

## The geometry of tangent conjugate connections

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### Abstract

The notion of conjugate connection is introduced in the almost tangent geometry and its properties are studied from a global point of view. Two variants for this type of connections are also considered in order to find the linear connections making parallel a given almost tangent structure.

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### Introduction

Let  $F$  be a tensor field of  $(1, 1)$ -type on a given smooth manifold  $M$ . An interesting object in the geometry of pair  $(M, F)$  is provided by the class of  $F$ -linear connections i.e. linear connections  $\nabla$  making  $F$  parallel:  $\nabla F = 0$ . In order to determine this class, in [9] is introduced the notion of  $F$ -conjugate connection associated to a fixed (non-necessary  $F$ -connection)  $\nabla$ . By denoting  $\nabla^{(F)}$  this  $F$ -conjugate connection we have studied the geometry of  $(M, F, \nabla, \nabla^{(F)})$  until now for two cases: almost complex structures in [1] and almost product structures in [2].

The present work is devoted to another remarkable type of tensor fields of  $(1, 1)$ -type, namely *almost tangent structures*. These structures were introduced by Clark and Bruckheimer [5] and Eliopoulos [10] around 1960 and have been investigated by several authors, see [3], [6]-[8], [16], [18]. As it is well-known, the tangent bundle of a manifold carries a canonical integrable almost tangent structure, hence the name. This tangent structure plays an important rôle in the Lagrangian description of analytical mechanics, [7]-[8], [12].

Recall that we are interested in the class of  $J$ -linear connections since, according to [15, p. 120], the existence of a symmetric (torsion-free) one in this class implies the

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integrability of  $J$  in the sense of  $G$ -structures as is discussed below; for example,  $J$ -linear connections of Levi-Civita type are studied in [11]. An important difference between the former structures (almost complex, almost product) and the later (almost tangent) is given by the fact that an almost tangent structure  $J$  is a degenerate tensor field due to its nilpotence  $J^2 = 0$ , see the following Section. An example where this difference is obvious is the duality property  $(\nabla^{(F)})^{(F)} = \nabla$  which holds for a non-degenerate  $F$  while for almost tangent structures we have ii) of our Proposition 2.1.

The content of paper is as follows. After a short survey in almost tangent geometry we introduce the tangent conjugate connection  $\nabla^{(J)}$  in Section 2 following the pattern of [1]-[2]. Its properties are studied following the same way as in the cited papers; for example the difference  $\nabla^{(J)} - \nabla$  is expressed again in terms of two tensor fields of  $(1, 2)$ -types called *structural* and *virtual* tensor fields. We study also the behavior of the tangent conjugate connections for a family of anti-commuting almost tangent structures. In the last two Sections we generalize  $\nabla^{(J)}$ , firstly through an exponential process and secondly with a general tensor field of  $(1, 2)$ -type.

## 1. Almost tangent geometry revisited

Let  $M$  be a smooth,  $m$ -dimensional real manifold for which we denote:  $C^\infty(M)$ -the real algebra of smooth real functions on  $M$ ,  $\Gamma(TM)$ -the Lie algebra of vector fields on  $M$ ,  $T_s^r(M)$ -the  $C^\infty(M)$ -module of tensor fields of  $(r, s)$ -type on  $M$ . An element of  $T_1^1(M)$  is usually called *vector 1-form* or *affinor*.

Recall the concept of almost tangent geometry:

**1.1. Definition.**  $J \in T_1^1(M)$  is called *almost tangent structure* on  $M$  if it has constant rank and:

$$ImJ = \ker J. \quad (1.1)$$

The pair  $(M, J)$  is called *almost tangent manifold*.

The name is motivated by the fact that (1.1) implies the nilpotence  $J^2 = 0$  exactly as the natural tangent structure of tangent bundles. Denoting  $rankJ = n$  it results  $m = 2n$ . If in addition, we suppose that  $J$  is integrable i.e.:

$$N_J(X, Y) := [JX, JY] - J[JX, Y] - J[X, JY] + J^2[X, Y] = 0 \quad (1.2)$$

then  $J$  is called *tangent structure* and  $(M, J)$  is called *tangent manifold*.

From [17, p. 3246] we get some features of tangent manifolds:

(i) the distribution  $ImJ (= \ker J)$  defines a foliation denoted  $V(M)$  and called *the vertical distribution*.

**1.2. Example.**  $M = \mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $J_e(x, y) = (0, x)$  is a tangent structure with  $\ker J_e$  the  $Y$ -axis, hence the name. The subscript  $e$  comes from "Euclidean".

(ii) there exists an atlas on  $M$  with local coordinates  $(x, y) = (x^i, y^i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$  such that  $J = \frac{\partial}{\partial y^i} \otimes dx^i$  i.e.:

$$J \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \right) = \frac{\partial}{\partial y^i}, \quad J \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial y^i} \right) = 0. \quad (1.3)$$

We call *canonical coordinates* the above  $(x, y)$  and the change of canonical coordinates  $(x, y) \rightarrow (\tilde{x}, \tilde{y})$  is given by:

$$\begin{cases} \tilde{x}^i = \tilde{x}^i(x) \\ \tilde{y}^i = \frac{\partial \tilde{x}^i}{\partial x^a} y^a + B^i(x). \end{cases} \quad (1.4)$$

It results an alternative description in terms of  $G$ -structures. Namely, a tangent structure is a  $G$ -structure with:

$$G = \left\{ C = \begin{pmatrix} A & O_n \\ B & A \end{pmatrix} \in GL(2n, \mathbb{R}); \quad A \in GL(n, \mathbb{R}), B \in gl(n, \mathbb{R}) \right\} \quad (1.5)$$

and  $G$  is the invariance group of matrix  $J = \begin{pmatrix} O_n & O_n \\ I_n & O_n \end{pmatrix}$  i.e.  $C \in G$  if and only if  $C \cdot J = J \cdot C$ .

The natural almost tangent structure  $J$  of  $M = TN$  is an example of tangent structure having exactly the expression (1.3) if  $(x^i)$  are the coordinates on  $N$  and  $(y^i)$  are the coordinates in the fibers of  $TN \rightarrow N$ . Also,  $J_e$  of Example 1.2 has the above expression (1.3) with  $n = 1$ , whence it is integrable. A third class of examples is obtained by duality: if  $J$  is an (integrable) endomorphism with  $J^2 = 0$  then its dual  $J^* : \Gamma(T^*M) \rightarrow \Gamma(T^*M)$ , given by  $J^*\alpha := \alpha \circ J$  for  $\alpha \in \Gamma(T^*M)$ , is (integrable) endomorphism with  $(J^*)^2 = 0$ .

## 2. Basic properties of tangent conjugate connections

Let  $\nabla$  be a linear connection on the almost tangent manifold  $(M, J)$  and define the *tangent conjugate connection* of  $\nabla$  by:

$$\nabla^{(J)} := \nabla - J \circ \nabla J. \quad (2.1)$$

Remark that  $\nabla^{(J)}$  coincides with  $\nabla$  if and only if  $\nabla J \subseteq \ker J = \text{Im} J$  which means the inclusion  $\nabla(\Gamma(TM) \times \ker J) \subseteq \ker J = \text{Im} J$ , in particular if  $\nabla$  is a  $J$ -linear connection; for another case see i) of Proposition 2.3. For any  $X, Y \in \Gamma(TM)$  we get:

$$\nabla_X^{(J)} Y = \nabla_X Y - J(\nabla_X J Y). \quad (2.2)$$

A first set of properties for this linear connection are given by:

**2.1. Proposition.** *The tangent conjugate connection  $\nabla^{(J)}$  satisfies:*

- i)  $\nabla^{(J)} J = \nabla J$ , which means that  $\nabla$  and  $\nabla^{(J)}$  are simultaneous  $J$ -linear connections or not;
- ii)  $\nabla^{2(J)} := (\nabla^{(J)})^{(J)} = 2\nabla^{(J)} - \nabla$ ; more generally  $\nabla^{n(J)} = n\nabla^{(J)} - (n-1)\nabla$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N}^*$ ;
- iii) its torsion is  $T_{\nabla^{(J)}} = T_{\nabla} - J \circ d^{\nabla} J$  where  $d^{\nabla}$  is the exterior covariant derivative induced by  $\nabla$ , namely  $(d^{\nabla} J)(X, Y) := (\nabla_X J)Y - (\nabla_Y J)X$ ;
- iv) its curvature is

$$\begin{aligned} R_{\nabla^{(J)}}(X, Y, Z) &= R_{\nabla}(X, Y, Z) - \nabla_X J(\nabla_Y J Z) + \nabla_Y J(\nabla_X J Z) - \\ &\quad - J[\nabla_X J(\nabla_Y Z) - \nabla_Y J(\nabla_X Z) - \nabla_{[X, Y]} J Z]. \end{aligned} \quad (2.3)$$

In particular:

$$R_{\nabla^{(J)}}(X, Y, JZ) = R_{\nabla}(X, Y, JZ) - J[\nabla_X J(\nabla_Y J Z) - \nabla_Y J(\nabla_X J Z)]. \quad (2.4)$$

*Proof* The general part of ii) follows by induction while for iii) a direct calculus yields  $T_{\nabla^{(J)}}(X, Y) = T_{\nabla}(X, Y) - J(\nabla_X J Y - \nabla_Y J X)$ .  $\square$

Let  $f : M \rightarrow M$  be a *tangentomorphism*, that is an automorphism of the  $G$ -structure defined by  $J$ :

$$f_* \circ J = J \circ f_*. \quad (2.5)$$

Recall that  $f$  is an *affine transformation* for  $\nabla$  if for any  $X, Y \in \Gamma(TM)$ :

$$f_*(\nabla_X Y) = \nabla_{f_* X} f_* Y. \quad (2.6)$$

These notions are connected by:

**2.2. Proposition.** *If the tangentomorphism  $f$  is an affine transformation for  $\nabla$  then  $f$  is also affine transformation for  $\nabla^{(J)}$ .*

*Proof* We have:

$$\begin{aligned} f_*(\nabla_X^{(J)}Y) &= f_*(\nabla_X Y) - (f_* \circ J)(\nabla_X JY) = \nabla_{f_*X} f_*Y - J(f_*(\nabla_X JY)) = \\ &= \nabla_{f_*X} f_*Y - J((\nabla_{f_*X} f_*(JY))) = \nabla_{f_*X} f_*Y - J((\nabla_{f_*X} J(f_*Y))) = \nabla_{f_*X}^{(J)} f_*Y \end{aligned}$$

which yields the conclusion.  $\square$

A second class of properties for the tangent conjugate connection is provided by:

**2.3. Proposition.** *i) If  $J$  is  $\nabla$ -recurrent i.e.  $\nabla J = \eta \otimes J$  for  $\eta$  a 1-form, then  $\nabla^{(J)} = \nabla$ .  
ii) If  $\nabla$  is symmetric and  $\nabla J = \eta \otimes I$  then  $\nabla^{(J)} = \nabla - \eta \otimes J$  and  $\nabla^{(J)}$  is a quarter-symmetric connection.*

*Proof* i) In this case we have  $J \circ \nabla J = 0$ .

ii) Recall after [1, p. 122] that the quarter-symmetry means the existence of a 1-form  $\pi$  and a tensor field  $F$  of (1,1)-type such that  $T_{\nabla^{(J)}} = F \wedge \pi := F \otimes \pi - \pi \otimes F$ . From Proposition 2.1 we have  $T_{\nabla^{(J)}}(X, Y) = T_{\nabla}(X, Y) - \eta(X)JY + \eta(Y)JX$ , and the hypothesis  $T_{\nabla} = 0$  yields the previous equation with  $F = J$  and  $\pi = \eta$ .  $\square$

**2.4. Example.** Let  $N$  be a smooth  $n$ -dimensional manifold and  $M = TN$  its tangent bundle; hence  $m = 2n$ . Let  $\{x^i; 1 \leq i \leq n\}$  be a local system of coordinates on  $N$  and consider its lift to  $M$  given by  $\{x^i, y^i; 1 \leq i \leq n\}$  with  $y^i$  the coordinates on the fibres of  $TN$ . The canonical almost tangent structure  $J$  of  $M$  has the local expression (1.3) and it is integrable. Fix a general linear connection  $\nabla$  on  $M$  with local Christoffel symbols  $\Gamma$  as follows:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \nabla \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^j} = \Gamma_{ij}^{(1)k} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^k} + \Gamma_{ij}^{(2)k} \frac{\partial}{\partial y^k} \\ \nabla \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \frac{\partial}{\partial y^j} = \Gamma_{ij}^{(3)k} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^k} + \Gamma_{ij}^{(4)k} \frac{\partial}{\partial y^k} \\ \nabla \frac{\partial}{\partial y^i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^j} = \Gamma_{ij}^{(5)k} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^k} + \Gamma_{ij}^{(6)k} \frac{\partial}{\partial y^k} \\ \nabla \frac{\partial}{\partial y^i} \frac{\partial}{\partial y^j} = \Gamma_{ij}^{(7)k} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^k} + \Gamma_{ij}^{(8)k} \frac{\partial}{\partial y^k}. \end{array} \right. \quad (2.7)$$

Then its tangent conjugate connection has the expression:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \nabla^{(J)} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^j} = \Gamma_{ij}^{(1)k} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^k} + \left( \Gamma_{ij}^{(2)k} - \Gamma_{ij}^{(3)k} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial y^k} \\ \nabla^{(J)} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \frac{\partial}{\partial y^j} = \Gamma_{ij}^{(3)k} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^k} + \Gamma_{ij}^{(4)k} \frac{\partial}{\partial y^k} \\ \nabla^{(J)} \frac{\partial}{\partial y^i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^j} = \Gamma_{ij}^{(5)k} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^k} + \left( \Gamma_{ij}^{(6)k} - \Gamma_{ij}^{(7)k} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial y^k} \\ \nabla^{(J)} \frac{\partial}{\partial y^i} \frac{\partial}{\partial y^j} = \Gamma_{ij}^{(7)k} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^k} + \Gamma_{ij}^{(8)k} \frac{\partial}{\partial y^k}. \end{array} \right. \quad (2.8)$$

A special case is important in applications: the initial connection  $\nabla$  is called *distinguished* or *d-connection* if it preserves the linear structure of the fibres of  $M$  which means that:

$$\Gamma^{(2)} = \Gamma^{(3)} = \Gamma^{(6)} = \Gamma^{(7)} = 0. \quad (2.9)$$

It results that  $\nabla$  is a  $J$ -connection and then its tangent conjugate connection is  $\nabla^{(J)} = \nabla$ .

### 3. The structural and the virtual tensor fields

Remark that the tangent conjugate connection  $\nabla^{(J)}$  of  $\nabla$  can be written in another form as:

$$\nabla^{(J)} = \nabla + C_{\nabla}^J - B_{\nabla}^J \quad (3.1)$$

where:

$$\begin{cases} C_{\nabla}^J(X, Y) := \frac{1}{2}[(\nabla_{JX}J)Y + (\nabla_XJ)JY] \\ B_{\nabla}^J(X, Y) := \frac{1}{2}[(\nabla_{JX}J)Y - (\nabla_XJ)JY]. \end{cases} \quad (3.2)$$

which we call respectively, the *structural* and the *virtual tensor field* of  $\nabla$ . We obtain also the following expressions for them:

$$\begin{cases} C_{\nabla}^J(X, Y) = \frac{1}{2}[\nabla_{JX}JY - J(\nabla_{JX}Y + \nabla_XJY)] \\ B_{\nabla}^J(X, Y) = \frac{1}{2}[\nabla_{JX}JY - J(\nabla_{JX}Y - \nabla_XJY)]. \end{cases} \quad (3.3)$$

We notice that they satisfy the following properties:

$$\begin{cases} C_{\nabla}^J(JX, Y) = C_{\nabla}^J(X, JY) = -\frac{1}{2}J(\nabla_{JX}JY); & C_{\nabla}^J(JX, JY) = 0 \\ B_{\nabla}^J(JX, Y) = -B_{\nabla}^J(X, JY) = \frac{1}{2}J(\nabla_{JX}JY); & B_{\nabla}^J(JX, JY) = 0 \\ C_{\nabla}^J(JX, Y) = -B_{\nabla}^J(JX, Y) \end{cases} \quad (3.4)$$

and the skew-symmetry (3.4<sub>2</sub>) means that  $B_{\nabla}^J(J\cdot, \cdot)$  is a vectorial 2-form. Another important property is that these tensor fields are invariant with respect to  $J$ -conjugation of linear connections:

$$C_{\nabla^{(J)}}^J = C_{\nabla}^J; \quad B_{\nabla^{(J)}}^J = B_{\nabla}^J. \quad (3.5)$$

With respect to the invariance of these associated tensor fields under projective changes we get that only  $C^J$  is invariant:

**3.1. Proposition.** *Let  $\nabla$  and  $\nabla'$  be two linear projectively equivalent connections:*

$$\nabla' = \nabla + \eta \otimes I + I \otimes \eta \quad (3.6)$$

for  $\eta$  a 1-form. Then  $C_{\nabla'}^J = C_{\nabla}^J$  and  $B_{\nabla'}^J = B_{\nabla}^J + J \otimes (\eta \circ J)$  while the tangent conjugate connection  $\nabla'^{(J)}$  of  $\nabla'$  satisfies:

$$\nabla'^{(J)} = \nabla^{(J)} + \eta \otimes I + I \otimes \eta - J \otimes (\eta \circ J) \quad (3.7)$$

and so it is not invariant under projective equivalence.

*Proof* Follows from a direct computation.  $\square$

### 4. Invariant distributions

Let  $\mathcal{D} \subset TM$  be a fixed distribution considered as a vector subbundle of  $TM$ . As usually, we denote by  $\Gamma(\mathcal{D})$  its  $C^\infty(M)$ -module of sections.

**4.1. Definition.** i)  $\mathcal{D}$  is called *J-invariant* if  $X \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D})$  implies  $JX \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D})$ .  
ii) The linear connection  $\nabla$  *restricts to  $\mathcal{D}$*  if  $Y \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D})$  implies  $\nabla_X Y \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D})$  for any  $X \in \Gamma(TM)$ .

**4.2. Example.** The distribution  $\mathcal{D}_J = \ker J = \text{Im} J$  is *J-invariant*.

If  $\nabla$  restricts to  $\mathcal{D}$  then it may be considered as a connection in the vector bundle  $\mathcal{D}$ . From this fact, a connection which restricts to  $\mathcal{D}$  is called sometimes *adapted to  $\mathcal{D}$* .

**4.3. Proposition.** *If the distribution  $\mathcal{D}$  is  $J$ -invariant and the linear connection  $\nabla$  restricts to  $\mathcal{D}$  then  $\nabla^{(J)}$  also restricts to  $\mathcal{D}$ .*

*Proof* Fix  $Y \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D})$ . Then  $JY \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D})$  and for any  $X \in \Gamma(TM)$  we have  $\nabla_X Y, \nabla_X JY \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D})$ . Therefore,  $J(\nabla_X JY) \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D})$  and so  $\nabla_X^{(J)} Y = \nabla_X Y - J(\nabla_X JY) \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D})$ .  $\square$

**4.4. Example.** Returning to Example 4.2 we have that  $\nabla_X = \nabla_X^{(J)}$  on  $\mathcal{D}_J = \ker J = \text{Im} J$ .

A more general notion like restricting to a distribution is that of geodesically invariance [4, p. 118]. The distribution  $\mathcal{D}$  is  $\nabla$ -geodesically invariant if for every geodesic  $\gamma : [a, b] \rightarrow M$  of  $\nabla$  with  $\dot{\gamma}(a) \in \mathcal{D}_{\gamma(a)}$  it follows  $\dot{\gamma}(t) \in \mathcal{D}_{\gamma(t)}$  for any  $t \in [a, b]$ . The cited book gives a necessary and sufficient condition for a distribution  $\mathcal{D}$  to be  $\nabla$ -geodesically invariant: for any  $X, Y \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D})$ , the symmetric product  $\langle X : Y \rangle_{\nabla} := \nabla_X Y + \nabla_Y X$  to belong to  $\Gamma(\mathcal{D})$  or equivalently, for any  $X \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D})$  to have  $\nabla_X X \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D})$ .

A direct computation gives:

$$\langle \cdot : \cdot \rangle_{\nabla^{(J)}} = \langle \cdot : \cdot \rangle_{\nabla} - J \circ d^{\nabla} J \quad (4.1)$$

and then the  $\nabla$ -geodesically invariance and  $\nabla^{(J)}$ -geodesically invariance for  $\mathcal{D}$  coincides if and only if  $J \circ d^{\nabla} J$  is zero on  $\mathcal{D} \times \mathcal{D}$ . In particular,  $\mathcal{D}_J$  is  $\nabla$ -geodesically invariant if and only if is  $\nabla^{(J)}$ -geodesically invariant.

## 5. Affine combination of tangent conjugate connections

In what follows we shall see what happens to the tangent conjugate connection for families of almost tangent structures. Let  $J_1, J_2$  be two almost tangent structures; conditions for their simultaneous integrability are given in [13]-[14]. Then for any  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  the tensor field  $J_{ab} := aJ_1 + bJ_2$  is an almost tangent structure if and only if  $J_1 J_2 = -J_2 J_1$ . Then its tangent conjugate connection is given by:

$$\nabla_X^{(J_{ab})} Y = a^2 \nabla_X^{(J_1)} Y + b^2 \nabla_X^{(J_2)} Y + (1 - a^2 - b^2) \nabla_X Y - ab[J_1(\nabla_X J_2 Y) + J_2(\nabla_X J_1 Y)]. \quad (5.1)$$

**5.1. Proposition.** *Let  $\nabla$  be a linear connection and  $J_1$  and  $J_2$  two anti-commuting almost tangent structures. If  $(\nabla, J_1, J_2)$  is a mixed-recurrent structure i.e.  $\nabla J_i = \eta \otimes J_j$  for  $i \neq j$  then  $\nabla$  is the average of the two tangent conjugate connections:*

$$\nabla = \frac{1}{2}[\nabla^{(J_1)} + \nabla^{(J_2)}] \quad (5.2)$$

and  $\nabla^{(J_{ab})}$  is an affine combination of them:

$$\nabla^{(J_{ab})} = \frac{1 + a^2 - b^2}{2} \nabla^{(J_1)} + \frac{1 - a^2 + b^2}{2} \nabla^{(J_2)}. \quad (5.3)$$

*Proof* Applying  $J_i$  to  $\nabla_X J_i Y - J_i(\nabla_X Y) = \eta(X) J_j Y$  with  $i \neq j$  and the anti-commuting hypothesis we obtain:

$$J_1(\nabla_X J_1 Y) = -J_2(\nabla_X J_2 Y). \quad (5.4)$$

Summing the expression of the tangent conjugate connections we get (5.2) and from a previous computation, the relation (5.3).  $\square$

## 6. Exponential tangent conjugate connections

For  $\theta$  a real number we define the *exponential tangent conjugate connection* of  $\nabla$  as:

$$\nabla^{(J,\theta)} := \nabla - \exp(-\theta J) \circ \nabla \circ \exp(\theta J) \quad (6.1)$$

where  $\exp(\pm\theta J) := \cos(\theta) \cdot I \pm \sin(\theta) \cdot J$ . Explicitly we get:

$$\nabla^{(J,\theta)} = \sin^2(\theta)\nabla - \frac{1}{2}\sin(2\theta)\nabla J + \sin^2(\theta)J \circ \nabla J = 2\sin^2(\theta)\nabla - \frac{1}{2}\sin(2\theta)\nabla J - \sin^2(\theta)\nabla^{(J)} \quad (6.2)$$

and then:

$$\nabla^{(J,\theta)} J = \sin^2(\theta)\nabla J + \frac{1}{2}\sin(2\theta)J \circ \nabla J. \quad (6.3)$$

It follows:

**6.1. Proposition.** *Let  $\nabla$  be a symmetric linear connection.*

i) *If  $J$  is  $\nabla$ -recurrent with  $\eta$  the 1-form of recurrence then:*

$$\nabla^{(J,\theta)} = \sin^2(\theta)\nabla - \frac{1}{2}\sin(2\theta) \cdot \eta \otimes J \quad (6.4)$$

and  $\nabla^{(J,\theta)}$  is a quarter-symmetric connection.

ii) *If  $\nabla J = \eta \otimes I$  then:*

$$\nabla^{(J,\theta)} = \sin^2(\theta)\nabla - \sin(\theta) \cdot \eta \otimes \exp(-\theta J) \quad (6.5)$$

and:

$$T_{\nabla^{(J,\theta)}} = \sin(\theta) \otimes \exp(-\theta J) \wedge \eta. \quad (6.6)$$

*Proof* i) Follows from the fact that the hypothesis implies  $J \circ \nabla J = 0$ . The quarter-symmetry elements are  $F = J$  and  $\pi = \sin(\theta) \cos(\theta) \cdot \eta$ .

ii) From  $\cos(\theta) \cdot \eta \otimes I - \sin(\theta) \cdot \eta \otimes J = \eta \otimes \exp(-\theta J)$  we get:

$$T_{\nabla^{(J,\theta)}} = -\sin(\theta) \cdot [\eta \otimes \exp(-\theta J) - \exp(-\theta J) \otimes \eta]. \quad \square$$

## 7. Generalized tangent conjugate connections

In this section we present a natural generalization of the tangent conjugate connection.

**7.1. Definition.** A *generalized tangent conjugate connection* of  $\nabla$  is:

$$\nabla^{(J,C)} = \nabla^{(J)} + C \quad (7.1)$$

with  $C \in T_2^1(M)$  an arbitrary (1, 2)-tensor field.

Let us search for tensor fields  $C$  such that the duality  $(\nabla^{(J,C)})^{(J,C)} = 2\nabla^{(J,C)} - \nabla$  holds as is given by Proposition 2.1. It results that we are interested in finding solutions  $C$  to the equation:

$$J(C(X, JY)) = 2C(X, Y) \quad (7.2)$$

for all  $X, Y \in \Gamma(TM)$  and let us remark that: i)  $C_0 = 0$  is a particular solution of (7.2);

ii) applying  $J$  to (7.2) gives that  $ImC \subseteq \ker J = ImJ$ . Then returning to (7.2) it follows from the left-hand-side that  $C_0$  is the unique solution of (7.2).

Also, we have:

$$\nabla^{(J,C)} J = \nabla^{(J)} J + C(\cdot, J) - J \circ C \quad (7.3)$$

and then:

i)  $\nabla^{(J,C)} J = \nabla J$  as in i) of Proposition 2.1 if and only if:  $C(\cdot, J) = J \circ C(\cdot, \cdot)$ ,

ii)  $\nabla^{(J,C)}$  is a  $J$ -linear connection if and only if:

$$\nabla J + C(\cdot, J) = J \circ C. \quad (7.4)$$

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