \hat{\zeta})_{s(\hat{g})} \cdot \hat{g}^{-1} d\mu^f(\hat{g}) + \int_{\widehat{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}^f} } \hat{\zeta}_{s(\hat{g})} \cdot \hat{g}^{-1} \mathcal{L}_{\hat{X}} d\mu^f(\hat{g}) \\ &= \int_{\widehat{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}^f} } (\hat{\nabla}_{\hat{X}}^E \hat{\zeta})_{s(\hat{g})} \cdot \hat{g}^{-1} d\mu^f(\hat{g}) + \int_{\widehat{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}^f} } \hat{\zeta}_{s(\hat{g})} \cdot \hat{g}^{-1} \hat{\tau}(\hat{X})_{s(\hat{g})} d\mu^f(\hat{g}). \end{aligned}$$

Since $\hat{\tau}(\hat{X})_{s(\hat{g})} = \hat{\tau}(\hat{X})_f$, the lemma follows. \square

Corollary 3. *If $\omega \in \Omega_c^*(\mathcal{T})$ then*

$$(3.4) \quad d \int_{\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}^p}} \omega_{s(g)} \cdot g^{-1} d\mu^p(g) = \int_{\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}^p}} (d\omega)_{s(g)} \cdot g^{-1} d\mu^p(g) + \tau_p \wedge \int_{\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}^p}} \omega_{s(g)} \cdot g^{-1} d\mu^p(g).$$

Suppose now that \mathcal{E} is a $\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}}$ -equivariant Clifford module on \mathcal{T} . In particular, if $X \in T_p\mathcal{T}$ then the Clifford action of X is an operator $c(X) \in \text{End}(\mathcal{E}_p)$ with $c(X)^2 = -|X|^2$. Let D be the Dirac operator on $C_c^\infty(\mathcal{T}; \mathcal{E})$. It is a symmetric operator.

Corollary 4. *If $\xi \in C_c^\infty(\mathcal{T}; \mathcal{E})$ then*

$$(3.5) \quad D \int_{\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}^p}} \xi_{s(g)} \cdot g^{-1} d\mu^p(g) = \int_{\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}^p}} (D\xi)_{s(g)} \cdot g^{-1} d\mu^p(g) + c(\tau_p) \int_{\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}^p}} \xi_{s(g)} \cdot g^{-1} d\mu^p(g),$$

where we have identified τ_p with its dual vector.

3.2. A projection operator. Recall the cutoff function ϕ from Lemma 4. Let $(L^2(\mathcal{T}; \mathcal{E}))^{\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}}}$ denote the $\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}}$ -invariant elements of $L^2(\mathcal{T}; \mathcal{E})$. Define maps

$$\alpha : (L^2(\mathcal{T}; \mathcal{E}))^{\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}}} \rightarrow L^2(\mathcal{T}; \mathcal{E}) \quad \text{and} \quad \beta : L^2(\mathcal{T}; \mathcal{E}) \rightarrow (L^2(\mathcal{T}; \mathcal{E}))^{\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}}}$$

by

$$(3.6) \quad \alpha(\xi) = \phi\xi$$

and

$$(3.7) \quad (\beta(\eta))_p = \int_{g \in \overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}^p}} \eta_{s(g)} \cdot g^{-1} \phi_{s(g)} d\mu^p(g).$$

Lemma 7. *We have $\beta \circ \alpha = \text{Id}$.*

Proof. If $\xi \in (L^2(\mathcal{T}; \mathcal{E}))^{\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}}}$ then

$$(3.8) \quad (\beta(\alpha(\xi)))_p = \int_{g \in \overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}^p}} \xi_{s(g)} \cdot g^{-1} \phi_{s(g)}^2 d\mu^p(g).$$

Since ξ is $\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}}$ -invariant, $\xi_{s(g)} \cdot g^{-1} = \xi_p$ and so

$$(3.9) \quad \int_{g \in \overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}^p}} \xi_{s(g)} \cdot g^{-1} \phi_{s(g)}^2 d\mu^p(g) = \xi_p \int_{g \in \overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}^p}} \phi_{s(g)}^2 d\mu^p(g) = \xi_p.$$

This proves the lemma. \square

It follows that α is injective and induces an isomorphism between $(L^2(\mathcal{T}; \mathcal{E}))^{\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}}}$ and a subspace of $L^2(\mathcal{T}; \mathcal{E})$. We equip $(L^2(\mathcal{T}; \mathcal{E}))^{\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}}}$ with the inner product induced by this isomorphism. Explicitly, for $\xi, \zeta \in (L^2(\mathcal{T}; \mathcal{E}))^{\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}}}$, we have

$$(3.10) \quad \langle \xi, \zeta \rangle = \int_{\mathcal{T}} (\xi_p, \zeta_p) \phi^2(p) d\mu_{\mathcal{T}}(p),$$

where $d\mu_{\mathcal{T}}$ is the Riemannian density on \mathcal{T} . Note that this generally differs from the inner product on $(L^2(\mathcal{T}; \mathcal{E}))^{\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}}}$ coming from its embedding in $L^2(\mathcal{T}; \mathcal{E})$.

We define a sheaf \mathcal{S}_∞ on W by saying that if U is an open subset of W then

$$\mathcal{S}_\infty(U) = (C^\infty(\sigma^{-1}(U); \mathcal{E}))^{\overline{\mathcal{G}_\mathcal{T}}}$$

Similarly, we define a sheaf \mathcal{S}_2 on W by $\mathcal{S}_2(U) = (L^2(\sigma^{-1}(U); \mathcal{E}))^{\overline{\mathcal{G}_\mathcal{T}}}$. The global sections $\mathcal{S}_2(W)$ are the same as $(L^2(\mathcal{T}; \mathcal{E}))^{\overline{\mathcal{G}_\mathcal{T}}}$.

Let $d\mu_{\hat{W}}$ denote the Riemannian measure on \hat{W} . Put $d\mu_W = \iota_* d\mu_{\hat{W}}$, a measure on W .

Given $\xi, \zeta \in (L^2(\mathcal{T}; \mathcal{E}))^{\overline{\mathcal{G}_\mathcal{T}}}$, the pointwise inner product function $(\xi, \zeta)(p)$ pulls back under ι from a measurable function on W , which we denote by $(\xi, \zeta)(w)$.

Proposition 1. *We have*

$$(3.11) \quad \langle \xi, \zeta \rangle = \int_{\hat{W}} (\xi, \zeta)(w) d\mu_W(w).$$

Proof. Put $\hat{\phi} = \pi^* \phi$. Let $d\mu_{F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T}/\hat{W}}$ denote the Riemannian densities on the pre-images of $\hat{\sigma}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} (3.12) \quad \int_{\mathcal{T}} (\xi_p, \zeta_p) \phi_p^2 d\mu_{\mathcal{T}}(p) &= \int_{F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T}} ((\pi^* \xi)_f, (\pi^* \zeta)_f) \hat{\phi}_f^2 d\mu_{F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T}}(f) \\ &= \int_{\hat{W}} (\pi^* \xi, \pi^* \zeta)(\hat{w}) \left(\int_{F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T}/\hat{W}} \hat{\phi}_f^2 d\mu_{F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T}/\hat{W}}(f) \right) d\mu_{\hat{W}}(\hat{w}) \\ &= \int_{\hat{W}} (\pi^* \xi, \pi^* \zeta)(\hat{w}) d\mu_{\hat{W}}(\hat{w}) \\ &= \int_W (\xi, \zeta)(w) d\mu_W(w). \end{aligned}$$

This proves the proposition. \square

Corollary 5. *The inner product (3.10) on $(L^2(\mathcal{T}; \mathcal{E}))^{\overline{\mathcal{G}_\mathcal{T}}}$ is independent of the choice of the cut-off function ϕ .*

We will denote $(L^2(\mathcal{T}; \mathcal{E}))^{\overline{\mathcal{G}_\mathcal{T}}}$, equipped with the inner product (3.10), by $L^2(\mathcal{S}, d\mu_W)$.

Proposition 2. $\beta = \alpha^*$.

Proof. Choose $\eta \in L^2(\mathcal{T}; \mathcal{E})$ and $\zeta \in (L^2(\mathcal{T}; \mathcal{E}))^{\overline{\mathcal{G}_\mathcal{T}}}$. Then

$$(3.13) \quad \langle \beta\eta, \zeta \rangle = \int_{F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T}} \int_{\widehat{\mathcal{G}_\mathcal{T}}^f} \hat{\phi}_f^2 \hat{\phi}_{s(\hat{g})} ((\pi^* \eta)_{s(\hat{g})} \cdot \hat{g}^{-1}, (\pi^* \zeta)_f) d\mu^f(\hat{g}) d\mu_{F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T}}(f).$$

Using the $\widehat{\mathcal{G}_\mathcal{T}}$ -invariance of ζ ,

$$\begin{aligned} (3.14) \quad \int_{F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T}} \int_{\widehat{\mathcal{G}_\mathcal{T}}^f} \hat{\phi}_f^2 \hat{\phi}_{s(\hat{g})} ((\pi^* \eta)_{s(\hat{g})} \cdot \hat{g}^{-1}, (\pi^* \zeta)_f) d\mu^f(\hat{g}) d\mu_{F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T}}(f) \\ = \int_{\widehat{\mathcal{G}_\mathcal{T}}} \hat{\phi}_{r(\hat{g})}^2 \hat{\phi}_{s(\hat{g})} ((\pi^* \eta)_{s(\hat{g})}, (\pi^* \zeta)_{s(\hat{g})}) d\mu_{\widehat{\mathcal{G}_\mathcal{T}}}(\hat{g}), \end{aligned}$$

where $d\mu_{\widehat{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{T}}}$ is the measure on $\widehat{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{T}}$ induced by the Haar system $\{d\mu^f\}_{f \in F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T}}$ and the Riemannian measure $d\mu_{F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T}}$. Since $d\mu_{\widehat{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{T}}}$ is invariant under the involution $\hat{g} \mapsto \hat{g}^{-1}$ on $\widehat{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{T}}$,

$$\begin{aligned}
(3.15) \quad & \int_{\widehat{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{T}}} \hat{\phi}_{r(\hat{g})}^2 \hat{\phi}_{s(\hat{g})} ((\pi^*\eta)_{s(\hat{g})}, (\pi^*\xi)_{s(\hat{g})}) d\mu_{\widehat{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{T}}}(\hat{g}) \\
&= \int_{\widehat{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{T}}} \hat{\phi}_{s(\hat{g})}^2 \hat{\phi}_{r(\hat{g})} ((\pi^*\eta)_{r(\hat{g})}, (\pi^*\xi)_{r(\hat{g})}) d\mu_{\widehat{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{T}}}(\hat{g}) \\
&= \int_{F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T}} \int_{\widehat{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{T}}^f} \hat{\phi}_{s(\hat{g})}^2 \hat{\phi}_f ((\pi^*\eta)_f, (\pi^*\xi)_f) d\mu^f(\hat{g}) d\mu_{F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T}}(f) \\
&= \int_{F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T}} \hat{\phi}_f ((\pi^*\eta)_f, (\pi^*\xi)_f) d\mu_{F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T}}(f) \\
&= \int_{\mathcal{T}} \phi_f(\eta_p, \xi_p) d\mu_{\mathcal{T}}(p) = \langle \eta, \alpha\xi \rangle.
\end{aligned}$$

This proves the proposition. \square

Corollary 6. $P = \alpha \circ \beta$ is an orthogonal projection on $L^2(\mathcal{T}; \mathcal{E})$.

More explicitly,

$$(3.16) \quad (P\eta)_p = \phi_p \int_{g \in \mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}^p} \eta_{s(g)} \cdot g^{-1} \phi_{s(g)} d\mu^p(g).$$

This shows that P comes from the action of the idempotent $g \rightarrow \phi_{s(g)}\phi_{r(g)}$ in the groupoid algebra $C_c^\infty(\overline{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{T}})$, which we also denote by P .

The maps α and β establish an isomorphism between $\text{Im } P$ and $(L^2(\mathcal{T}; \mathcal{E}))^{\overline{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{T}}}$.

3.3. Spectral triples and the invariant Dirac-type operator. Let D_0 be the operator on $(L^2(\mathcal{T}; \mathcal{E}))^{\overline{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{T}}}$ which is the restriction of the Dirac-type operator on \mathcal{T} to $\overline{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{T}}$ -invariant spinor fields. Let D_{APS} denote the Dirac-type operator on $L^2(\mathcal{T}; \mathcal{E})$ with Atiyah–Patodi–Singer (APS) boundary conditions on $\partial\overline{\mathcal{T}}$; see [4]. It is a self-adjoint extension of D . (We do not require a product geometry near $\partial\overline{\mathcal{T}}$.) Note that $\text{Im}(\alpha) \subseteq \text{Dom}(D_{\text{APS}})$, since an element of $\text{Im}(\alpha)$ has compact support in \mathcal{T} , i.e. in the interior of $\overline{\mathcal{T}}$.

Remark 1. In what follows, the choice of APS boundary conditions is not essential. Any boundary condition which gives a self-adjoint operator would work just as well. We invoke APS boundary conditions for clarity.

Proposition 3. $(C_c^\infty(\overline{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{T}}), L^2(\mathcal{T}; \mathcal{E}), D_{\text{APS}})$ is a spectral triple of dimension q .

Proof. The action of $A \in C_c^\infty(\overline{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{T}})$ on $\eta \in L^2(\mathcal{T}; \mathcal{E})$ is given by

$$(3.17) \quad (A\eta)_p = \int_{g \in \mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}^p} A(g)\eta_{s(g)} \cdot g^{-1} d\mu^p(g).$$

As A is compactly supported, there is a compact subset K of \mathcal{T} so that $\text{supp}(A) \subset (s, r)^{-1}(K \times K)$. It follows that the action of $C_c^\infty(\overline{\mathcal{G}_\mathcal{T}})$ on $L^2(\mathcal{T}; \mathcal{E})$ preserves $\text{Dom}(D_{\text{APS}})$.

Using (3.17), it follows that $[D_{\text{APS}}, A]$ is a bounded operator on $L^2(\mathcal{T}; \mathcal{E})$. Thus $(C_c^\infty(\overline{\mathcal{G}_\mathcal{T}}), L^2(\mathcal{T}; \mathcal{E}), D_{\text{APS}})$ is a spectral triple. Finally, from [24], Section 9, the spectral triple has dimension q in the sense of [15], Chapter 4.2. \square

Proposition 4. *We have*

$$(3.18) \quad \beta \circ D_{\text{APS}} \circ \alpha = D_0 - \frac{1}{2}c(\tau).$$

Proof. Choose $\xi \in (L^2(\mathcal{T}; \mathcal{E}))^{\overline{\mathcal{G}_\mathcal{T}}}$. Then

$$(3.19) \quad D_{\text{APS}}(\alpha(\xi)) = D_{\text{APS}}(\phi\xi) = c(d\phi)\xi + \phi D_{\text{APS}}(\xi).$$

Using the $\overline{\mathcal{G}_\mathcal{T}}$ -invariance of the Dirac operator, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} (3.20) \quad (\beta(D_{\text{APS}}(\alpha(\xi))))_p &= \int_{g \in \overline{\mathcal{G}_\mathcal{T}^p}} (D_{\text{APS}}(\alpha(\xi)))_{s(g)} \cdot g^{-1}\phi_{s(g)} d\mu^p(g) \\ &= \int_{g \in \overline{\mathcal{G}_\mathcal{T}^p}} (c(d\phi)\xi)_{s(g)} \cdot g^{-1}\phi_{s(g)} d\mu^p(g) \\ &\quad + \int_{g \in \overline{\mathcal{G}_\mathcal{T}^p}} \phi_{s(g)} (D_{\text{APS}}(\xi))_{s(g)} \cdot g^{-1}\phi_{s(g)} d\mu^p(g) \\ &= c\left(\int_{\overline{\mathcal{G}_\mathcal{T}^p}} (d\phi)_{s(g)} \cdot g^{-1}\phi_{s(g)} d\mu^p(g)\right)\xi_p \\ &\quad + \left(\int_{\overline{\mathcal{G}_\mathcal{T}^p}} \phi_{s(g)}^2 d\mu^p(g)\right)(D_0\xi)_p. \end{aligned}$$

Since

$$(3.21) \quad \int_{\overline{\mathcal{G}_\mathcal{T}^p}} \phi_{s(g)}^2 d\mu^p(g) = 1,$$

differentiation gives

$$\begin{aligned} (3.22) \quad 0 &= 2 \int_{\overline{\mathcal{G}_\mathcal{T}^p}} (d\phi)_{s(g)} \cdot g^{-1}\phi_{s(g)} d\mu^p(g) + \int_{\overline{\mathcal{G}_\mathcal{T}^p}} \phi_{s(g)}^2 \tau_p d\mu^p(g) \\ &= 2 \int_{\overline{\mathcal{G}_\mathcal{T}^p}} (d\phi)_{s(g)} \cdot g^{-1}\phi_{s(g)} d\mu^p(g) + \tau_p. \end{aligned}$$

The proposition follows. \square

We define the invariant Dirac operator D_{inv} on $(L^2(\mathcal{T}; \mathcal{E}))^{\overline{\mathcal{G}_\mathcal{T}}}$ by

$$(3.23) \quad D_{\text{inv}} = D_0 - \frac{1}{2}c(\tau).$$

Corollary 7. D_{inv} is a self-adjoint Fredholm operator. For all $\theta > 0$, the operator $e^{-\theta D_{\text{inv}}^2}$ is trace-class.

Proof. The operator D_{inv} is unitarily equivalent to $P \circ D_{\text{APS}} \circ P$. As P is an idempotent in the groupoid algebra $C_c^\infty(\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{F}})$, it follows from Proposition 3 that D_{inv} is self-adjoint and Fredholm.

It follows from [20], Theorem C, that $e^{-\theta[(PD_{\text{APS}}P)^2 + ((1-P)D_{\text{APS}}(1-P))^2]}$ is trace-class for all $\theta > 0$. Then $e^{-\theta(PD_{\text{APS}}P)^2}$ is also trace-class. \square

Corollary 8. If $\dim(\mathcal{F})$ is even and D is the Gauss–Bonnet operator $d + d^*$ then $\text{Ind}(D_{\text{inv}})$ equals the basic Euler characteristic $\chi(M, \mathcal{F}; \mathcal{D}_M^{\frac{1}{2}})$. If $\dim(\mathcal{F})$ is even and D is the signature operator $d + d^*$ then $\text{Ind}(D_{\text{inv}})$ equals the basic signature $\sigma(M, \mathcal{F}; \mathcal{D}_M^{\frac{1}{2}})$.

Proof. As $e^{-\theta D_{\text{inv}}^2}$ is trace-class, we can apply standard Hodge theory. \square

Remark 2. Let $\text{ch}_{\text{JLO}}(D_{\text{APS}})$ be the JLO cocycle (see [31]) for the spectral triple $(C_c^\infty(\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{F}}), L^2(\mathcal{S}; \mathcal{E}), D_{\text{APS}})$ from Proposition 3. Then for any $t > 0$,

$$(3.24) \quad \text{Index}(D_{\text{inv}}) = \langle \text{ch}_{\text{JLO}}(tD_{\text{APS}}), \text{ch}(P) \rangle.$$

One may hope to prove a transverse index theorem by computing $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \langle \text{ch}_{\text{JLO}}(tD_{\text{APS}}), \text{ch}(P) \rangle$ as a local expression. As will become clear in the next section, there are problems with this approach.

Given a positive function $h \in (C^\infty(\mathcal{S}))^{\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{F}}}}$, we can write $h = \sigma^* h_W$ for some $h_W \in C(W)$. The operator $D_0 - \frac{1}{2}c(\tau)$ on $L^2(\mathcal{S}, d\mu_W)$ is unitarily equivalent to the operator $D_0 - \frac{1}{2}c(\tau - d \log h)$ on $L^2(\mathcal{S}, h_W d\mu_W)$.

Corollary 9. If $[\tau] = 0$ in $H_{\text{inv}}^1(\mathcal{S})$ then up to a multiplicative constant, there is a unique positive $h \in (C^\infty(\mathcal{S}))^{\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{F}}}}$ so that $\tau = d \log h$. Hence in this case, the invariant Dirac operator D_{inv} is unitarily equivalent to D_0 on $L^2(\mathcal{S}, h_W d\mu_W)$.

Example 8. Continuing with Example 6, suppose that Z is equipped with a G -equivariant Clifford module \mathcal{E} . By (2.9), $\hat{\tau} = d \log \hat{\sigma}^* \hat{\mathcal{V}}$, where $\hat{\mathcal{V}} \in C^\infty(\hat{W})$ is the function for which $\hat{\mathcal{V}}(\hat{w}) = \text{vol}(\hat{\sigma}^{-1}(\hat{w}))$. Then $\tau = d \log \sigma^* \mathcal{V}$, where $\mathcal{V} \in C(W)$ is defined by $\hat{\mathcal{V}} = \iota^* \mathcal{V}$. In particular, $[\tau] = 0$ and D_{inv} is unitarily equivalent to D_0 on $L^2(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{V} d\mu_W)$. Now

$$(3.25) \quad \mathcal{V} d\mu_W = \iota_*(\hat{\mathcal{V}} d\mu_{\hat{W}}) = \iota_* \hat{\sigma}_* d\mu_{F_{O(q)}Z} = \sigma_* \pi_* d\mu_{F_{O(q)}Z} = \sigma_* d\mu_Z.$$

Hence D_{inv} is unitarily equivalent to D_0 on $L^2(\mathcal{S}, \sigma_* d\mu_Z)$, which is what one would expect.

Remark 3. There are several approaches in the literature to the goal of constructing a good self-adjoint basic Dirac-type operator.

Given a foliated manifold (M, \mathcal{F}) with a bundle-like metric g_M as in [36], Remark 2.7(7), one can consider a normal Clifford module on M and its holonomy-invariant sections. With this approach, the natural inner product on the holonomy-invariant sections involves the volume form of g_M . In order to obtain a self-adjoint basic Dirac-type operator with this approach, one must assume that the mean curvature form κ of the foliated manifold (M, \mathcal{F}) is a basic one-form; see [21]. Note that the mean curvature form κ , which lives on M , is distinct from the mean curvature form τ in this paper, which lives on \mathcal{T} .

Still working on M , the problem of self-adjointness was resolved by means of a modified basic Dirac-type operator, involving the basic projection of κ ; see [25]. Given the transverse metric, it was shown in [25] that the spectrum is independent of the particular choice of bundle-like metric.

In the present paper we work directly with the transverse structure, so bundle-like metrics do not enter. Presumably our operator D_{inv} is unitarily equivalent to the operator considered in [25].

A different approach is to consider the operator D_+ mapping from the positive-chirality holonomy-invariant sections to the negative-chirality holonomy-invariant sections. One then obtains a self-adjoint operator $D = D_+ + D_+^*$, albeit not an explicit one. This is essentially the approach of [18]. Different choices of inner product will change the definition of D_+^* but will not affect $\text{Index}(D_+)$.

4. The case of a compact group action

In this section we analyze the index of a Dirac-type operator when it acts on the T^k -invariant sections of a T^k -equivariant Clifford module on a compact manifold Z . In Subsection 4.1 we express the index in terms of the Atiyah–Singer G -indices. In Subsection 4.2 we discuss the problem in switching the order of integration over T^k and integration over the fixed-point set. This turns out to be an issue about the nonuniformity of an asymptotic expansion.

4.1. An index formula. Let

- (1) Γ be a discrete group,
- (2) G be a compact connected Lie group,
- (3) $i : \Gamma \rightarrow G$ be an injective homomorphism with dense image,
- (4) $d\mu_G$ be normalized Haar measure on G ,
- (5) Z be an even-dimensional compact connected Riemannian manifold on which G acts isometrically,
- (6) \mathcal{E} be a G -equivariant Clifford module on Z , and
- (7) Y be a compact connected manifold with $\pi_1(Y, y_0) = \Gamma$.

Put $M = (\tilde{Y} \times Z)/\Gamma$, where Γ acts diagonally on $\tilde{Y} \times Z$. Then M has a Riemannian foliation with complete transversal Z . Now $(L^2(Z; \mathcal{E}))^\Gamma = (L^2(Z; \mathcal{E}))^G$. Let D be the Dirac-type operator on $L^2(Z; \mathcal{E})$ and let D_{inv} be its restriction to $(L^2(Z; \mathcal{E}))^G$. Given $g \in G$, let $\text{Index}(g) \in \mathbb{R}$ denote its G -index, i.e. $\text{Index}(g) = \text{tr}_s g|_{\text{Ker}(D)}$, where tr_s denotes the supertrace.

Lemma 8. $\text{Index}(D_{\text{inv}}) = \int_G \text{Index}(g) d\mu_G(g)$.

Proof. The finite-dimensional \mathbb{Z}_2 -graded vector space $\text{Ker}(D)_\pm$ has an orthogonal decomposition

$$(4.1) \quad \text{Ker}(D)_\pm = \text{Ker}(D)_\pm^G \oplus (\text{Ker}(D)_\pm^G)^\perp.$$

Then

$$(4.2) \quad \begin{aligned} \text{Index}(D_{\text{inv}}) &= \dim(\text{Ker}(D)_+^G) - \dim(\text{Ker}(D)_-^G) \\ &= \int_G \text{tr}(g)|_{\text{Ker}(D)_+} d\mu_G(g) - \int_G \text{tr}(g)|_{\text{Ker}(D)_-} d\mu_G(g) \\ &= \int_G \text{tr}_s(g)|_{\text{Ker}(D)} d\mu_G(g) = \int_G \text{Index}(g) d\mu_G(g). \end{aligned}$$

This proves the lemma. \square

Let $L(g) \in \mathbb{R}$ be the Atiyah–Segal–Singer Lefschetz-type formula for $\text{Index}(g)$; see [5] and [6], Chapter 6. It is the integral of a certain characteristic form over the fixed-point set Z^g . Then

$$(4.3) \quad \text{Index}(D_{\text{inv}}) = \int_G L(g) d\mu_G(g).$$

Let T^k be a maximal torus for G . Since $L(g)$ is conjugation-invariant, the Weyl integral formula gives

$$(4.4) \quad \text{Index}(D_{\text{inv}}) = \frac{1}{|\text{Weyl}|} \int_{T^k} L(g) \det(\text{Ad}(g^{-1}) - I)|_{\mathfrak{g}/\mathfrak{t}^k} d\mu_{T^k}(g).$$

4.2. Nonuniformity in the localized short-time expansion. We now specialize to the case $G = T^k$.

For simplicity, suppose that Z has a T^k -invariant spin structure with spinor bundle S^Z , and $\mathcal{E} = S^Z \otimes \mathcal{W}$ for some \mathbb{Z}_2 -graded G -equivariant vector bundle \mathcal{W} . Suppose further that each connected component of Z^g has a spin structure. Let S_N denote the normal spinor bundle. Put

$$\text{ch}_{\mathcal{W}}(g) = \text{tr}_s(g e^{\frac{\sqrt{-1}}{2\pi} F^{\mathcal{W}}}).$$

From [6], Chapter 6.4, we see that

$$(4.5) \quad L(g) = \int_{Z^g} \hat{A}(Z^g) \frac{\text{ch}_{\mathcal{W}}(g)}{\text{ch}_{S_N}(g)}.$$

(In order to simplify notation, we have omitted some signs and powers of $2\pi i$ in the formula from [6], Chapter 6.4.) From (4.3), it is clear that the only submanifolds of Z that contribute to the integral are the connected components $\{Z_i^{T^k}\}$ of the fixed-point set Z^{T^k} , as the integrals over the other submanifolds will be of measure zero in G . Then

$$(4.6) \quad \text{Index}(D_{\text{inv}}) = \int \sum_{T^k} \int_i \int_{Z_i^{T^k}} \hat{A}(Z_i^{T^k}) \frac{\text{ch}_{\mathcal{W}^c}(g)}{\text{ch}_{S^N}(g)} d\mu_{T^k}(g).$$

Example 9. Suppose that Z is an oriented manifold whose dimension is divisible by four. Suppose that Z has an S^1 -action with isolated fixed points $\{z_k\}$. Let the S^1 -action on $T_{z_k}(Z)$ be decomposable as

$$(4.7) \quad e^{i\theta} \rightarrow \bigoplus_{l=1}^{\dim(Z)/2} \begin{pmatrix} \cos(n_{k,l}\theta) & -\sin(n_{k,l}\theta) \\ \sin(n_{k,l}\theta) & \cos(n_{k,l}\theta) \end{pmatrix}.$$

Let D_{inv} be the signature operator acting on S^1 -invariant forms. Then

$$(4.8) \quad \text{Index}(D_{\text{inv}}) = (-1)^{\frac{\dim(Z)}{4}} \int_{S^1} \sum_k \prod_{l=1}^{\dim(Z)/2} \cot(n_{k,l}\theta/2) \frac{d\theta}{2\pi};$$

compare with [2], Theorem 6.27.

Note that in (4.8), the sum over k and the integral over S^1 generally cannot be interchanged. For example, suppose that $\dim(Z) = 4$, $k = 1$ and $n_{1,1} = n_{1,2} = 1$. Then the contribution from the fixed point z_1 is

$$(4.9) \quad - \int_{S^1} \cot^2(\theta/2) \frac{d\theta}{2\pi} = -\infty.$$

What happens is that there are cancellations among the various fixed points. This cancellation is ensured by the fact that $L(g)$ is uniformly bounded in $g \in S^1$. So the integral (4.8) makes sense but one cannot switch the order of integration and summation. This is a problem if one wants a local formula for $\text{Index}(D_{\text{inv}})$.

To elaborate on this phenomenon, for any $t > 0$ we can use Lemma 8 to write

$$(4.10) \quad \begin{aligned} \text{Index}(D_{\text{inv}}) &= \int_{S^1} \text{Tr}_s(g \cdot e^{-tD^2}) d\mu_{S^1}(g) \\ &= \int_{S^1} \int_Z \text{tr}_s e^{-tD^2}(z, zg) d\mu_Z(z) d\mu_{S^1}(g). \end{aligned}$$

If ϕ_i is an S^1 -invariant bump function with support near the fixed point z_i then

$$(4.11) \quad \text{Index}(D_{\text{inv}}) = \sum_i \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \int_{S^1} \int_Z \text{tr}_s e^{-tD^2}(z, zg) \phi_i(z) d\mu_Z(z) d\mu_{S^1}(g).$$

By general arguments (cf. [10]), there is an asymptotic expansion

$$(4.12) \quad \int_{S^1} \int_Z \text{tr}_s e^{-tD^2}(z, zg) \phi_i(z) d\mu_Z(z) d\mu_{S^1}(g) \sim t^{-\dim(Z)/2} \sum_{j,k=0}^{\infty} a_{i,j,k} t^{j/2} (\log t)^k,$$

and so

$$(4.13) \quad \text{Index}(D_{\text{inv}}) = \sum_i a_{i, \dim(Z)/2, 0}.$$

On the other hand, for a fixed $g \in S^1$ there is a computable limit

$$(4.14) \quad \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \int_Z \text{tr}_s e^{-tD^2}(z, zg) \phi_i(z) d\mu_Z(z),$$

which becomes an integral over Z^g . If one could commute the \lim with the integration over $g \in S^1$ on $t \rightarrow 0$

$$(4.15) \quad \int_Z \text{tr}_s e^{-tD^2}(z, zg) \phi_i(z) d\mu_Z(z)$$

then one would conclude that the asymptotic expansion in (4.12) starts at the t^0 -term, and that the coefficient of the t^0 -term is

$$(4.16) \quad \int_{S^1} \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \int_Z \text{tr}_s e^{-tD^2}(z, zg) \phi_i(z) d\mu_Z(z) d\mu_{S^1}(g).$$

One finds in examples that neither of these are true. Related phenomena for local traces (as opposed to supertraces) of basic heat kernels were noted in [40].

The underlying reason for the lack of uniformity, in the expansions with respect to t and g , is that the fixed-point set Z^g can vary wildly in g . For example, if the S^1 -action is effective then $Z^e = Z$, while Z^g has codimension at least one for any $g \neq e$, no matter how close g may be to e .

5. The case of abelian Molino sheaf: a delocalized index theorem

In this section we prove a delocalized index theorem for D_{inv} under the assumption that the Molino sheaf is a holonomy-free sheaf of abelian Lie algebras, and an additional connectedness assumption on the isotropy groups. The index formula will be localized in Section 6.

In Subsection 5.1 we use local models for the transverse structure of a Riemannian foliation to write a formula for $\text{Index}(D_{\text{inv}})$ in terms of a parametrix. As indicated in the preceding section, there are problems in directly computing the $t \rightarrow 0$ limit of this index formula, as a local expression. Hence we use a delocalized approach. In Subsection 5.2 we rewrite the index formula in terms of the averaging of a certain almost-periodic function $F_{t,\varepsilon}$ that is defined on the abelian Lie algebra. The number $F_{t,\varepsilon}(X)$ is defined by a Kirillov-

type formula. We show that it is independent of t and ϵ . In Subsection 5.3 we compute the $t \rightarrow 0$ limit of $F_{t,\epsilon}$.

5.1. Parametrix. Hereafter we assume that the Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} of the Molino sheaf is the abelian Lie algebra \mathbb{R}^k . We also assume that the Lie algebroid $\overline{\mathfrak{g}_{\mathcal{T}}}$ is a trivial flat \mathbb{R}^k -bundle, i.e. has trivial holonomy.

Recall the sheaf \mathcal{S}_2 on W from Subsection 3.2. The invariant operator D_{inv} is a self-adjoint operator on the global sections $\mathcal{S}_2(W)$. We will compute the index of D_{inv} by constructing a parametrix for D_{inv} . The parametrix will be formed using a suitable open cover of W , along with a partition of unity.

Corollary 9 gives a measure $h_W d\mu_W$ which is canonical up to a multiplicative constant.

Given $p \in \mathcal{T}$, let K be the isotropy group of $\overline{\mathfrak{g}_{\mathcal{T}}}$ at p . We assume that K is connected, so $K = T^l$ for some $0 \leq l \leq k$. From Subsection 2.6, there is an invariant neighborhood U of the orbit \mathcal{O}_p so that the restriction of $\overline{\mathfrak{g}_{\mathcal{T}}}$ to U is weakly equivalent, as an étale groupoid, to the cross-product groupoid $(B(V) \times_K G) \rtimes G_\delta$. Here G is a k -dimensional connected abelian Lie group containing K , V is a representation space of K and $B(V)$ is a metric ball in V . The manifold $B(V) \times_K G$ acquires a G -invariant Riemannian metric from the Riemannian foliation.

If $l < k$ then we can quotient out by a lattice in G/K , so in any case we can assume that $G = T^k$. Note that there is some freedom in exactly which lattice is chosen.

There is an embedding $B(V)/K \rightarrow W$ and a quotient map $\sigma : (B(V) \times_K G) \rightarrow W$. From Example 8, $\sigma_* d\mu_{B(V) \times_K G}$ is a constant times $(h_W d\mu_W)|_{B(V)/K}$. We will want to fix a normalization for the measure $h_W d\mu_W$. The normalization that we use will depend on whether or not there are any points in \mathcal{T} with maximal isotropy group.

Recall from Example 8 that in the local model, the relevant measure is $\mathcal{V} d\mu_W$. Here \mathcal{V} satisfies $\hat{\mathcal{V}} = \iota^* \mathcal{V}$, where $\hat{\mathcal{V}} \in C^\infty(\hat{W})$ is the function for which $\hat{\mathcal{V}}(\hat{w}) = \text{vol}(\hat{\sigma}^{-1}(\hat{w}))$. If the isotropy group at a point $p \in \mathcal{T}$ is T^k then $\hat{\sigma}^{-1}(\hat{w})$ is a (free) T^k -orbit in the frame $F_{O(q)}\mathcal{T}_p$. As its volume is canonical, i.e. independent of the choice of local model, we can consistently normalize $h_W d\mu_W$ in a local model with $K = T^l$ to be $\mathcal{V} d\mu_W$.

Using the connectedness of W , this determines $h_W d\mu_W$ globally. Having now normalized $h_W d\mu_W$, there may be local models with $l < k$. For these local models, we use the freedom in the choice of lattice in G/K to ensure that

$$\sigma_* d\mu_{B(V) \times_K G} = (h_W d\mu_W)|_{B(V)/K}.$$

If there are no points in \mathcal{T} with isotropy T^k then we normalize $h_W d\mu_W$ by requiring that $\int_W h_W d\mu_W = 1$. We can then use the freedom in the choice of the lattice in G/K to ensure that in each local model,

$$\sigma_* d\mu_{B(V) \times_K G} = (h_W d\mu_W)|_{B(V)/K}.$$

We can find

1. finite open coverings $\{U_\alpha\}$ and $\{U'_\alpha\}$ of W , where U_α has compact closure in U'_α , so that the restriction of $\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{F}}$, to the preimage of U'_α in \mathcal{F} , is equivalent to $(B(V_\alpha) \times_{K_\alpha} G_\alpha) \rtimes G_{\alpha,\delta}$ (here G_α is isomorphic to T^k),
2. a subordinate partition of unity $\{\eta_\alpha\}$ to $\{U_\alpha\}$ so that each $\iota^*\eta_\alpha$ is smooth on \hat{W} ,
3. functions $\{\rho_\alpha\}$ with support in U'_α so that each $\iota^*\rho_\alpha$ is smooth on \hat{W} , and $\rho_\alpha\eta_\alpha = \eta_\alpha$, i.e. $\rho_\alpha|_{\text{supp}(\eta_\alpha)} = 1$.

For each α , we choose a closed Riemannian manifold Y_α with an isometric G_α -action so that there is an isometric G_α -equivariant embedding $B(V_\alpha) \times_{K_\alpha} G_\alpha \subset Y_\alpha$. This can be done, for example, by taking a slight extension of $B(V_\alpha)$ to a larger ball $B'_\alpha \subset V_\alpha$, taking the double of $\overline{B'_\alpha} \times_{K_\alpha} G_\alpha$ and smoothing the metric. (Alternatively, we could work directly with APS boundary conditions on $\overline{B(V_\alpha)} \times_{K_\alpha} G_\alpha$, at the price of having to deal with manifolds-with-boundary.) We can also assume that the restriction of \mathcal{E} to $B(V_\alpha) \times_{K_\alpha} G_\alpha$ extends to \mathcal{E}_α on Y_α .

Let D_α denote the Dirac-type operator on Y_α . Let $D_{\text{inv},\alpha}$ be the restriction of D_α to $(L^2(Y_\alpha, \mathcal{E}_{Y_\alpha}))^{G_\alpha}$.

Given $t > 0$, put

$$(5.1) \quad Q_\alpha = \frac{1 - e^{-tD_\alpha^2}}{D_\alpha^2} D_\alpha = \int_0^t e^{-sD_\alpha^2} D_\alpha ds$$

and

$$(5.2) \quad Q_{\text{inv},\alpha} = \frac{1 - e^{-tD_{\text{inv},\alpha}^2}}{D_{\text{inv},\alpha}^2} D_{\text{inv},\alpha} = \int_0^t e^{-sD_{\text{inv},\alpha}^2} D_{\text{inv},\alpha} ds.$$

We let $\tilde{\eta}_\alpha$ be the extension by zero of $\sigma^*\eta_\alpha$ to Y_α , and similarly for $\tilde{\rho}_\alpha$.

Proposition 5. $\sum_\alpha \rho_\alpha Q_{\text{inv},\alpha}^\mp \eta_\alpha$ is a parametrix for D_{inv}^\pm . Also, for all $t > 0$, formally

$$(5.3) \quad \text{Ind}(D_{\text{inv}}) = \sum_\alpha \text{Tr}_s(e^{-tD_{\text{inv},\alpha}^2} \eta_\alpha) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_\alpha \text{Tr}_s(Q_{\text{inv},\alpha} [D_{\text{inv},\alpha}, \eta_\alpha]),$$

or more precisely,

$$(5.4) \quad \text{Ind}(D_{\text{inv}}) = \sum_\alpha \text{Tr}_s(e^{-tD_{\text{inv},\alpha}^2} \eta_\alpha) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha,\beta} \text{Tr}_s(\rho_\alpha(Q_{\text{inv},\alpha} - Q_{\text{inv},\beta}) \eta_\beta [D_{\text{inv},\alpha}, \eta_\alpha]).$$

Proof. First, we have

$$(5.5) \quad \begin{aligned} D_\alpha^- \tilde{\rho}_\alpha Q_\alpha^+ \tilde{\eta}_\alpha &= [D_\alpha^-, \tilde{\rho}_\alpha] Q_\alpha^+ \tilde{\eta}_\alpha + \tilde{\rho}_\alpha D_\alpha^- Q_\alpha^+ \tilde{\eta}_\alpha \\ &= [D_\alpha^-, \tilde{\rho}_\alpha] Q_\alpha^+ \tilde{\eta}_\alpha + \tilde{\rho}_\alpha (1 - e^{-tD_\alpha^- D_\alpha^+}) \tilde{\eta}_\alpha \\ &= \tilde{\eta}_\alpha + [D_\alpha^-, \tilde{\rho}_\alpha] Q_\alpha^+ \tilde{\eta}_\alpha - \tilde{\rho}_\alpha e^{-tD_\alpha^- D_\alpha^+} \tilde{\eta}_\alpha. \end{aligned}$$

The Schwartz kernel of $[D_\alpha^-, \tilde{\rho}_\alpha]Q_\alpha^+\tilde{\eta}_\alpha$ is

$$(5.6) \quad c^-(d\tilde{\rho}_\alpha(p))Q_\alpha^+(p, p')\tilde{\eta}_\alpha(p').$$

As Q_α^+ is a pseudodifferential operator, and $d\tilde{\rho}_\alpha(p)\tilde{\eta}_\alpha(p')$ vanishes in a neighborhood of the diagonal $p = p'$, it follows that $\tilde{\eta}_\alpha - D_\alpha^-(\tilde{\rho}_\alpha Q_\alpha^+\tilde{\eta}_\alpha)$ is a smoothing operator on $L^2(Y_\alpha; \mathcal{E}_{Y_\alpha}^+)$. In particular, $\tilde{\eta}_\alpha - D_\alpha^-(\tilde{\rho}_\alpha Q_\alpha^+\tilde{\eta}_\alpha)$ is trace-class on $L^2(Y_\alpha; \mathcal{E}_{Y_\alpha}^+)$ and so its restriction to $(L^2(Y_\alpha; \mathcal{E}_{Y_\alpha}^+))^{G_\alpha}$ is also trace-class. Hence the operator

$$(5.7) \quad \begin{aligned} I - D_{\text{inv}}^- \sum_\alpha \rho_\alpha Q_{\text{inv}, \alpha}^+ \eta_\alpha &= \sum_\alpha (\eta_\alpha - D_{\text{inv}, \alpha}^- \rho_\alpha Q_{\text{inv}, \alpha}^+ \eta_\alpha) \\ &= \sum_\alpha (\rho_\alpha e^{-tD_{\text{inv}, \alpha}^-} D_{\text{inv}, \alpha}^+ \eta_\alpha - [D_{\text{inv}, \alpha}^-, \rho_\alpha] Q_{\text{inv}, \alpha}^+ \eta_\alpha) \end{aligned}$$

is also trace-class. This shows that $\sum_\alpha \rho_\alpha Q_{\text{inv}, \alpha}^+ \eta_\alpha$ is a right parametrix for D_{inv}^- . Hence it is also a left parametrix.

Similarly,

$$(5.8) \quad \begin{aligned} \tilde{\rho}_\alpha Q_\alpha^+ \tilde{\eta}_\alpha D_\alpha^- &= \tilde{\rho}_\alpha Q_\alpha^+ D_\alpha^- \tilde{\eta}_\alpha - \tilde{\rho}_\alpha Q_\alpha^+ [D_\alpha^-, \tilde{\eta}_\alpha] \\ &= \tilde{\rho}_\alpha (1 - e^{-tD_\alpha^+} D_\alpha^-) \tilde{\eta}_\alpha - \tilde{\rho}_\alpha Q_\alpha^+ [D_\alpha^-, \tilde{\eta}_\alpha] \\ &= \tilde{\eta}_\alpha - \tilde{\rho}_\alpha e^{-tD_\alpha^+} D_\alpha^- \tilde{\eta}_\alpha - \tilde{\rho}_\alpha Q_\alpha^+ [D_\alpha^-, \tilde{\eta}_\alpha]. \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$(5.9) \quad I - \left(\sum_\alpha \rho_\alpha Q_{\text{inv}, \alpha}^+ \eta_\alpha \right) D_{\text{inv}}^- = \sum_\alpha (\rho_\alpha e^{-tD_{\text{inv}, \alpha}^+} D_{\text{inv}, \alpha}^- \eta_\alpha + \rho_\alpha Q_{\text{inv}, \alpha}^+ [D_{\text{inv}, \alpha}^-, \eta_\alpha]).$$

Changing signs in (5.7) and (5.9) gives

$$(5.10) \quad I - D_{\text{inv}}^+ \sum_\alpha \rho_\alpha Q_{\text{inv}, \alpha}^- \eta_\alpha = \sum_\alpha (\rho_\alpha e^{-tD_{\text{inv}, \alpha}^+} D_{\text{inv}, \alpha}^- \eta_\alpha - [D_{\text{inv}, \alpha}^+, \rho_\alpha] Q_{\text{inv}, \alpha}^- \eta_\alpha),$$

$$(5.11) \quad I - \left(\sum_\alpha \rho_\alpha Q_{\text{inv}, \alpha}^- \eta_\alpha \right) D_{\text{inv}}^+ = \sum_\alpha (\rho_\alpha e^{-tD_{\text{inv}, \alpha}^-} D_{\text{inv}, \alpha}^+ \eta_\alpha + \rho_\alpha Q_{\text{inv}, \alpha}^- [D_{\text{inv}, \alpha}^+, \eta_\alpha]).$$

Now

$$(5.12) \quad \text{Index}(D_{\text{inv}}) = \text{Tr} \left(I - \left(\sum_\alpha \rho_\alpha Q_{\text{inv}, \alpha}^- \eta_\alpha \right) D_{\text{inv}}^+ \right) - \text{Tr} \left(I - D_{\text{inv}}^+ \sum_\alpha \rho_\alpha Q_{\text{inv}, \alpha}^- \eta_\alpha \right),$$

$$(5.13) \quad -\text{Index}(D_{\text{inv}}) = \text{Tr} \left(I - \left(\sum_\alpha \rho_\alpha Q_{\text{inv}, \alpha}^+ \eta_\alpha \right) D_{\text{inv}}^- \right) - \text{Tr} \left(I - D_{\text{inv}}^- \sum_\alpha \rho_\alpha Q_{\text{inv}, \alpha}^+ \eta_\alpha \right).$$

Hence

$$(5.14) \quad \begin{aligned} \text{Index}(D_{\text{inv}}) &= \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}_s \left(I - \left(\sum_\alpha \rho_\alpha Q_{\text{inv}, \alpha}^- \eta_\alpha \right) D_{\text{inv}}^+ \right) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}_s \left(I - D_{\text{inv}}^- \sum_\alpha \rho_\alpha Q_{\text{inv}, \alpha}^+ \eta_\alpha \right). \end{aligned}$$

Equations (5.7)–(5.11) now give

$$(5.15) \quad \text{Index}(D_{\text{inv}}) = \sum_{\alpha} \text{Tr}_s(\rho_{\alpha} e^{-tD_{\text{inv},\alpha}^2} \eta_{\alpha}) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha} \text{Tr}_s(\rho_{\alpha} Q_{\text{inv},\alpha} [D_{\text{inv},\alpha}, \eta_{\alpha}]) \\ - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha} \text{Tr}_s([D_{\text{inv},\alpha}, \rho_{\alpha}] Q_{\text{inv},\alpha} \eta_{\alpha}).$$

By formal manipulations,

$$(5.16) \quad \text{Index}(D_{\text{inv}}) = \sum_{\alpha} \text{Tr}_s(e^{-tD_{\text{inv},\alpha}^2} \eta_{\alpha} \rho_{\alpha}) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha} \text{Tr}_s(Q_{\text{inv},\alpha} [D_{\text{inv},\alpha}, \eta_{\alpha}] \rho_{\alpha}) \\ + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha} \text{Tr}_s(Q_{\text{inv},\alpha} \eta_{\alpha} [D_{\text{inv},\alpha}, \rho_{\alpha}]) \\ = \sum_{\alpha} \text{Tr}_s(e^{-tD_{\text{inv},\alpha}^2} \eta_{\alpha} \rho_{\alpha}) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha} \text{Tr}_s(Q_{\text{inv},\alpha} [D_{\text{inv},\alpha}, \eta_{\alpha}] \rho_{\alpha}) \\ = \sum_{\alpha} \text{Tr}_s(e^{-tD_{\text{inv},\alpha}^2} \eta_{\alpha}) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha} \text{Tr}_s(Q_{\text{inv},\alpha} [D_{\text{inv},\alpha}, \eta_{\alpha}]).$$

The last term in (5.16) actually makes sense because $\sum_{\alpha} d\eta_{\alpha} = 0$, so the computation of

$$(5.17) \quad \sum_{\alpha} \text{Tr}_s(Q_{\text{inv},\alpha} [D_{\text{inv},\alpha}, \eta_{\alpha}]) = \sum_{\alpha} \text{Tr}_s(Q_{\text{inv},\alpha} c(d\eta_{\alpha}))$$

happens away from the diagonal. To see this more clearly, we can write

$$(5.18) \quad \sum_{\alpha} \text{Tr}_s(Q_{\text{inv},\alpha} [D_{\text{inv},\alpha}, \eta_{\alpha}]) = \sum_{\alpha, \beta} \text{Tr}_s(Q_{\text{inv},\alpha} \eta_{\beta} [D_{\text{inv},\alpha}, \eta_{\alpha}]) \\ = \sum_{\alpha, \beta} \text{Tr}_s((Q_{\text{inv},\alpha} - Q_{\text{inv},\beta}) \eta_{\beta} [D_{\text{inv},\alpha}, \eta_{\alpha}]) \\ = \sum_{\alpha, \beta} \text{Tr}_s((Q_{\text{inv},\alpha} - Q_{\text{inv},\beta}) \eta_{\beta} [D_{\text{inv},\alpha}, \eta_{\alpha}] \rho_{\alpha}) \\ = \sum_{\alpha, \beta} \text{Tr}_s(\rho_{\alpha} (Q_{\text{inv},\alpha} - Q_{\text{inv},\beta}) \eta_{\beta} [D_{\text{inv},\alpha}, \eta_{\alpha}]).$$

The latter expression is clearly well-defined. This proves the proposition. \square

In what follows we will use the equation (5.3) when, to justify things more formally, one could use (5.4) instead.

5.2. Averaging over the Lie algebra. Fix a Haar measure $d\mu_{\mathfrak{g}}$ on $\mathfrak{g} = \mathbb{R}^k$. If $F \in C^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}^k)$ is a finite sum of periodic functions, put

$$(5.19) \quad AV_X F(X) = \lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\int_{B(0,R)} F(X) d\mu_{\mathfrak{g}}(X)}{\int_{B(0,R)} 1 d\mu_{\mathfrak{g}}(X)}.$$

Equivalently, if $\{L_j\}$ is a finite collection of lattices in \mathbb{R}^k and

$$(5.20) \quad F(X) = \sum_j \sum_{v \in L_j} c_{j,v} e^{2\pi\sqrt{-1}v \cdot X}$$

is a representation of F as a finite sum of periodic functions then $AV_X F(X) = \sum_j c_{j,0}$, the sum of the coefficients of 1.

Given $X \in \mathbb{R}^k$, we also let X denote the corresponding vector field on Y_α . Let X^* denote the dual 1-form and let \mathcal{L}_X denote Lie differentiation with respect to X . The moment $\mu(X)$ of $X \in \mathbb{R}^k$ is defined by $\mu(X) = \mathcal{L}_X - \nabla_X$. It is a skew-adjoint endomorphism of TY_α .

Proposition 6. *We have*

$$(5.21) \quad \sum_\alpha \text{Tr}_s(e^{-tD_{\text{inv},\alpha}^2} \eta_\alpha) = AV_X \sum_\alpha \text{Tr}_s(e^{-(tD_\alpha^2 + \mathcal{L}_X)} \tilde{\eta}_\alpha)$$

and

$$(5.22) \quad \sum_\alpha \text{Tr}_s(\mathcal{Q}_{\text{inv},\alpha}[D_{\text{inv},\alpha}, \eta_\alpha]) = AV_X \sum_\alpha \int_0^t \text{Tr}_s(e^{-(sD_\alpha^2 + \mathcal{L}_X)} D_\alpha[D_\alpha, \tilde{\eta}_\alpha]) ds.$$

Proof. First,

$$(5.23) \quad \int_{Y_\alpha} \text{tr}_s(e^{-tD_\alpha^2} \tilde{\eta}_\alpha)(p, pe^{-X}) d\mu_{Y_\alpha}(p)$$

is a periodic function in X . From (5.19),

$$\begin{aligned} (5.24) \quad \sum_\alpha \text{Tr}_s(e^{-tD_{\text{inv},\alpha}^2} \eta_\alpha) &= AV_X \sum_\alpha \int_{Y_\alpha} \text{tr}_s(e^{-tD_\alpha^2} \tilde{\eta}_\alpha)(p, pe^{-X}) d\mu_{Y_\alpha}(p) \\ &= AV_X \sum_\alpha \int_{Y_\alpha} \text{tr}_s(e^{-(tD_\alpha^2 + \mathcal{L}_X)} \tilde{\eta}_\alpha)(p, p) d\mu_{Y_\alpha}(p) \\ &= AV_X \sum_\alpha \text{Tr}_s(e^{-(tD_\alpha^2 + \mathcal{L}_X)} \tilde{\eta}_\alpha). \end{aligned}$$

Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned} (5.25) \quad \sum_\alpha \text{Tr}_s(\mathcal{Q}_{\text{inv},\alpha}[D_{\text{inv},\alpha}, \eta_\alpha]) &= AV_X \sum_\alpha \int_0^t \int_{Y_\alpha} \text{tr}_s(e^{-sD_\alpha^2} D_\alpha[D_\alpha, \tilde{\eta}_\alpha])(p, pe^{-X}) d\mu_{Y_\alpha}(p) ds \\ &= AV_X \sum_\alpha \int_0^t \int_{Y_\alpha} \text{tr}_s(e^{-(sD_\alpha^2 + \mathcal{L}_X)} D_\alpha[D_\alpha, \tilde{\eta}_\alpha])(p, p) d\mu_{Y_\alpha}(p) ds \\ &= AV_X \sum_\alpha \int_0^t \text{Tr}_s(e^{-(sD_\alpha^2 + \mathcal{L}_X)} D_\alpha[D_\alpha, \tilde{\eta}_\alpha]) ds. \end{aligned}$$

This proves the proposition. \square

Note that \mathcal{L}_X is a skew-adjoint operator. For $t > 0$ and $\varepsilon \in \mathbb{C}$, put

$$(5.26) \quad D_{\alpha,t,\varepsilon} = D_\alpha + \varepsilon \frac{c(X)}{4t}.$$

As $c(X)$ is skew-adjoint, if ε is imaginary then $D_{\alpha,t,\varepsilon}$ is self-adjoint. Put

$$(5.27) \quad F_{t,\varepsilon}(X) = \sum_\alpha \mathrm{Tr}_s(e^{-(tD_{\alpha,t,\varepsilon}^2 + \mathcal{L}_X)} \tilde{\eta}_\alpha) \\ + \frac{1}{2} \sum_\alpha \int_0^t \mathrm{Tr}_s(e^{-(sD_{\alpha,t,\varepsilon}^2 + \mathcal{L}_X)} D_{\alpha,t,\varepsilon} [D_{\alpha,t,\varepsilon}, \tilde{\eta}_\alpha]) ds.$$

From Propositions 5 and 6, we deduce

$$(5.28) \quad \mathrm{Ind}(D_{\mathrm{inv}}) = AV_X F_{t,0}(X).$$

Proposition 7. $F_{t,0}(X)$ is independent of t .

Proof. We have

$$(5.29) \quad F_{t,0}(X) = \sum_\alpha \mathrm{Tr}_s(e^{-(tD_\alpha^2 + \mathcal{L}_X)} \tilde{\eta}_\alpha) \\ + \frac{1}{2} \sum_\alpha \int_0^t \mathrm{Tr}_s(e^{-(sD_\alpha^2 + \mathcal{L}_X)} D_\alpha [D_\alpha, \tilde{\eta}_\alpha]) ds.$$

Then

$$(5.30) \quad \frac{d}{dt} F_{t,0}(X) = \sum_\alpha -\mathrm{Tr}_s(D_\alpha^2 e^{-(tD_\alpha^2 + \mathcal{L}_X)} \tilde{\eta}_\alpha) \\ + \frac{1}{2} \sum_\alpha \mathrm{Tr}_s(e^{-(tD_\alpha^2 + \mathcal{L}_X)} D_\alpha [D_\alpha, \tilde{\eta}_\alpha]) = 0.$$

The proposition follows. \square

Proposition 8. $F_{t,\varepsilon}(X)$ is independent of ε .

Proof. Let $[\cdot, \cdot]_+$ denote the anticommutator of two operators. We have an identity of operators on $L^2(Y_\alpha, \mathcal{E}_{Y_\alpha})$:

$$(5.31) \quad e^{-(tD_{\alpha,t,\varepsilon}^2 + \mathcal{L}_X)} \tilde{\eta}_\alpha + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t e^{-(sD_{\alpha,t,\varepsilon}^2 + \mathcal{L}_X)} D_{\alpha,t,\varepsilon} [D_{\alpha,t,\varepsilon}, \tilde{\eta}_\alpha] ds \\ = e^{-(tD_{\alpha,t,\varepsilon}^2 + \mathcal{L}_X)} \tilde{\eta}_\alpha + \int_0^t e^{-(sD_{\alpha,t,\varepsilon}^2 + \mathcal{L}_X)} D_{\alpha,t,\varepsilon}^2 \tilde{\eta}_\alpha ds \\ - \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t [D_{\alpha,t,\varepsilon}, e^{-(sD_{\alpha,t,\varepsilon}^2 + \mathcal{L}_X)} D_{\alpha,t,\varepsilon} \tilde{\eta}_\alpha]_+ ds$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= e^{-(tD_{\alpha,t,\varepsilon}^2 + \mathcal{L}_X)} \tilde{\eta}_\alpha - \int_0^t \frac{d}{ds} e^{-(sD_{\alpha,t,\varepsilon}^2 + \mathcal{L}_X)} \tilde{\eta}_\alpha ds \\
 &\quad - \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t [D_{\alpha,t,\varepsilon}, e^{-(sD_{\alpha,t,\varepsilon}^2 + \mathcal{L}_X)} D_{\alpha,t,\varepsilon} \tilde{\eta}_\alpha]_+ ds \\
 &= e^{-\mathcal{L}_X} \tilde{\eta}_\alpha - \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t [D_{\alpha,t,\varepsilon}, e^{-(sD_{\alpha,t,\varepsilon}^2 + \mathcal{L}_X)} D_{\alpha,t,\varepsilon} \tilde{\eta}_\alpha]_+ ds.
 \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$(5.32) \quad F_{t,\varepsilon}(X) = \sum_\alpha \text{Tr}_s \left(e^{-\mathcal{L}_X} \tilde{\eta}_\alpha - \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t [D_{\alpha,t,\varepsilon}, e^{-(sD_{\alpha,t,\varepsilon}^2 + \mathcal{L}_X)} D_{\alpha,t,\varepsilon} \tilde{\eta}_\alpha]_+ ds \right).$$

In particular,

$$\begin{aligned}
 (5.33) \quad \frac{d}{d\varepsilon} F_{t,\varepsilon}(X) &= -\frac{1}{2} \sum_\alpha \text{Tr}_s \left[\frac{d}{d\varepsilon} D_{\alpha,t,\varepsilon}, \int_0^t e^{-(sD_{\alpha,t,\varepsilon}^2 + \mathcal{L}_X)} D_{\alpha,t,\varepsilon} \tilde{\eta}_\alpha ds \right]_+ \\
 &\quad - \frac{1}{2} \sum_\alpha \text{Tr}_s \left[D_{\alpha,t,\varepsilon}, \frac{d}{d\varepsilon} \left(\int_0^t e^{-(sD_{\alpha,t,\varepsilon}^2 + \mathcal{L}_X)} D_{\alpha,t,\varepsilon} \tilde{\eta}_\alpha ds \right) \right]_+ \\
 &= 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

The proposition follows. \square

Corollary 10. $F_{t,\varepsilon}(X)$ is independent of t and ε .

Proof. This follows from Propositions 7 and 8. \square

Proposition 9. $F_{t,2}(X)$ has a holomorphic extension to $X \in \mathbb{C}^k$.

Proof. One finds

$$(5.34) \quad tD_{\alpha,t,2}^2 + \mathcal{L}_X = tD_\alpha^2 + \mu(X) + \frac{1}{2} c(dX^*) - \frac{X^2}{4t}.$$

Writing

$$\begin{aligned}
 (5.35) \quad F_{t,2}(X) &= \sum_\alpha \text{Tr}_s (e^{-(tD_{\alpha,t,2}^2 + \mathcal{L}_X)} \tilde{\eta}_\alpha) \\
 &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \sum_\alpha \int_0^t \text{Tr}_s (e^{-(sD_{\alpha,t,2}^2 + \mathcal{L}_X)} D_{\alpha,t,2} [D_{\alpha,t,2}, \tilde{\eta}_\alpha]) ds,
 \end{aligned}$$

and using (5.34), we expand the right-hand side of (5.35) by means of a Duhamel expansion. The estimates of [20], Lemma 2.1, show that the ensuing series defines a holomorphic function of $X \in \mathbb{C}^k$. \square

As a consequence of Corollary 10 and Proposition 9, for any $t > 0$ and $\varepsilon \in \mathbb{C}$, the function $F_{t,\varepsilon}(X)$ has a holomorphic extension to $X \in \mathbb{C}^k$.

5.3. Short-time delocalized limit. Let $\hat{A}(X, Y_\alpha) \text{ch}(X, \mathcal{E}_\alpha/S) \in \Omega^*(Y_\alpha)$ be the equivariant characteristic form defined in [6], Chapter 8.1. Notationally,

$$(5.36) \quad \hat{A}(X, Y_\alpha) = \sqrt{\det\left(\frac{R_g(X)/2}{\sinh(R_g(X)/2)}\right)},$$

with $R_g(X) = R + \mu(X)$, and

$$(5.37) \quad \text{ch}(X, \mathcal{E}_\alpha/S) = \text{tr}_{\mathcal{E}_\alpha/S}(e^{-F_g^{\mathcal{E}_\alpha/S}(X)}).$$

Note that $\hat{A}(X, Y_\alpha) \text{ch}(X, \mathcal{E}_\alpha/S)$ has an analytic extension to \mathbb{C}^k which is regular in a neighborhood of 0, and on the complement of \mathbb{R}^k .

Proposition 10. *If $X \in \mathbb{R}^k$ then*

$$(5.38) \quad \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} F_{t,1}(iX) = \sum_\alpha \int_{Y_\alpha} \hat{A}(iX, Y_\alpha) \text{ch}(iX, \mathcal{E}_\alpha/S) \tilde{\eta}_\alpha.$$

Proof. We can write

$$(5.39) \quad F_{t,1}(iX) = \sum_\alpha \text{Tr}_s(e^{-(tD_{\alpha,t,i}^2 + i\mathcal{L}_X)} \tilde{\eta}_\alpha) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_\alpha \int_0^t \text{Tr}_s(e^{-(sD_{\alpha,t,i}^2 + i\mathcal{L}_X)} D_{\alpha,t,i} [D_{\alpha,t,i}, \tilde{\eta}_\alpha]) ds.$$

Note that $tD_{\alpha,t,i}^2 + i\mathcal{L}_X$ is a self-adjoint operator. Now

$$(5.40) \quad \text{Tr}_s(e^{-(tD_{\alpha,t,i}^2 + i\mathcal{L}_X)} \tilde{\eta}_\alpha) = \int_{Y_\alpha} \text{tr}_s(e^{-(tD_{\alpha,t,i}^2 + i\mathcal{L}_X)})(p, p) \tilde{\eta}_\alpha(p) d\mu_{Y_\alpha}(p).$$

From [8], Section 2,

$$(5.41) \quad \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} (e^{-(tD_{\alpha,t,i}^2 + i\mathcal{L}_X)})(p, p) = (\hat{A}(iX, Y_\alpha) \text{ch}(iX, \mathcal{E}_\alpha/S))(p).$$

Thus

$$(5.42) \quad \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \sum_\alpha \text{Tr}_s(e^{-(tD_{\alpha,t,i}^2 + i\mathcal{L}_X)} \tilde{\eta}_\alpha) = \sum_\alpha \int_{Y_\alpha} \hat{A}(iX, Y_\alpha) \text{ch}(iX, \mathcal{E}_\alpha/S) \tilde{\eta}_\alpha.$$

Next, we want to show that

$$(5.43) \quad \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{2} \sum_\alpha \int_0^t \text{Tr}_s(e^{-(sD_{\alpha,t,i}^2 + i\mathcal{L}_X)} D_{\alpha,t,i} [D_{\alpha,t,i}, \tilde{\eta}_\alpha]) ds = 0.$$

For this, we have to show certain cancellations between the terms for various α .

Define a measure v_t on W by

$$(5.44) \quad v_t = \sum_{\alpha} (\pi_{\alpha})_* \left(\frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \text{tr}_s (e^{-(sD_{\alpha,t,i}^2 + i\mathcal{L}_X)} D_{\alpha,t,i} [D_{\alpha,t,i}, \tilde{\eta}_{\alpha}]) (p, p) d\mu_{Y_{\alpha}}(p) ds \right).$$

We want to show that the integral of v_t vanishes as $t \rightarrow 0$.

Given $w \in W$, choose a point $\tilde{p} \in \mathcal{F}$ that projects to w . Let \tilde{K} be the isotropy group of $\overline{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{F}}}$ at \tilde{p} . For each α with $w \in U_{\alpha}$, choose $p_{\alpha} \in Y_{\alpha}$ projecting to w . By the slice theorem, there is a neighborhood of w in W homeomorphic to $B(\tilde{V})/\tilde{K}$, where \tilde{V} is a representation space of \tilde{K} and $B(\tilde{V})$ is a ball in \tilde{V} . There is a neighborhood of \tilde{p} which, for each α , is isometric to a neighborhood of p_{α} . We will use this to identify each p_{α} with \tilde{p} .

Using Example 8,

$$(5.45) \quad \begin{aligned} v_t(w) &= \left(\sum_{\alpha} \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \text{tr}_s (e^{-(sD_{\alpha,t,i}^2 + i\mathcal{L}_X)} D_{\alpha,t,i} [D_{\alpha,t,i}, \tilde{\eta}_{\alpha}]) (\tilde{p}, \tilde{p}) ds \right) h_W(w) d\mu_W(w) \\ &= \sum_{\alpha, \beta} \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t [\text{tr}_s (e^{-(sD_{\alpha,t,i}^2 + i\mathcal{L}_X)} D_{\alpha,t,i} [D_{\alpha,t,i}, \tilde{\eta}_{\alpha}]) (\tilde{p}, \tilde{p}) \\ &\quad - \text{tr}_s (e^{-(sD_{\beta,t,i}^2 + i\mathcal{L}_X)} D_{\beta,t,i} [D_{\alpha,t,i}, \tilde{\eta}_{\alpha}]) (\tilde{p}, \tilde{p})] \eta_{\beta}(w) ds h_W(w) d\mu_W(w). \end{aligned}$$

As $D_{\alpha,t,i}$ coincides with $D_{\beta,t,i}$ in a neighborhood of \tilde{p} , under our identifications, it follows from finite propagation speed estimates (see [14]) that

$$\frac{v_t(w)}{h_W(w) d\mu_W(w)}$$

decays as $t \rightarrow 0$ faster than any power of t . These estimates can clearly be made uniform in w . The proposition follows. \square

We now prove a delocalized index theorem.

Corollary 11.

$$(5.46) \quad \text{Ind}(D_{\text{inv}}) = AV_X \sum_{\alpha} \int_{Y_{\alpha}} \hat{A}(X, Y_{\alpha}) \text{ch}(X, \mathcal{E}_{\alpha}/S) \tilde{\eta}_{\alpha}.$$

Proof. As in (5.28), $\text{Ind}(D_{\text{inv}}) = AV_X F_{t,0}(X)$. By Corollary 10 and Proposition 9, $F_{t,0}(X)$ has a holomorphic extension to \mathbb{C}^k . By Corollary 10 and Proposition 10, if $X \in i\mathbb{R}^k$ then

$$(5.47) \quad F_{t,0}(X) = \sum_{\alpha} \int_{Y_{\alpha}} \hat{A}(X, Y_{\alpha}) \text{ch}(X, \mathcal{E}_{\alpha}/S) \tilde{\eta}_{\alpha}.$$

By analytic continuation, (5.47) holds for $X \in \mathbb{C}^k$. The corollary follows. \square

Remark 4. Although $\int_{Y_\alpha} \hat{A}(X, Y_\alpha) \text{ch}(X, \mathcal{E}_\alpha/S) \tilde{\eta}_\alpha$ may have singularities in X for individual α , the proof of Corollary 11 shows that the sum over α is holomorphic in X .

6. Local index formula and applications

In this section we prove the main theorem of the paper. In Subsection 6.1 we localize the index theorem of the previous section to the fixed-point sets. In Subsection 6.2 we prove the index theorem stated in the introduction of the paper. In Subsection 6.3 we describe how to compute the terms appearing in the local index formula. We carry out the computation when D is the pure Dirac operator, the signature operator and the Euler operator.

6.1. Localization to the fixed-point set. Let \mathcal{T}^{T^k} be the subset of \mathcal{T} consisting of points with isotropy group isomorphic to T^k . Let $\{Z_i^{T^k}\}$ be the connected components of $\sigma(\mathcal{T}^{T^k}) \subset W$. From our assumptions, each $Z_i^{T^k}$ is a smooth manifold. Furthermore, the Clifford module \mathcal{E} on \mathcal{T} descends to a T^k -equivariant Clifford module \mathcal{E}_i on $Z_i^{T^k}$. There is a natural vector bundle N_i on $Z_i^{T^k}$ so that for $w \in Z_i^{T^k}$, if we choose $p \in \sigma^{-1}(w) \in \mathcal{T}$ then the fiber $(N_i)_w$ is isomorphic to the normal bundle of \mathcal{T}^{T^k} in \mathcal{T} at p . The bundle N_i inherits an orthogonal connection. Let R_{N_i} denote its curvature 2-form.

For simplicity, we assume that \mathcal{T} has a $\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}$ -invariant spin structure, with spinor bundle $S^{\mathcal{T}}$, and that $\mathcal{E} = S^{\mathcal{T}} \otimes \mathcal{W}$ for some \mathbb{Z}_2 -graded $\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{T}}$ -equivariant vector bundle \mathcal{W} . Suppose further that each $Z_i^{T^k}$ is spin. We can define the normal spinor bundle S_N on $Z_i^{T^k}$.

Let $e^{-X} \in T^k$ denote the exponential of $-X \in \mathfrak{g}$.

Proposition 11.

$$(6.1) \quad AV_X \sum_{\alpha} \int_{Y_\alpha} \hat{A}(X, Y_\alpha) \text{ch}(X, \mathcal{E}_\alpha/S) \tilde{\eta}_\alpha = AV_X \sum_i \int_{Z_i^{T^k}} \hat{A}(TZ_i^{T^k}) \frac{\text{ch}_{\mathcal{W}}(e^{-X})}{\text{ch}_{S_N}(e^{-X})}.$$

Proof. Let $Z(X)$ denote the zero-set of X on $\coprod_{\alpha} Y_\alpha$. As in [6], Chapter 7.2, away from $Z(X)$ we can write

$$(6.2) \quad \hat{A}(X, Y_\alpha) \text{ch}(X, \mathcal{E}_\alpha/S) \tilde{\eta}_\alpha = d_X \left(\frac{X^* \wedge \hat{A}(X, Y_\alpha) \text{ch}(X, \mathcal{E}_\alpha/S) \tilde{\eta}_\alpha}{d_X X^*} \right) + \frac{X^* \wedge \hat{A}(X, Y_\alpha) \text{ch}(X, \mathcal{E}_\alpha/S)}{d_X X^*} \wedge d_X \tilde{\eta}_\alpha.$$

This formula extends analytically to X lying in a suitable neighborhood of the origin in \mathbb{C}^k . Then because $\sum_{\alpha} \tilde{\eta}_\alpha = 1$, the localization argument in the proof of [6], Theorem 7.13, applies to give

$$(6.3) \quad \sum_{\alpha} \int_{Y_\alpha} \hat{A}(X, Y_\alpha) \text{ch}(X, \mathcal{E}_\alpha/S) \tilde{\eta}_\alpha = \sum_{\alpha} \int_{Z(X)} \hat{A}(TZ(X)) \frac{\text{ch}_{\mathcal{W}}(e^{-X})}{\text{ch}_{S_N}(e^{-X})} \tilde{\eta}_\alpha.$$

Because the left-hand side of (6.3) has a holomorphic extension to \mathbb{C}^k , the same is true for the right-hand side. So the formula makes sense for $X \in \mathbb{R}^K$.

When we average over $X \in \mathbb{R}^k$, the integral over a component of $Z(X)$ will not contribute unless the component lies in $\bigcap_{X' \in \mathbb{R}^k} Z(X')$. Hence

$$(6.4) \quad AV_X \sum_{\alpha} \int_{Y_{\alpha}} \hat{A}(X, Y_{\alpha}) \text{ch}(X, \mathcal{E}_{\alpha}/S) \tilde{\eta}_{\alpha} = AV_X \sum_{\alpha} \int_{\bigcap_{X'} Z(X')} \hat{A}(TZ(X)) \frac{\text{ch}_{\mathcal{W}}(e^{-X})}{\text{ch}_{S_N}(e^{-X})} \tilde{\eta}_{\alpha}.$$

We can identify the image of $\bigcap_{X'} Z(X')$, under the projection map $\prod_{\alpha} (B(V_{\alpha}) \times_{K_{\alpha}} G_{\alpha}) \rightarrow W$, with $\bigcup_i Z_i^{T^k}$. After making this identification, the proposition follows. \square

Remark 5. It follows from the proof of Proposition 11 that

$$\sum_i \int_{Z_i^{T^k}} \hat{A}(TZ_i^{T^k}) \frac{\text{ch}_{\mathcal{W}}(e^{-X})}{\text{ch}_{S_N}(e^{-X})}$$

is holomorphic in $X \in \mathbb{C}^k$. Each term

$$\int_{Z_i^{T^k}} \hat{A}(TZ_i^{T^k}) \frac{\text{ch}_{\mathcal{W}}(e^{-X})}{\text{ch}_{S_N}(e^{-X})}$$

is meromorphic in $X \in \mathbb{C}^k$.

Corollary 12. For any $Q \in \mathbb{C}^k$,

$$(6.5) \quad \text{Index}(D_{\text{inv}}) = AV_X \sum_i \int_{Z_i^{T^k}} \hat{A}(TZ_i^{T^k}) \frac{\text{ch}_{\mathcal{W}}(e^{-X+Q})}{\text{ch}_{S_N}(e^{-X+Q})}.$$

Proof. The integral

$$\int_{Z_i^{T^k}} \hat{A}(TZ_i^{T^k}) \frac{\text{ch}_{\mathcal{W}}(e^{-X})}{\text{ch}_{S_N}(e^{-X})}$$

is a meromorphic function in $X \in \mathbb{C}^k$ which is invariant with respect to a lattice $L_i \subset \mathbb{R}^k$. As the sum over i is holomorphic, it follows that we can write

$$\sum_i \int_{Z_i^{T^k}} \hat{A}(TZ_i^{T^k}) \frac{\text{ch}_{\mathcal{W}}(e^{-X})}{\text{ch}_{S_N}(e^{-X})}$$

as a finite sum $\sum_j H_j(X)$, where each H_j is a holomorphic function of $X \in \mathbb{C}^k$ that is invariant with respect to a lattice $L_j \subset \mathbb{R}^k$. Now $AV_X H_j(X)$ can be computed by means of a product of contour integrals in \mathbb{C}^k . Computing instead $AV_X H_j(X - Q)$ amounts to deforming the contours. Hence

$$AV_X H_j(X - Q) = AV_X H_j(X),$$

from which the corollary follows. \square

6.2. Local index formula. We will need the explicit formula for $(\text{ch}_{S_N}(e^{-X+Q}))^{-1}$. Given $z \neq 1$ and a complex r -dimensional vector bundle L , put

$$(6.6) \quad \mathcal{F}_{\text{Dirac}}(L, z) = \prod_{j=1}^r (z^{-\frac{1}{2}}e^{\frac{x_j}{2}} - z^{\frac{1}{2}}e^{-\frac{x_j}{2}})^{-1},$$

where the x_j 's are the formal roots of the total Chern class of L . As usual, the expression (6.6) is meant to be expanded in the x_j 's, which have formal degree two.

Let $Z_i^{T^k}$ and N_i be as before. Suppose that with respect to the \mathbb{R}^k -action, N_i is isomorphic to the underlying real bundle of a direct sum of complex line bundles $\bigoplus_q N_{q,i}$, where e^{-X} acts on $N_{q,i}$ by $e^{-\sqrt{-1}\mathbf{n}_{q,i} \cdot X}$ for some $\mathbf{n}_{q,i} \in \mathbb{R}^k$. Then

$$(6.7) \quad \frac{1}{\text{ch}_{S_N}(e^{-X+Q})} = \pm \prod_q \mathcal{F}_{\text{Dirac}}(N_{q,i}, e^{-\sqrt{-1}\mathbf{n}_{q,i} \cdot (X-Q)}).$$

See [3] for a discussion of the sign issue.

The individual term

$$\int_{Z_i^{T^k}} \hat{A}(TZ_i^{T^k}) \frac{\text{ch}_{\mathcal{W}'}(e^{-X+Q})}{\text{ch}_{S_N}(e^{-X+Q})}$$

is smooth in X provided that $\text{Im}(Q) \notin \bigcup_q \mathbf{n}_{q,i}^\perp$.

Let W_{\max} denote the image of $\bigcup_i Z_i^{T^k}$ under the projection map

$$\prod_x (B(V_x) \times_{K_x} G_x) \rightarrow W.$$

It is a smooth manifold and is the deepest stratum in W , with respect to the partial ordering described in [26], Section 3.3. Note that W_{\max} could be the empty set.

Suppose that $\mathcal{E} = S^{\mathcal{F}} \otimes W$ and that W_{\max} is spin.

Definition 1. If $\text{Im}(Q) \notin \bigcup_i \bigcup_q \mathbf{n}_{q,i}^\perp$, define $\mathcal{N}_{\mathcal{E}, Q} \in \Omega^* W_{\max}$ by

$$(6.8) \quad \mathcal{N}_{\mathcal{E}, Q} = AV_X \frac{\text{ch}_{\mathcal{W}'}(e^{-X+Q})}{\text{ch}_{S_N}(e^{-X+Q})}.$$

Theorem 2.

$$(6.9) \quad \text{Index}(D_{\text{inv}}) = \int_{W_{\max}} \hat{A}(TW_{\max}) \mathcal{N}_{\mathcal{E}, Q}.$$

Proof. This follows from Corollary 12. \square

We now remove the assumptions that $\mathcal{E} = S^{\mathcal{F}} \otimes W$ and W_{\max} is spin. We use the notation of [6], Chapter 6.4.

Definition 2. If $\text{Im}(Q) \notin \bigcup_i \bigcup_q \mathfrak{n}_{q,i}^\perp$, define $\mathcal{N}_{\mathcal{E},Q} \in \Omega^* W_{\max}$ by

$$(6.10) \quad \mathcal{N}_{\mathcal{E},Q} = AV_X \frac{\text{ch}_{\mathcal{E}/S_N}(e^{-X+Q})}{\sqrt{\det(1 - e^{-X+Q} \cdot e^{-R_N})}}.$$

Theorem 3.

$$(6.11) \quad \text{Index}(D_{\text{inv}}) = \int_{W_{\max}} \hat{A}(TW_{\max}) \cdot \mathcal{N}_{\mathcal{E},Q}.$$

Proof. If $\mathcal{E} = S^{\mathcal{F}} \otimes \mathcal{W}$ and W_{\max} is spin then from [6], Chapter 6.4, we deduce

$$(6.12) \quad \frac{\text{ch}_{\mathcal{E}/S_N}(e^{-X+Q})}{\sqrt{\det(1 - e^{-X+Q} \cdot e^{-R_N})}} = \frac{\text{ch}_{\mathcal{W}}(e^{-X+Q})}{\text{ch}_{S_N}(e^{-X+Q})}.$$

Hence in this case, the theorem reduces to Theorem 2. The general case can be proved by means similar to the proof of Theorem 2, carrying along the more general assumptions throughout. \square

Theorem 3 implies Theorem 1, because of our assumption in Theorem 1 that the Molino sheaf acts on the Clifford module \mathcal{E} (which lives on M). More precisely, we are assuming that the restriction $\mathcal{E}_{\mathcal{F}}$ of \mathcal{E} to \mathcal{F} carries a representation of the Lie algebroid $\overline{\mathfrak{g}_{\mathcal{F}}}$ in the sense of [17], Section 1.4. Then $\mathcal{E}_{\mathcal{F}}$ is a $\overline{\mathfrak{G}_{\mathcal{F}}}$ -equivariant vector bundle on \mathcal{F} and Theorem 3 applies.

Remark 6. If M is a simply-connected manifold with a Riemannian foliation then its space W of leaf closures is the quotient of an orbifold Y by a T^N -action; see [30]. One might hope to reduce the computation of the index of a basic Dirac-type operator on M to the computation of the T^N -invariant index of a Dirac-type operator on Y . Unfortunately, the étale groupoid $Y \rtimes T^N_\delta$ is generally not weak equivalent to $\overline{\mathfrak{G}_{\mathcal{F}}}$ with its étale topology. In general $\dim(Y) > \dim(\mathcal{F})$, so there is no associated Dirac-type operator on Y .

6.3. Computing the index. For simplicity, we assume again that $\mathcal{E} = S^{\mathcal{F}} \otimes \mathcal{W}$ (which is always the case locally) and that W_{\max} is spin, so that we have the simpler formula (6.8) for $\mathcal{N}_{\mathcal{E},Q}$.

The action of $\{e^{-X}\}$ on S_N and \mathcal{W} , over a connected component $Z_i^{T^k}$ of W_{\max} , factors through an action of T^k . Because of this T^k -action, we can compute AV_X by performing the contour integral over $(S^1)^k \subset \mathbb{C}^k$ of a certain rational function times $\frac{dz_1}{2\pi\sqrt{-1}z_1} \dots \frac{dz_k}{2\pi\sqrt{-1}z_k}$. The result depends a priori on Q (recall that $\text{Im}(Q) \notin \bigcup_i \bigcup_q \mathfrak{n}_{q,i}^\perp$) although of course the final answer for the index is independent of Q .

Changing Q amounts to deforming the contour of integration in \mathbb{C}^k . Hence the local formula for $\text{Index}(D_{\text{inv}})$ depends on Q through the chamber of $\bigcap_i \bigcap_q (\mathbb{R}^k - \mathfrak{n}_{q,i}^\perp)$ to which $\text{Im}(Q)$ belongs. Passing from one chamber to another one, the local formula could a priori change. This is not surprising, in view of the cancellations of singularities that occur; one could add various local contributions to the index formula, which will cancel out in the end.

We now apply Theorem 1 to some geometric Dirac-type operators, in which case the action of the Molino sheaf on \mathcal{E} is automatic.

6.3.1. Pure Dirac operator.

Proposition 12. *Suppose that D is the pure Dirac operator. Then $\text{Index}(D_{\text{inv}})$ vanishes if $k > 0$, while*

$$(6.13) \quad \text{Index}(D_{\text{inv}}) = \hat{A}(W)$$

if $k = 0$.

Proof. From Corollary 12,

$$(6.14) \quad \text{Index}(D_{\text{inv}}) = AV_X \sum_i \int_{Z_i^{T^k}} \hat{A}(TZ_i^{T^k}) \frac{1}{\text{ch}_{S_N}(e^{-X+Q})}.$$

Take Q so that $\text{Im}(Q) \in \bigcap_i \bigcap_q (\mathbb{R}^k - \mathbf{n}_{q,i}^\perp)$. Consider the effect of multiplying Q by $\lambda > 0$. Each factor in (6.6) has a term of either $z^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ or $z^{\frac{1}{2}}$, appearing in the denominator. It follows that as $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$, the right-hand side of (6.7) decreases exponentially fast in λ . Thus if $k > 0$ then $\text{Index}(D_{\text{inv}}) = 0$. If $k = 0$ then the foliated manifold M is the total space of a fiber bundle over $W = W_{\text{max}}$ and D_{inv} is conjugate to the pure Dirac operator on W , so $\text{Index}(D_{\text{inv}}) = \hat{A}(W)$. \square

6.3.2. Signature operator.

Proposition 13. *Suppose that \mathcal{F} is transversely oriented and $\dim(\mathcal{F})$ is divisible by four. Recall the notion of the basic signature $\sigma(M, \mathcal{F}; \mathcal{D}_M^{\frac{1}{2}})$ from Subsection 2.7. We have*

$$(6.15) \quad \sigma(M, \mathcal{F}; \mathcal{D}_M^{\frac{1}{2}}) = \sigma(W_{\text{max}}).$$

Proof. From Corollary 8, $\sigma(M, \mathcal{F}; \mathcal{D}_M^{\frac{1}{2}})$ equals the index of D_{inv} when D is the operator $d + d^*$ and the \mathbb{Z}_2 -grading comes from the Hodge duality operator. A component $Z_i^{T^k}$ of W_{max} acquires a natural orientation. Given $z \neq 1$ and a complex r -dimensional vector bundle L , put

$$(6.16) \quad \mathcal{F}_{\text{sign}}(L, z) = \prod_{j=1}^r \frac{z^{-\frac{1}{2}}e^{\frac{x_j}{2}} + z^{\frac{1}{2}}e^{-\frac{x_j}{2}}}{z^{-\frac{1}{2}}e^{\frac{x_j}{2}} - z^{\frac{1}{2}}e^{-\frac{x_j}{2}}}.$$

Then

$$(6.17) \quad \text{Index}(D_{\text{inv}}) = AV_X \sum_i \int_{Z_i^{T^k}} L(TZ_i^{T^k}) \Phi(e^{-X+Q}),$$

where

$$(6.18) \quad \Phi(e^{-X+Q}) = \pm \prod_q \mathcal{F}_{\text{sign}}(N_{q,i}, e^{-\sqrt{-1}\mathbf{n}_{q,i}(X-Q)}).$$

Take Q so that $\text{Im}(Q) \in \bigcap_i \bigcap_q (\mathbb{R}^k - \mathbf{n}_{q,i}^\perp)$. Consider the effect of multiplying Q by $\lambda > 0$. From the structure of (6.16), and taking the signs into account, the limit as $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$

of $\Phi(e^{-X+\lambda Q})$ is 1. Thus $\text{Index}(D_{\text{inv}}) = \sum_i \int_{Z_i^{T^k}} L(TZ_i^{T^k})$, which equals the signature of W_{max} . \square

6.3.3. Euler operator.

Proposition 14. *Suppose that $\dim(\mathcal{T})$ is even. Recall the notion of the basic Euler characteristic $\chi(M, \mathcal{F}; \mathcal{D}_M^{\frac{1}{2}})$ from Subsection 2.7. We have*

$$(6.19) \quad \chi(M, \mathcal{F}; \mathcal{D}_M^{\frac{1}{2}}) = \chi(W_{\text{max}}).$$

Proof. From Corollary 8, $\chi(M, \mathcal{F}; \mathcal{D}_M^{\frac{1}{2}})$ equals the index of D_{inv} when D is the operator $d + d^*$ and the \mathbb{Z}_2 -grading comes from the form degree. Then

$$(6.20) \quad \text{Index}(D_{\text{inv}}) = AV_X \sum_i \int_{Z_i^{T^k}} e(TZ_i^{T^k}),$$

where e denotes the Euler form. Thus $\text{Index}(D_{\text{inv}}) = \sum_i \chi(Z_i^{T^k})$, which equals the Euler characteristic of W_{max} . \square

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