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Osaka J. Math.
22 (1985), 845–862

THE MODULI SPACE OF YANG-MILLS CONNECTIONS OVER A KÄHLER SURFACE IS A COMPLEX MANIFOLD

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(Received June 13, 1984)

1. Introduction

Let M be a compact, connected, oriented Riemannian 4-manifold. Let P be a smooth principal G-bundle over M. For simplicity we assume that the Lie group $G=SU(n)$, $n\geqq 2$. An $SU(n)$-connection A on P is called self-dual (anti-self-dual) if curvature form $F(A)=dA-A\wedge A$ satisfies $*F(A)=\pm F(A)$. Each self-dual (anti-self-dual) connection is characterized as a connection minimizing the Yang-Mills functional $\int_M |F|^2 dv$ and then gives a solution to the Yang-Mills equation. That the second Chern class $c_2(\mathfrak{g}^C)<0(>0)$ for the adjoint bundle $\mathfrak{g}$ of P is a topological restriction to P in order to admit a self-dual (anti-self-dual) connection. The moduli space $\mathcal{M}$ of self-dual (anti-self-dual) connections, namely, the orbit space of self-dual (anti-self-dual) connections with respect to the group $\mathcal{G}$ of gauge transformations has a structure of smooth manifold ([3], [7]).

A Kähler surface M with a Kähler metric g, which is certainly a Riemannian 4-manifold, carries the canonical orientation induced from the complex structure. Relative to this orientation a connection A is anti-self-dual if and only if its curvature is a 2-form of type (1,1) which is primitive (that is, orthogonal to the Kähler form ω). Therefore, by the integrability condition ([3]) each anti-self-dual connection induces a holomorphic structure on the complex adjoint bundle $\mathfrak{g}^C$. Since gauge-equivalent anti-self-dual connections give holomorphic structures which are isomorphic with respect to automorphisms of $\mathfrak{g}^C$, we have the canonical mapping from $\mathcal{M}$ to the moduli spcae of holomorphic structures on $\mathfrak{g}^C$. Furthermore an anti-self-dual $SU(n)$-connection A naturally defines an Einstein-Hermitian structure on the associated holomorphic vector bundle $\boldsymbol{E}=P\times_{SU(n)}\boldsymbol{C}^n$. We have also the fact that $\boldsymbol{E}$ is ω-semi-stable in the sense of Mumford and Takemoto ([9]). If A is moreover irreducible, then $\boldsymbol{E}$ is ω-stable. On the other hand, over a nonsingular projective surface the moduli space of holomorphic, rank two vector bundles of fixed Chern classes is a quasi-projective variety ([12]). From these reasons together with an easy observation that the moduli space $\mathcal{M}$

has even dimension (Proposition 2.4), it is natural that $\mathcal{M}$ may possibly be a complex manifold ([1]). The aim of this paper is to show that $\mathcal{M}$ is indeed a complex manifold with singularities by using notion of holomorphic (0,1)-connections.

The singularities of $\mathcal{M}$ are described as gauge-equivalent classes $[A]$ of $\mathcal{M}$ either with non-zero 0-th cohomology H^0 or with non-zero second cohomology H^2 for a certain complex associated to the connection A. Denote by $\mathcal{K}$ the subset of $\mathcal{M}$ $\{[A]\in\mathcal{M};\ H^0\neq 0\}$. Then we obtain the following

Theorem 1. *Let M be a compact Kähler surface with a Kähler metric of positive total scalar curvature or with trivial canonical line bundle K_M. Let P be a smooth principal $SU(n)$-bundle with second Chern class $c_2(\mathfrak{g}^C)>0$. If $\mathcal{M}\backslash\mathcal{K}$ is non-empty, then it is a complex manifold of dimension $c_2(\mathfrak{g}^C)-(n^2-1)p_a(M)$, where $p_a(M)$ is arithmetic genus of M.*

We denote by $\boldsymbol{H}$ the space $H^0(M;\ \mathcal{O}(\mathfrak{g}^C\otimes K_M))$ relative to the holomorphic structure on $\mathfrak{g}^C$ induced from an anti-self-dual connection A. Theorem 1 is a direct consequence of the following theorem.

Theorem 2. *Let M be a compatc Kähler surface, P a smooth principal $SU(n)$-bundle with $c_2(\mathfrak{g}^C)>0$. If $(\mathcal{M}\backslash\mathcal{K})_0=\{[A]\in\mathcal{M}\backslash\mathcal{K};\ \boldsymbol{H}=0\}$ is non-empty, then it is a complex manifold of dimension $c_2(\mathfrak{g}^C)-(n^2-1)p_a(M)$.*

These theorems are obtained as follows. We first show in §2 that each $[A]\in(\mathcal{M}\backslash\mathcal{K})_0$ has a neighborhood in the first cohomology H^1 defining a local coordinate of $\mathcal{M}$. But such coordinate neighborhoods are not necessarily each other related holomorphically. Therefore we should verify by an indirect method that $(\mathcal{M}\backslash\mathcal{K})_0$ is in fact a complex manifold. For this purpose we define in §3 a holomorphic (0,1)-connection on the complexification P^C of P. A holomorphic (0,1)-connection is a system of local $\mathfrak{sl}(n;\boldsymbol{C})$-valued (0,1)-forms satisfying a transition condition whose curvature form vanishes. In a manner analoguous to the case of anti-self-dual $SU(n)$-connections we can define complex gauge transformations, moduli space of holomorphic (0,1)-connections and an elliptic complex which is a gauge field version of the Dolbeault complex. We obtain at §4 a canonical mapping f from $\mathcal{M}$ to the moduli space of holomorphic (0,1)-connections which is injective and open over $(\mathcal{M}\backslash\mathcal{K})_0$ and then use the Atiyah-Singer index theorem and Kuranishi's integrating method together with the moment map due to Donaldson ([6]) to verify that the open subspcae $f((\mathcal{M}\backslash\mathcal{K})_0)$ in the moduli is definitely a complex manifold of dimension $c_2(\mathfrak{g})-(n^2-1)p_a(M)$ (Proposition 5.1).

Holomorphic (0,1)-connections over a complex manifold are inseparably related to holomorphic structures on $\mathfrak{g}^C$. Then the moduli space of holomorphic connections reflects aspects and properties of the moduli of holomorphic structures on $\mathfrak{g}^C$. See Ch. 2 of [13] and [2] as references for theory of holomorphic structures on a vector bundle over a compact complex manifold.

An announcement of this article is appeared in [8]. With respect to basical references we refer to [3] and [7].

2. Moduli space of anti-self-dual connections

Let M be a compact Kähler surface with a Kähler metric g. We denote by Λ^k and $\Lambda^{(p,q)}$ the vector bundles of real k-forms and of complex (p,q)-forms on M, respectively. For a real vector bundle E and a complex vector bundle F we denote by $\Omega^k(E)$ and $\Omega^{(p,q)}(F)$ the space of all smooth k-forms with values in E and the space of all smooth (p,q)-forms with values in F. Let P be a smooth principal bundle over M with gauge group $SU(n)$. We denote by G and $\mathfrak{g}$ the associated bundles $P\times_{Ad}SU(n)$ and $P\times_{Ad}\mathfrak{su}(n)$, respectively. We call $\mathfrak{g}$ the adjoint bundle of P.

Let $\{W_\alpha\}$ be an open covering of M consisting of local trivializing neighborhoods of P.

DEFINITION 2.1. A system $A=\{A_\alpha\}$ of local smooth $\mathfrak{su}(n)$-valued 1-forms A_α defined over W_α is called an $SU(n)$-connection on P, if A satisfies the cocycle condition;

$$A_\beta = dg\cdot g^{-1}+g\cdot A_\alpha\cdot g^{-1} \tag{2.1}$$

on $W_\alpha\cap W_\beta$, where $g=g_{\alpha\beta}$ is a transiton transition function of P over $W_\alpha\cap W_\beta$.

The set $\mathcal{A}$ of all $SU(n)$-connections on P has an affine structure. That is, $\mathcal{A}$ is given by $\{A+\alpha;\ \alpha\in\Omega^1(\mathfrak{g})\}$ for a fixed $SU(n)$-connection A. We call $SU(n)$-connection A irreducible when the covariant derivative $d_A;\ \Omega^0(\mathfrak{g})\rightarrow\Omega^1(\mathfrak{g})$, $\psi\mapsto d\psi+[\psi, A]$ has trivial kernel. An $SU(n)$-connection is called reducible if it is not irreducible.

The complex surface M has the canonical orientation induced from the complex structure. The Hodge star operator $*$ gives an endomorphism of Λ^2 with property $*\circ*=id$. We denote by Λ^2_+ and Λ^2_- the eigenspaces of $+1$ and -1, respectively. The projection from Λ^2 onto Λ^2_+ is denoted by p_+. Over Kähler surface M we have the following ([7]). A real 2-form α belongs to Λ^2_+ if and only if (1,1)-part of α is proportional to the Kähler form ω, and a real 2-form β is in Λ^2_- if and only if β is of type (1,1) and orthogonal to ω. A 2-form in Λ^2_+(or in Λ^2_-) is called self-dual (or anti-self-dual).

DEFINITION 2.2. An $SU(n)$-connection A is called anti-self-dual if the curvature form $F(A)=dA-A\wedge A$ which belongs to $\Omega^2(\mathfrak{g})$ satisfies $*F(A)=-F(A)$, namely $p_+F(A)=0$.

The group $\mathcal{G}=\Gamma(M;G)$ of all smooth gauge transformations of P acts on $\mathcal{A}$

as $g(A)=dg\cdot g^{-1}+g\cdot A\cdot g^{-1}$, $g\in\mathcal{G}$, $A\in\mathcal{A}$. Let Z be the center of $SU(n)$. Each element of Z defines a gauge transformation which commutes with all g's of $\mathcal{G}$. It is easily seen that the center $Z(\mathcal{G})$ of $\mathcal{G}$ coincides with Z. The center $Z=Z(\mathcal{G})$ acts trivially on $\mathcal{A}$. Let A be an irreducible connection on P. Then the isotropy subgroup $\Gamma_A=\{g\in\mathcal{G}; g(A)=A\}$ is just Z. This fact is observed by the following. The endomorphism bundle End($\boldsymbol{E}$) of the associated vector bundle $\boldsymbol{E}=P\times_\rho \boldsymbol{C}^n$, which is written as $\mathrm{End}(\boldsymbol{E})=P\times_{Ad}\mathfrak{gl}(n;\boldsymbol{C})$, decomposes into End($\boldsymbol{E}$) $=\boldsymbol{1}\oplus\mathfrak{g}\oplus\sqrt{-1}\ \mathfrak{g}$ as an $SU(n)$-vector bundle, where $\boldsymbol{1}$ is a one-dimensional trivial bundle. The bundle $G=P\times_{Ad} SU(n)$ is considered as a subbundle of End($\boldsymbol{E}$) with fibers consisting of $SU(n)$. Then a gauge transformation g is in Γ_A if and only if $g(A)-A=(dg+[g,A])\cdot g^{-1}=d_A g\cdot g^{-1}=0$, that is, g is a parallel section of End($\boldsymbol{E}$). By the irreducibility of A g must be a constant multiple of identity transformation 1_E, hence $g\in Z$ since g takes values in $SU(n)$. As a consequence the quotient group $\tilde{\mathcal{G}}=\mathcal{G}/Z$ acts effectively on $\mathcal{A}$ and freely on the subset of irreducible connections.

Denote by $\mathcal{B}$ the quotient space $\mathcal{A}/\tilde{\mathcal{G}}$ and by π the projection of $\mathcal{A}$ onto $\mathcal{B}$. The equivalence class $\pi(A)$ is denoted by $[A]$. Since $F(g(A))=g\cdot F(A)\cdot g^{-1}$, $g\in\tilde{\mathcal{G}}$, $g(A)$ is anti-self-dual for every anti-self-dual connection A. The subset $\mathcal{M}$ in $\mathcal{B}$ given by {anti-self-dual connections on P}$/\tilde{\mathcal{G}}$ is called the moduli space of anti-self-dual connections on P.

In order to introduce a local coordinate neighborhood for each $[A]$ of $\mathcal{M}$ we define suitable topologies on $\mathcal{B}$. On the spaces $\Omega^p(\mathfrak{g})$ the inner product $\langle\cdot,\cdot\rangle_M$ is defined by $\langle\phi,\psi\rangle_M=\int_M\langle\phi,\psi\rangle(x)dv$, $\langle\phi,\psi\rangle(x)dv=Tr\{\phi(x)\wedge *{}^t\overline{\psi(x)}\}$, $p\geqq 0$. By using a partition of unity we also define the Sobolev's norm $|\cdot|_k$ on $\Omega^p(\mathfrak{g})$ for a positive integer k. In the completion $L^2_k(\Omega^p(\mathfrak{g}))$ of $\Omega^p(\mathfrak{g})$ relative to $|\cdot|_k$ the subspace $\Omega^p(\mathfrak{g})$ of all smooth sections is dense. Note that norms $|\cdot|_0$ and $|\cdot|_M=\langle\cdot,\cdot\rangle_M^{1/2}$ are equivalent. Now we complete the space $\mathcal{A}$ and the group $\mathcal{G}$. Namely, let $\mathcal{A}$ be the space $\{A_0+\alpha; \alpha\in L^2_k(\Omega^1(\mathfrak{g}))\}$ for a fixed smooth connection A_0 and $\mathcal{G}$ the subset $\{g\in L^2_{k+1}(\Gamma(M; \mathrm{End}(\boldsymbol{E})); g$ takes values in $SU(n)\}$. Then $\mathcal{G}$, and hence $\tilde{\mathcal{G}}$ acts on $\mathcal{A}$ and we get the quotient topology on the space $\mathcal{B}=\mathcal{A}/\tilde{\mathcal{G}}$. In the following we assume that k is sufficiently large relative to the dimension of the base space M in order to apply Sobolev's imbedding theorem.

For a connection A a subset U_A of $\mathcal{A}\{A+\alpha; \alpha\in L^2_k(\Omega^1(\mathfrak{g})), d_A^*\alpha=0\}$ is said to be a slice at A. Here d_A^*; $\Omega^1(\mathfrak{g})\to\Omega^0(\mathfrak{g})$ is the formal adjoint of d_A relative to the inner product $\langle\cdot,\cdot\rangle_M$.

Proposition 2.1. *Let A be an irreducible connection. Then there is a positive ε such that $U_{A,\varepsilon}=\{A+\alpha; |\alpha|_k<\varepsilon, d_A^*\alpha=0\}\subset\mathcal{A}$ is homeomorphic to its image $\pi(U_{A,\varepsilon})$ through the restriction of π to $U_{A,\varepsilon}$ and $\pi(U_{A,\varepsilon})$ gives a neighborhood of $[A]$ in $\mathcal{B}$.*

Proof. This proposition is shown in the proof of Theorem 6 in [5]. Then we give here a sketch of the proof. We define a mapping S; $U_{A,\varepsilon}\times\mathcal{G}/Z\to\mathcal{A}$, $S(A+\alpha, g)=g(A+\alpha)$. Then S is smooth relative to the L^2_k-topologies and its derivative at $\alpha=0$ and $g=$the identity is given by

$$DS;\ \mathrm{Ker}\, d_A^*\times\Omega^0(\mathfrak{g})\to\Omega^1(\mathfrak{g})\,,$$
$$(\alpha, \phi)\mapsto\alpha+d_A\phi\,,$$

which is an isomorphism since $\mathrm{Ker}\, d_A=0$ and $\Omega^1(\mathfrak{g})=\mathrm{Im}\, d_A\oplus\mathrm{Ker}\, d_A^*$. Then S gives a local diffeomorphism. Thus for a sufficiently small ε there is a neighborhood Q of A in $\mathcal{A}$ which is written as $S(U_{A,\varepsilon}\times W)$, where W is a neighborhood in $\tilde{\mathcal{G}}$. Namely, each A_1 in Q has a unique form $A_1=g(A+\beta)$, $\beta\in U_{A,\varepsilon}$, $g\in W$. By the aid of the semi-continuity of dim Ker d_A we can assume here that each connection of Q is irreducible. The proof is completed if we use the argument given at p. 448, 449 of [3].

Let $\mathcal{K}$ be the subset of $\mathcal{B}$ given by $\{[A]\in\mathcal{B};\ A \text{ is reducible}\}$. Since $F(A+\alpha)=F(A)+d_A\alpha-\alpha\wedge\alpha$, a slice neighborhood $\mathcal{V}_{[A]}$ of $[A]\in\mathcal{M}\backslash\mathcal{K}$ in $\mathcal{M}$ can be given by an ε-neighborhood of a slice

$$\{A+\alpha;\ |\alpha|_k<\varepsilon,\ d_A^*\alpha=0,\ d_A^+\alpha=\alpha\#\alpha\}\,, \tag{2.2}$$

where $d_A^+=p_+\circ d_A$ and $\#$; $\Omega^1(\mathfrak{g})\times\Omega^1(\mathfrak{g})\to\Omega^2_+(\mathfrak{g})=\Gamma(M;\Lambda^2_+\otimes\mathfrak{g})$ is defined by $\alpha\#\beta=(1/2)p_+(\alpha\wedge\beta+\beta\wedge\alpha)$.

To analyze more exactly the structure of neighborhoods of the moduli space $\mathcal{M}$ we need notion of an elliptic complex and also the integrating method due to Kuranishi ([11]).

For any anti-self-dual $SU(n)$-connection A the following sequence presents an elliptic complex ([3, p. 444], [7, Proposition 2.4])

$$0\to\Omega^0(\mathfrak{g})\overset{d_A}{\to}\Omega^1(\mathfrak{g})\overset{d_A^+}{\to}\Omega^2_+(\mathfrak{g})\to 0\,. \tag{2.3}$$

If the connection A is irreducible, then 0-th cohomology group H_A^0 vanishes. With respect to the second cohomology group H_A^2 we have the following two propositions.

Proposition 2.2. *Let A be an anti-self-dual connection. Then for each* $\Phi=\Phi^{2,0}+\Phi^{0,2}+\Phi^0\otimes\omega\in\Omega^2_+(\mathfrak{g})$

$$|d_A^{+*}\Phi|^2_M=(1/2)\{|\tilde{\nabla}_A\Phi^{2,0}|^2_M+|\tilde{\nabla}_A\Phi^{0,2}|^2_M\}+|d_A\Phi^0|^2_M$$
$$+(1/4)\int_M \mathrm{Scal}(g)\{|\Phi^{2,0}|^2+|\Phi^{0,2}|^2\}dv\,. \tag{2.4}$$

Here $\tilde{\nabla}_A$ denotes the covariant derivative with respect to A together with the

Levi-Civita connection of the metric g and Scal(g) is the scalar curvature of g. Notice that since each Φ in $\Omega^2_+(\mathfrak{g})$ takes values in $\mathfrak{su}(n)$, Φ satisfies the reality condition, that is, $\Phi^0\in\Omega^0(\mathfrak{g})$ and $\Phi^{0,2}=-{}^t(\overline{\Phi^{2,0}})$.

Proposition 2.3. *If an $SU(n)$-connection A is anti-self-dual, then the second cohomology H^2_A is $\boldsymbol{R}$-isomorphic to $H^0_A\oplus\boldsymbol{H}$, Where $\boldsymbol{H}$ denotse the space of global holomorphic sections $H^0(M;\mathcal{O}(\mathfrak{g}^C\otimes K_M))$ with respect to the holomorphic structure $\mathfrak{g}^C$ on canonically induced from the A.*

Proof of Proposition 2.2. It suffices to show the following Bochner-Weitzenböck formula with respect to a general connection A;

$$\begin{aligned}|d_A^{+*}\Phi|^2_M = &(1/2)\{|\tilde{\nabla}_A\Phi^{2,0}|^2_M+|\tilde{\nabla}_A\Phi^{0,2}|^2_M\}+|d_A\Phi^0|^2_M\\ &+(1/4)\int_M \mathrm{Scal}(g)\{|\Phi^{2,0}|^2|+|\Phi^{0,2}|^2\}dv\\ &+4\int_M Re\langle[\Phi^0, \sqrt{-1}\,F^{2,0}], \Phi^{2,0}\rangle dv\\ &-2\int_M Re\langle[\Phi^{2,0}, \sqrt{-1}\,F^0], \Phi^{2,0}\rangle dv \end{aligned}\tag{2.5}$$

for $\Phi\in\Omega^2_+(\mathfrak{g})$ and $F_+(A)=p_+F(A)=F^{2,0}+F^{0,2}+F^0\otimes\omega$.
Since

$$\begin{aligned}d_A^+(\Phi^{1,0}+\Phi^{0,1}) = &\partial_A\Phi^{1,0}+\bar\partial_A\Phi^{0,1}\\ &+(1/2)\langle\bar\partial_A\Phi^{1,0}+\partial_A\Phi^{0,1}, \omega\rangle\otimes\omega\end{aligned}\tag{2.6}$$

and we have

$$d_A^{+*}(\Phi^{2,0}+\Phi^{0,2}) = \partial_A^*\Phi^{2,0}+\bar\partial_A^*\Phi^{0,2}\,,\tag{2.7}$$

and

$$d_A^{+*}(\Phi^0\otimes\omega) = \sqrt{-1}\,(\partial_A\Phi^0-\bar\partial_A\Phi^0)\,,\tag{2.8}$$

we obtain the following

$$\begin{aligned}d_A^+d_A^{+*}(\Phi^{2,0}+\Phi^{0,2}) = &\partial_A\partial_A^*\Phi^{2,0}+\bar\partial_A\bar\partial_A^*\Phi^{0,2}\\ &+(1/2)\langle\bar\partial_A\partial_A^*\Phi^{2,0}+\partial_A\bar\partial_A^*\Phi^{0,2}, \omega\rangle\otimes\omega\end{aligned}\tag{2.9}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}d_A^+d_A^{+*}(\Phi^0\otimes\omega) = &\sqrt{-1}\{\partial_A\partial_A\Phi^0-\bar\partial_A\bar\partial_A\Phi^0\\ &+(1/2)\langle\bar\partial_A\partial_A\Phi^0-\partial_A\bar\partial_A\Phi^0, \omega\rangle\otimes\omega\}\,.\end{aligned}\tag{2.10}$$

Since $d_Ad_A\Phi^0=[\Phi^0, F(A)]$, (2.10) reduces to

$$\begin{aligned}d_A^+d_A^{+*}(\Phi^0\otimes\omega) = &\sqrt{-1}\{[\Phi^0, F^{2,0}]-[\Phi^0, F^{0,2}]\}\\ &+(1/2)\,(\Box_A\Phi^0)\otimes\omega\,.\end{aligned}\tag{2.11}$$

Here we denote by $\square_A$ the rough Laplacian $-\sum g^{\sigma\bar{\tau}}\tilde{\nabla}_\sigma\tilde{\nabla}_{\bar{\tau}}$. Hence the inner product $\langle d_A^+ d_A^{+*}(\Phi^0\otimes\omega), \Phi\rangle_M$ is given by

$$\langle d_A^+ d_A^{+*}(\Phi^0\otimes\omega), \Phi\rangle_M = \int_M 2\, Re\langle[\Phi^0, \sqrt{-1}\, F^{2,0}], \Phi^{2,0}\rangle dv + \langle\square_A\Phi^0, \Phi^0\rangle_M . \tag{2.12}$$

On the other hand we have by an argument similar to [7, Lemma 3.3]

$$\partial_A\partial_A^*\Phi^{2,0} = (1/2)\square_A\Phi^{2,0} + (1/4)\,\mathrm{Scal}(g)\,\Phi^{2,0} - (1/2)\,[\Phi^{2,0}, 2\sqrt{-1}\,F^0] . \tag{2.13}$$

By using the Ricci formula we obtain further

$$\langle\partial_A\partial_A^*\Phi^{2,0}, \omega\rangle = \sqrt{-1}\sum g^{\mu\bar{\nu}}(\bar{\partial}_A\partial_A^*\Phi^{2,0})_{\mu\bar{\nu}} + (\sqrt{-1}/2)\sum g^{\sigma\bar{\tau}}g^{\mu\bar{\nu}}[\Phi_{\sigma\mu}, F_{\bar{\tau}\bar{\nu}}] . \tag{2.14}$$

Therefore (2.5) is derived from these formulas.

Proof of Proposition 2.3. Since the curvature form $F(A)$ is of type (1,1), the connection A induces a holomorphic structure on the complex adjoint bundle $\mathfrak{g}^C$. Namely a smooth section Φ of $\mathfrak{g}^C$ satisfies $\bar{\partial}_A\Phi=0$ if and only if Φ is holomorphic relative to the holomorphic structure. Then the space $\{\Phi\in\Omega^{0,2}(\mathfrak{g}^C);\ \bar{\partial}_A\bar{\partial}_A^*\Phi=0\}$ is isomorphic with the second cohomology $H^2(M; \mathcal{O}(\mathfrak{g}^C))$ from Theorem 4.1, ch. 3 in [10].

Moreover it is isomorphic with the space $\boldsymbol{H}$ by the aid of Serre's duality theorem and the self-duality of $\mathfrak{g}^C$ as a vector bundle. In the course of the proof of Proposition 2.2 we can also verify that

$$|\bar{\partial}_A^*\Phi^{0,2}|_M^2 = (1/2)|\tilde{\nabla}_A\Phi^{0,2}|_M^2 + (1/4)\int_M \mathrm{Scal}(g)|\Phi^{0,2}|^2 dv \tag{2.15}$$

for $\Phi^{0,2}\in\Omega^{0,2}(\mathfrak{g}^C)$. Thus we have

$$|d_A^{+*}\Phi|_M^2 = |\partial_A^*\Phi^{2,0}|_M^2 + |\bar{\partial}_A^*\Phi^{0,2}|_M^2 + |d_A\Phi^0|_M^2 \tag{2.16}$$

from which the proposition follows easily.

REMARK 2.1. If the canonical line bundle K_M is trivial, then $\boldsymbol{H}$ is $\boldsymbol{C}$-isomorphic to $(H_A^0)^C$. On the other hand, if the metric g is of positive total scalar curvature, i.e., $\int_M \mathrm{Scal}(g)\, dv>0$, then $\boldsymbol{H}$ vanishes.

By applying the Atiyah-Singer index theorem to complex (2.4), we have ([7])$h^0-h^1+h^2=-2c_2(\mathfrak{g}^C)+2\dim SU(n)\cdot p_a(M)$, where $p_a(M)$ denotes the arithmetic genus of M and $h^i=\dim_{\boldsymbol{R}} H_A^i$, $i=0,1,2$. If both H^0 and H^2 vanish, then H^1 has even dimension.

Proposition 2.4. *The first cohomology group H_A^1 is $\boldsymbol{R}$-isomorphic to the com-*

plex vector space $\mathcal{H}^1=\{\alpha^{(0,1)}\in\Omega^{(0,1)}(\mathfrak{g}^C),\ \bar{\partial}_A\alpha^{(0,1)}=0,\ \bar{\partial}_A^*\alpha^{(0,1)}=0\}$.

Proof. Each $\mathfrak{g}$-valued 1-form α splits into

$$\alpha=\alpha^{(1,0)}+\alpha^{(0,1)},\ \alpha^{(1,0)}=\sum_\mu \alpha_\mu dz^\mu\in\Omega^{(1,0)}(\mathfrak{g}^C),$$
$$\alpha^{(0,1)}=\sum_\mu \alpha_{\bar\mu}dz^{\bar\mu}\in\Omega^{(0,1)}(\mathfrak{g}^C)\ \text{ with } {}^t(\overline{\alpha^{(1,0)}})=-\alpha^{(0,1)}.$$

We define a mapping $h;\ \Omega^1(\mathfrak{g})\to\Omega^{(0,1)}(\mathfrak{g}^C)$ by assigning $\alpha^{(0,1)}$ to α. We show that $h_{|H^1}$ gives an isomorphism of H^1 to $\mathcal{H}^1$. By an argument given in [7] we see that $d_A^*\alpha=0$ if and only if

$$\sum g^{\mu\bar\nu}\nabla_{\bar\nu}\alpha_\mu+\sum g^{\mu\bar\nu}\nabla_\mu\alpha_{\bar\nu}=0 \tag{2.17}$$

and that $d_A^+\alpha=0$ if and only if

$$\begin{cases}\partial_A\alpha^{(1,0)}=0, & \bar\partial_A\alpha^{(0,1)}=0,\\ \sum g^{\mu\bar\nu}(\nabla_{\bar\nu}\alpha_\mu-\nabla_\mu\alpha_{\bar\nu})=0.\end{cases} \tag{2.18}$$

Hence, if α is in H^1, then $\bar\partial_A\alpha^{(0,1)}=0$ and $\bar\partial_A^*\alpha^{(0,1)}=-\sum g^{\mu\bar\nu}\nabla_\mu\alpha_{\bar\nu}=0$. Since ${}^t(\overline{\alpha^{(1,0)}})=-\alpha^{(0,1)}$, the inverse implication is easily derived.

REMARK 2.2. Proposition 2.4 is also established for a connection which is not necessarily anti-self-dual.

Now we define for each $[A]$ in the moduli space $\mathcal{M}\backslash\mathcal{K}$ a mapping $\Phi=\Phi_A$; $\Omega^1(\mathfrak{g})\to\Omega^1(\mathfrak{g})$ by $\Phi(\alpha)=\alpha-d_A^{+*}(G_A(\alpha\#\alpha))$ ([2], [4]). Here G_A is the Green operator of the Laplace operator $d_A^+\circ d_A^{+*}$. Relative to the norms $|\cdot|_k$ we have

$$|d_A\alpha|_{k-1}\leqq c_k|\alpha|_k, \tag{2.19}$$

$$|G_A\Psi|_{k+2}\leqq c_k|\Psi|_k \tag{2.20}$$

and

$$|\alpha\#\beta|_k\leqq c_k|\alpha|_k|\beta|_k \tag{2.21}$$

for $\alpha,\beta\in L_k^2(\Omega^1(\mathfrak{g}))$, $\Psi\in L_k^2(\Omega_+^2(\mathfrak{g}))$, where c_k is a constant depending only on the manifold M(Ch. 4 of [10], [11]). Therefore the mapping $\Phi_A;\ L_k^2(\Omega^1(\mathfrak{g}))\to L_k^2(\Omega^1(\mathfrak{g}))$ is differentiable. Suppose that $H_A^2=0$. Then we have on $\Omega_+^2(\mathfrak{g})$ $d_A^+\circ d_A^{+*}\circ G_A=\mathrm{id}$. Hence a slice neighborhood $U_{A,\varepsilon}$, identified with $\mathcal{V}_{[A]}$ of $[A]$ is mapped by the Φ into H_A^1. Since the derivative of Φ at $\alpha=0$ is identity, it has an inverse on a sufficiently small neighborhood $U_\varepsilon=\{\beta\in H_A^1;\ |\beta|_M<\varepsilon\}$.

Notice that by using a prior estimates of elliptic differential operators each β in $L_k^2(\Omega^1(\mathfrak{g}))$ satisfying $(d_Ad_A^*+d_A^{+*}d_A^+)\beta=0$ is a smooth section and norms $|\beta|_k$ and $|\beta|_M$ are equivalent.

As a consequence of these propositions we obtain

Proposition 2.5. *Let M be a compact Kähler surface with a Kähler metric g and P a principal $SU(n)$-bundle with $c_2(\mathfrak{g}^C)>0$. Suppose that either the canonical line bundle K_M is trivial or the metric is with positive total scalar curvature. Then, if the moduli space $\mathcal{M}\backslash\mathcal{K}$ of irreducible anti-self-dual connections on P is not empty, it is a smooth manifold of dimension $2\,c_2(\mathfrak{g}^C)-2(n^2-1)\cdot p_a(M)$.*

REMARK 2.3. On the subset $\mathcal{B}\backslash\mathcal{K}=\{[A]\in\mathcal{B};\ A \text{ is irreducible}\}$ we define a metric function σ (see for the precise discussion p. 448 in [3]); $\sigma([A],[A_1])=\inf_{g\in\mathcal{G}}|A-g(A_1)|_M$. Since σ is continuous relative to the L_k^2-topology, $\mathcal{B}\backslash\mathcal{K}$ is a Hausdorff space. Therefore the moduli space $\mathcal{M}\backslash\mathcal{K}$, a closed subset of $\mathcal{B}\backslash\mathcal{K}$, is also Hausdorff with respect to the relative topology.

3. (0,1)-connections and moduli space of holomorphic (0,1)-connections

We denote by P^C a smooth principal $SL(n;\boldsymbol{C})$-bundle given by extending the transition functions of the bundle P to $SL(n;\boldsymbol{C})$. The complexification $\mathfrak{g}^C$ of $\mathfrak{g}$ clearly coincides with $P^C\times_{Ad}\mathfrak{sl}(n;\boldsymbol{C})$. Now we define on P^C a (0,1)-connection and a holomorphic (0,1)-connection as follows.

DEFINITION 3.1. Let $\{W_\alpha\}$ be the open covering of M consisting of local trivializing neighborhoods of P. A system $A=\{A_\alpha\}$, where each A_α is a smooth $\mathfrak{sl}(n;\boldsymbol{C})$-valued (0,1)-form defined over W_α, is called a (0,1)-connection on P^C, when it satisfies the cocycle condition

$$A_\beta=\bar{\partial}g\cdot g^{-1}+g\cdot A_\alpha\cdot g^{-1} \tag{3.1}$$

on $W_\alpha\cap W_\beta$, where $g=g_{\alpha\beta}$ is the transition function of P.

The set $\mathcal{A}^{(0,1)}$ of all (0,1)-connections on P^C has a structure of affine space. The group of complex gauge transformations $\mathcal{G}^C=\Gamma(M;\ P^C\times_{Ad}SL(n;\boldsymbol{C}))$ acts on $\mathcal{A}^{(0,1)}$ in the form

$$g(A)=\bar{\partial}g\cdot g^{-1}+g\cdot A\cdot g^{-1}, \tag{3.2}$$

$g\in\mathcal{G}^C$, $A\in\mathcal{A}^{(0,1)}$. We denote by $\mathcal{B}^{(0,1)}$ the quotient space $\mathcal{A}^{(0,1)}/\mathcal{G}^C$.

REMARK 3.1. By its definition, each (0,1)-connection is not a connection by itself. But we have a mapping $h;\ \mathcal{A}\to\mathcal{A}^{(0,1)};\ A\mapsto A^{(0,1)}$, where $A^{(0,1)}$ is the (0,1)-component of A. Then h is one-to-one and onto, because for every (0,1)-connection $A=\{A_\alpha\}$ on P^C a system $\tilde{A}=\{\tilde{A}_\alpha\}$ given by $\tilde{A}_\alpha=A_\alpha-{}^t(\overline{A_\alpha})$ satisfies (2.1) from (3.1) and it takes values in $\mathfrak{su}(n)$, and hence it gives an $SU(n)$-connection on P and $h(\tilde{A})=A$.

A (0,1)-connection A is called irreducible, if $\bar{\partial}_A;\ \Omega^0(\mathfrak{g}^C)\to\Omega^{(0,1)}(\mathfrak{g}^C);\ \Psi\mapsto\bar{\partial}\Psi+[\Psi,A]$ has trivial kernel. We call a (0,1)-connection reducible when it is not irreducible.

For each $A \in \mathcal{A}^{(0,1)}$ the curvature form $F(A)=\bar{\partial}A-A\wedge A$ is defined. The curvature form $F(A)$ belongs to $\Omega^{(0,2)}(\mathfrak{g}^{C})$.

Definition 3.2. A (0,1)-connection A is called holomorphic if $F(A)=0$.

Remark 3.2. Since the curvature form of a (0,1)-connection A coincides with the (0,2)-component of the curvature form of the $SU(n)$-connection $\tilde{A}$ induced from A, there exists for each holomorphic (0,1)-connection A a holomorphic structure $J=J_A$ on $\mathfrak{g}^C$ relative to which $\tilde{A}$ gives a hermitian holomorphic connection on $\mathfrak{g}^C$ in the usual sense ([4]). Namely, there exist smooth mappings h_α; $W_\alpha \to SL(n; \boldsymbol{C})$ with properties that (i) $h_{\alpha\beta}=h_\alpha \cdot g_{\alpha\beta} \cdot h_\beta^{-1}$; $W_\alpha \cap W_\beta \to SL(n; \boldsymbol{C})$ is holomorphic for each α and β and (ii) $\tilde{A}_\alpha$ is transformed into a (1,0)-form $h_\alpha(\tilde{A}_\alpha)=dh_\alpha \cdot h_\alpha^{-1}+h_\alpha \cdot \tilde{A}_\alpha \cdot h_\alpha^{-1}$ by h_α.

Proposition 3.1. *Let A be a holomorphic connection. Then the following sequence gives an elliptic complex;*

$$0 \to \Omega^0(\mathfrak{g}^C) \overset{\bar{\partial}_A}{\to} \Omega^{(0,1)}(\mathfrak{g}^C) \overset{\bar{\partial}_A}{\to} \Omega^{(0,2)}(\mathfrak{g}^C) \to 0 \tag{3.3}$$

Proof. Since $\bar{\partial}_A \bar{\partial}_A \Psi=[\Psi, F(A)]$ for $\psi \in \Omega^0(\mathfrak{g}^C)$, the above sequence gives a complex. It is easily verified that the symbol sequence of the above is exact.

On the spaces $\Omega^{(0,p)}(\mathfrak{g}^C)$ we define inner products $\langle \cdot,\cdot \rangle_M$ by $\langle \Phi, \Psi \rangle_M = \int_M Tr(\Phi \wedge *^t(\bar{\Psi}))$, $p=0,1,2$. Notice that these products are not $\mathfrak{g}^C$-invariant.

We set the subspaces $\mathcal{H}^p=\operatorname{Ker}\Delta^p$ of $\Omega^{(0,p)}(\mathfrak{g}^C)$ by the aid of the complex Laplacians Δ^p, $p=0,1,2$ associated to the above complex. Then by using the Atiyah-Singer index theorem we have the index of the complex (3.3) as

$$\begin{aligned} h^0-h^1+h^2 = {} & ch(\mathfrak{g}^C)\{ch(\Lambda^{0C})-ch(\Lambda^{(0,1)})+ch(\Lambda^{(0,2)})\} \times \\ & e(TM)^{-1} \cdot \mathcal{I}(TM^C)\,[M] \end{aligned} \tag{3.4}$$

where $h^p=\dim_{\boldsymbol{C}} \mathcal{H}^p$. By a simple computation the index equals to $-c_2(\mathfrak{g}^C)+(n^2-1)\cdot p_a(M)$.

Since the group $\mathcal{G}^C$ leaves the set of holomorphic (0,1)-connections invariant, we obtain its quotient space $\mathcal{M}_h$, called the moduli space of holomorphic (0,1)-connections.

The center of $SL(n; \boldsymbol{C})$ which coincides with the center of $SU(n)$ gives complex gauge transformations commuting with each g of $\mathcal{G}^C$. In the same way as the case of $SU(n)$ the center $Z(\mathcal{G}^C)$ of $\mathcal{G}^C$ is just the center Z and it acts trivially on $\mathcal{A}^{(0,1)}$. Since $\mathcal{G}^C$ is a subset of $\Gamma(M; \operatorname{End}\boldsymbol{E})=\Gamma(M; \boldsymbol{1})\oplus\Gamma(M; \mathfrak{g}^C)$ the isotropy subgroup $\Gamma_A^{\mathcal{G}}$ of each irreducible (0,1)-connection A reduces to Z. Thus the quotient group $\tilde{\mathcal{G}}^C=\mathcal{G}^C/Z$ acts effectively on $\mathcal{A}^{(0,1)}$ and its action is free on the subset $\{A \in \mathcal{A}^{(0,1)}; A \text{ is irreducible}\}$. Besides the inner product $\langle \cdot,\cdot \rangle_M$

we define on $\Omega^{(0,p)}(\mathfrak{g}^C)$ the Sobolev's norms $|\cdot|_k$ and let $\mathcal{A}^{(0,1)}$ be $\{A_0+\alpha;\ \alpha\in L_k^2(\Omega^{(0,1)}(\mathfrak{g}^C))\}$ for a fixed smooth (0,1)-connection A_0. In L_{k+1}^2-topology $\mathcal{G}^C$ and hence $\tilde{\mathcal{G}}^C$ acts smoothly on $\mathcal{A}^{(0,1)}$. The quotient space $\mathcal{B}^{(0,1)}=\mathcal{A}^{(0,1)}/\tilde{\mathcal{G}}^C$ gets the canonical quotient topology by the projection π'; $\mathcal{A}^{(0,1}\rightarrow\mathcal{B}^{(0,1)}$. We denote by $\mathcal{K}^{(0,1)}\{[A]\in\mathcal{B}^{(0,1)};\ A$ is reducible$\}$, the subset of $\mathcal{B}^{(0,1)}$.

Like an $SU(n)$-connection we call a subset V_A of $\mathcal{A}^{(0,1)}\{A+\alpha;\ \alpha\in L_k^2(\Omega^{(0,1)}(\mathfrak{g}^C)),\ \bar{\partial}_A^*\alpha=0\}$ a slice at A.

Lemma 3.2. *Let A be an irreducible (0,1)-connection on P^C. Then there exists for a sufficiently small $\varepsilon>0$ a slice neighborhood $V_{A,\varepsilon}=\{A+\alpha\in V_A;\ |\alpha|_k<\varepsilon\}$ whose image $\pi'(V_{A,\varepsilon})$ gives a neighborhood of $[A]$ in $\mathcal{B}^{(0,1)}$.*

Proof. Define a mapping T; $V_{A,\varepsilon}\times\mathcal{G}^C/Z\rightarrow\mathcal{A}^{(0,1)}$; $T(A+\alpha,g)=g(A+\alpha)$. Then in a manner similar to the case of $SU(n)$-connections, T is smooth relative to the L_k^2-topologies and its derivative at $\alpha=0$ and $g=$identity is written by

$$\begin{aligned} DT;\ \mathrm{Ker}\ \bar{\partial}_A^*\times\Omega^0(\mathfrak{g}^C) &\rightarrow \Omega^{(0,1)}(\mathfrak{g}^C) \\ (\alpha,\psi) &\mapsto \alpha+\bar{\partial}_A\psi\,. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\mathrm{Ker}\ \bar{\partial}_A=0$ and $\Omega^{(0,1)}(\mathfrak{g}^C)=\mathrm{Im}\ \bar{\partial}_A\oplus\mathrm{Ker}\ \bar{\partial}_A^*$ T is a local diffeomorphism. Therefor by using the argument which was used at the proof of Proposition 2.1 we obtain the lemma.

Proposition 3.3. *Each irreducible $[A]\in\mathcal{M}_h$ has a neighborhood $\mathcal{V}_{[A]}$ which is given by the image of $V_{A,\varepsilon}=\{A+\alpha;\ \alpha\in\Omega^{(0,1)}(\mathfrak{g}^C),\ |\alpha|_k<\varepsilon,\ \bar{\partial}_A^*\alpha=0,\ \bar{\partial}_A\alpha=\alpha\wedge\alpha\}$.*

Proof. Since $F(A+\alpha)=F(A)+\bar{\partial}_A\alpha-\alpha\wedge\alpha$, this is a direct consequence of the above lemma.

Let $\Psi=\Psi_A$ be a mapping from $L_k^2(\Omega^{(0,1)}(\mathfrak{g}^C))$ to itself defined by $\Psi(\alpha)=\alpha-(\bar{\partial}_A^*)(G_A(\alpha\wedge\alpha))$. Here G_A denotes the Green operator of Δ_A^2. Assume now that the second cohomology group $\mathcal{H}^2$ vanishes. Then we see that $\bar{\partial}_A^*\alpha=0$ and $\bar{\partial}_A\alpha=\alpha\wedge\alpha$ if and only if $\Psi(\alpha)\in\mathcal{H}^1$. Thus the slice neighborhood $V_{A,\varepsilon}$ is mapped through Ψ into $\mathcal{H}^1$. Because over $L_k^2(\Omega^{(0,1}(\mathfrak{g}^C))$ the derivative $D\Psi$ at $\alpha=0$ is identity, $\Psi_{|V_{A,\varepsilon}}$ has an inverse over a small ε-neighborhood V_ε of $\mathcal{H}^1$. We remark that $\Psi^{-1}{}_{|V_\varepsilon}$ is holomorphic as a mapping from an open subset of a Banach space to a Banach space, since Ψ is quadratic over the completed Banach space $L_k^2(\Omega^{(0,1)}(\mathfrak{g}^C))$ ([11]).

4. Canonical imbedding of $\mathcal{M}\backslash\mathcal{K}$ into $\mathcal{M}_h\backslash\mathcal{K}^{(0,1)}$

Let A be an $SU(n)$-connection on the bundle P. Then the (0,1)-component $A^{(0,1)}$ of A certainly defines a (0,1)-connection on the complexified bundle P^C and the curvature $F(A^{(0,1)})$ is given by the (0,2)-component of $F(A)$. If A

is anti-self-dual, then $F(A)$ is of type (1,1), and hence $A^{(0,1)}$ is holomorphic. Because $\mathcal{G}\subset\mathcal{G}^{C}$, to each $[A]$ of $\mathcal{M}$ we can assign $[A^{(0,1)}]$ of $\mathcal{M}_h$. We denote this assignment by f.

Proposition 4.1. *If an anti-self-dual connection A is irreducible, then $A^{(0,1)}$ is also irreducible.*

Proof. Since A is anti-self-dual we have the formula $\sum g^{\mu\bar{\nu}}F_{\mu\bar{\nu}}(A)=0$ ([7, Proposition 2.2]). Then we obtain for a nonzero ψ of $\Omega^0(\mathfrak{g}^C)$ satisfying $\bar{\partial}_A\psi=0$ that

$$\begin{aligned}\sum g^{\mu\bar{\nu}}\nabla_{\bar{\nu}}\nabla_{\mu}Tr(\psi\cdot{}^t\bar{\psi}) &= \sum g^{\mu\bar{\nu}}Tr(\nabla_{\mu}\psi\cdot{}^t\nabla_{\nu}\psi)\\ \sum g^{\mu\bar{\nu}}Tr([\psi, F(A)_{\mu\bar{\nu}}]\cdot{}^t\bar{\psi}) &= |\partial_A\psi|^2. \end{aligned}\tag{4.1}$$

We integrate this over M to get $\partial_A\psi=0$, that is, $d_A\psi=0$. The sections ϕ and ϕ' of the adjoint bundle $\mathfrak{g}$ given by $\phi=\psi-{}^t\bar{\psi}$ and $\phi'=(1/\sqrt{-1})(\psi+{}^t\bar{\psi})$, respectively, are parallel with respect to d_A.

From this proposition we have $f(\mathcal{M}\backslash\mathcal{K})\subset\mathcal{M}_h\backslash\mathcal{K}^{(0,1)}$.

Now we show the following

Proposition 4.2. *The mapping f restricted to $\mathcal{M}\backslash\mathcal{K}$ is injective.*

Proof. It suffices to verify that if there is for irreducible anti-self-dual connections A and A_1 $g\in\mathcal{G}^C$ satisfying $(A_1)^{(0,1)}=g(A^{(0,1)})$, then g must lie in $\mathcal{G}$.

By the way $SL(n;\boldsymbol{C})$ has the following decomposition; $SL(n;\boldsymbol{C})=H_0^+(n)\cdot SU(n)$, where $H_0^+(n)$ means the set of all positive definite Hermitian matrices with determinant 1. This decomposition is invariant under the adjoint representation of $SU(n)$, namely, if $X\in SL(n;\boldsymbol{C})$ splits into $X=X^h\cdot X^u$, $X^u\in SU(n)$, $X^h\in H_0^+(n)$, then $Y\cdot X\cdot Y^{-1}=(Y\cdot X^h\cdot Y^{-1})(Y\cdot X^u\cdot Y^{-1})$, $Y\in SU(n)$ gives the decomposition of $Y\cdot X\cdot Y^{-1}$. Therefore the complex gauge transformation g splits into $g=g_1\cdot g^u$, $g^u\in\mathcal{G}$, $g_1\in\Gamma(M;P\times_{SU(n)}H_0^+(n))$. Then we have $(A_1)^{(0,1)}=g_1(g^u(A^{(0,1)}))$. Moreover $g^u(A^{(0,1)})=(g^uA)^{(0,1)}$ and $g^u(A)$ is anti-self-dual since g^u is unitary.

Because the exponential map $\exp; H_0(n)\to H_0^+(n); X\mapsto\exp X$ is a diffeomorphism, here $H_0(n)$ is the set of all Hermitian matrices of trace zero, we can lift exp to a bundle map $\exp; P\times_{SU(n)}H_0(n)\to P\times_{SU(n)}H_0^+(n)$. From the fact $H_0(n)=\sqrt{-1}\,\mathfrak{su}(n)$ we induce a canonical mapping from $\mathfrak{g}$ to $P\times_{SU(n)}H_0^+(n)$ by $\phi\mapsto\exp\sqrt{-1}\,\phi$. Then there is a $\psi\in\Omega^0(\mathfrak{g})$ such that $g_1=\exp\sqrt{-1}\,\psi$. A one-parameter subgroup $g_t=\exp(t\sqrt{-1}\,\psi)$, $t\in\boldsymbol{R}$, of $\mathcal{G}^C$ yields a one-parameter family of (0,1)-connections $\{\hat{A}_t\}$ by $\hat{A}_t=g_t((A_0)^{(0,1)})$, where $A_0=g^u(A)$. Further the family $\{\hat{A}_t\}$ defines a family of connections $\{A_t\}$ of P by $A_t=\hat{A}_t-{}^t(\overline{\hat{A}_t})$. The curvature F_t of A_t is certainly of type (1,1).

Now we apply the method of moment map developed at [6, p. 11]. Define for $\{A_t\}$ a function m; $\boldsymbol{R}\to\boldsymbol{R}$ by

$$m(t) = \int_M R_2(t) \wedge \omega\,, \tag{4.2}$$

where $R_2(t)$ is a 2-form of type (1,1) over M modulo $\operatorname{Im}\partial + \operatorname{Im}\bar\partial$ satisfying

$$\sqrt{-1}\,\bar\partial\partial R_2(t) = -TrF_t \wedge F_t - (-TrF_0 \wedge F_0)\,. \tag{4.3}$$

Then we have the following facts (Proposition 8 of [6]). Since A_0 is anti-self-dual, $d/dt|_{t=0} m(t)=0$ and

$$d^2/dt^2\, m(t) = |d_{A_t}\psi|_M^2 \geqq 0\,. \tag{4.4}$$

Because $m(t)$ is critical at also $t=1$, $d^2/dt^2\, m(t)=0$ identically, hence $d_{A_t}\psi=0$. Using the irreducibility of A_0 we have $\psi=0$ and hence $g_1=$identity, that is, $g\in\mathcal{G}$.

We define open subsets $(\mathcal{M}\backslash\mathcal{K})_0$ and $(\mathcal{M}_h\backslash\mathcal{K}^{(0,1)})_0$ of $\mathcal{M}\backslash\mathcal{K}$ and $\mathcal{M}_h\backslash\mathcal{K}^{(0,1)}$, respectively, by $(\mathcal{M}\backslash\mathcal{K})_0=\{[A]\in\mathcal{M}\backslash\mathcal{K};\ \boldsymbol{H}_A=0\}$ and $(\mathcal{M}_h\backslash\mathcal{K}^{(0,1)})_0=\{[A']\in\mathcal{M}_h\backslash\mathcal{K}^{(0,1)};\ \mathcal{H}^2_{A'}=0\}$. Since from Proposition 2.3 $\mathcal{H}^2_{A(0,1)}\cong\boldsymbol{H}_A$ for the (0,1)-component $A^{(0,1)}$ of an anti-self-dual connection A we have $f((\mathcal{M}\backslash\mathcal{K})_0)\subset(\mathcal{M}_h\backslash\mathcal{K}^{(0,1)})_0$.

Proposition 4.3. *$f|_{(\mathcal{M}\backslash\mathcal{K})_0}$; $(\mathcal{M}\backslash\mathcal{K})_0\to(\mathcal{M}_h\backslash\mathcal{K}^{(0,1)})_0$ is an open mapping.*

Proof. Let $\mathcal{U}_{[A]}$ be a neighborhood of $[A]\in(\mathcal{M}\backslash\mathcal{K})_0$, identified with a slice neighborhood $U_{A,\varepsilon}=\{A+\alpha;\ |\alpha|_k<\varepsilon,\ d_A^*\alpha=0,\ d_A^+\alpha=\alpha\#\alpha\}$. We notice that if α is such a one-form its (0,1)-component $\alpha^{(0,1)}$, denoted by $h(\alpha)$ in §2, satisfies $\bar\partial_{A'}\alpha^{(0,1)}=\alpha^{(0,1)}\wedge\alpha^{(0,1)}$ but does not necessarily satisfy $(\bar\partial^*_{A'})\alpha^{(0,1)}=0$ for $A'=A^{(0,1)}\in\mathcal{A}^{(0,1)}$. Let $\mathcal{V}_{[A']}$ be a neighborhood of $[A']$ in $(\mathcal{M}_h\backslash\mathcal{K}^{(0,1)})_0$, written in the form of the image of a slice neighborhood $V_{A',\varepsilon'}=\{A'+\gamma^{(0,1)};\ |\gamma^{(0,1)}|_k<\varepsilon',\ (\bar\partial^*_{A'})\gamma^{(0,1)}=0,\ \bar\partial_{A'}\gamma^{(0,1)}=\gamma^{(0,1)}\wedge\gamma^{(0,1)}\}$.

Assertion. *If we choose a sufficiently small ε, then for any $A+\alpha$ in $U_{A,\varepsilon}$ there is a unique $g=g_\alpha$ in $\mathcal{G}^C$ close to the identity so that $g(A'+h(\alpha))$ belongs to $V_{A',\varepsilon'}$.*

This assertion is shown as follows. Since $g(A'+h(\alpha))=(\bar\partial_{A'}g)\cdot g^{-1}+g\cdot h(\alpha)\cdot g^{-1}+A'$, the (0,1)-form γ' defined by $A'+\gamma'=g(A'+h(\alpha))$ is represented by $\gamma'=(\bar\partial_{A'}g)\cdot g^{-1}+g\cdot h(\alpha)\cdot g^{-1}$. The (0,1)-connection $A'+\gamma'$ is indeed holomorphic and satisfies $\bar\partial_{A'}\gamma'-\gamma'\wedge\gamma'=0$. Then γ' lies in $V_{A',\varepsilon'}$ if and only if for $\bar\partial_A=\bar\partial_{A'}$

$$(\bar\partial^*_A)\{(\bar\partial_A g)\cdot g^{-1}+g\cdot h(\alpha)\cdot g^{-1}\} = 0 \tag{4.5}$$

If we set $g=\exp\psi$, $\psi\in\Omega^0(\mathfrak{g}^C)$, then we reduce (4.5) to

$$\begin{aligned}\bar\partial^*_A\bar\partial_A\psi+\bar\partial^*_A h(\alpha)-\langle[\partial_A\psi,\ h(\alpha)]\rangle+[\psi,\ \bar\partial^*_A h(\alpha)]&\\ +\bar\partial^*_A R(\psi,\ h(\alpha)) = 0\,,&\end{aligned} \tag{4.6}$$

here $R(\psi, h(\alpha))$ is the remainder term of order not less than two. We operate the Green operator $G_{A'}$ of $\Delta^0_{A'}$ to (4.6) to deduce

$$\psi+G_{A'}(\bar\partial^*_A h(\alpha))-G_{A'}\langle[\partial_A\psi, h(\alpha)]\rangle+G_{A'}[\psi, \bar\partial^*_A h(\alpha)] \\ +G_A(\bar\partial^*_A R)=0\,. \qquad (4.7)$$

We remark that since $\alpha=\alpha^{(1,0)}+\alpha^{(0,1)}=\sum(\alpha_\mu dz^\mu+\alpha_{\bar\mu}dz^{\bar\mu})$ satisfies $d^*_A\alpha=0$ and $d^+_A\alpha=\alpha\sharp\alpha$,

$$\bar\partial^*_A h(\alpha)=-(\sqrt{-1}/2)\sum g^{\mu\bar\nu}[\alpha_\mu, \alpha_{\bar\nu}] \qquad (4.8)$$

and hence the $|\cdot|_k$-norm of $\bar\partial^*_A h(\alpha)$ is estimated by $|\alpha|_k$.

By using the arguments of Section 3 in Ch. 4 of [10] and also of [3], [11] we obtain for a sufficiently small $|\alpha|_k$ a unique smooth solution $\psi=\psi(\alpha)$ to (4.7) in a neighborhood of $0\in\Omega^0(\mathfrak{g}^C)$. We see easily that ψ depends smoothly on α and $g_\alpha(A'+h(\alpha))\in V_{A',\varepsilon'}$ for $g_\alpha=\exp\psi(\alpha)$.

We remark that $\psi(0)=0$ and from an implicit function theorem we have $(d\psi(\alpha)/d\alpha)|_{\alpha=0}=0$ and hence $(dg_\alpha/d\alpha)|_{\alpha=0}=\mathrm{id}$.

From the above assertion the mapping $\tilde f$; $U_{A,\varepsilon}\to V_{A',\varepsilon'}$ defined by $A+\alpha\mapsto g_\alpha(A'+h(\alpha))$ is smooth. We show now that the composition of the following mappings

$$U_\varepsilon(\subset H^1_A)\overset{\Phi_A^{-1}}{\to}U_{A,\varepsilon}\overset{\tilde f}{\to}V_{A',\varepsilon'}\overset{\Psi_{A'}}{\to}V_{\varepsilon'}(\subset\mathcal{H}^1_{A'})$$

is of maximal rank at $\beta=0$ in H^1_A. Since $(d\Phi_A/d\beta)|_{\beta=0}$ is the identity mapping of H^1_A and also $(d\Psi_{A'}/d\beta')|_{\beta'=0}$ gives the identity mapping of $\mathcal{H}^1_{A'}$ and further $(d\tilde f/d\alpha)|_{\alpha=0}(\gamma)=\lim_{t\to0}\{g_{t\gamma}(A'+h(t\gamma)-A')\}/t=h(\gamma)$ for each $\gamma\in H^1_A$, the derivative of the mapping at $\beta=0$ coincides from Porposition 2.4 with h; $H^1_A\to\mathcal{H}^1_{A'}$. Because h is $\boldsymbol{R}$-isomorphic, it gives a local diffeomorphism at $\alpha=0$ and then $\tilde f$; $U_{A,\varepsilon}\to V_{A',\varepsilon'}$ is open. Since $\tilde f$ is a lift of $f|\mathcal{U}_{[A]}$;

$$\begin{array}{ccc} U_{A,\varepsilon} & \overset{\tilde f}{\longrightarrow} & V_{A',\varepsilon'} \\ \downarrow\pi & & \downarrow\pi' \\ \mathcal{U}_{[A]}(\subset(\mathcal{M}\backslash\mathcal{K})_0) & \overset{f}{\to} & \mathcal{V}_{[A']}(\subset(\mathcal{M}_h\backslash\mathcal{K}^{(0,1)})_0)\,, \end{array}$$

f is also open from the fact that π; $U_{A,\varepsilon}\to\mathcal{U}_{[A]}$ is a homeomorphism and π'; $V_{A',\varepsilon'}\to\mathcal{V}_{[A']}$ is open.

REMARK 4.1. (1) The image $f((\mathcal{M}\backslash\mathcal{K})_0)$ is an open subspace in $\mathcal{M}_h\backslash\mathcal{K}^{(0,1)}$, identified with $(\mathcal{M}\backslash\mathcal{K})_0$. (2) Although $(\mathcal{M}_h\backslash\mathcal{K}^{(0,1)})_0$ may not necessarily be Hausdorff, $f((\mathcal{M}\backslash\mathcal{K})_0)$ is surely a Hausdorff space because $(\mathcal{M}\backslash\mathcal{K})_0$ is Hausdorff from Remark 2.3. (3) Since the mapping $\tilde f$; $U_{A,\varepsilon}\to V_{A',\varepsilon'}$ provided in the above proof is locally diffeomorphic, we can choose sufficiently small ε', if necessary, so that $\pi'|_{V_{A',\varepsilon}}$ gives a homeomorphism of $V_{A',\varepsilon'}$ onto a neighborhood $\mathcal{V}_{[A']}$ of

$f((\mathcal{M}\setminus\mathcal{K})_0)$.

5. Complex structure of the moduli space

The aim of this section is to pove the following.

Proposition 5.1. *The moduli space $f((\mathcal{M}\setminus\mathcal{K})_0)$ is a complex manifold of dimension $c_2(\mathfrak{g}^C)-(n^2-1)p_a(M)$, if it is not empty.*

Proof. By Propositions 4.2 and 4.3 and also from (3) of Remark 4.1 we can assume that for each $[A]\in f((\mathcal{M}\setminus\mathcal{K})_0)$ and for a sufficiently small $V_A=V_{A,\varepsilon}$ that the mapping Ψ_A; $V_A\to V_\varepsilon=\{\beta\in\mathcal{H}_A^1;\ |\beta|_M<\varepsilon\}$ defines a coordinate system for $f((\mathcal{M}\setminus\mathcal{K})_0)$.

Fix points $[A]$ and $[A']$ in $f((\mathcal{M}\setminus\mathcal{K})_0)$ with $\pi'(V_A)\cap\pi'(V_{A'})\neq\phi$. We define subsets $B\subset V_A$ and $B'\subset V_{A'}$ by $B=\{A+\alpha\in V_A;\ \pi'(A+\alpha)\in\pi'(V_{A'})\}$ and $B'=\{A'+\alpha'\in V_{A'};\ \pi'(A'+\alpha')\in\pi'(V_A)\}$, respectively. Then for each $A+\alpha$ in B there is a g in $\mathcal{G}^C$ with $g(A+\alpha)\in B'$. Since the isotrpoy subgroup $\Gamma_A^{\mathcal{G}}$ is finite, we can choose such a $g=g_\alpha$ uniquely in $\mathcal{G}^C$for $A+\alpha$.

Let $\{\beta_1,\cdots,\beta_m\}$ and $\{\beta_1',\cdots,\beta_m'\}$ be orthonormal bases of $\mathcal{H}_A^1$ and $\mathcal{H}_{A'}^1$, respectively, where m is the dimension of $\mathcal{H}^1$, which is by assumption independent of A. Because Ψ_A^{-1}; $V_\varepsilon\to V_A$ is holomorphic, for $\beta(t)=\sum_{\nu=1}^m t_\nu\beta_\nu\in V_\varepsilon$, $t=(t_1,\cdots,t_m)\in C^m(|t|=\sqrt{\sum_\nu|t_\nu|^2}<\varepsilon)$ $\alpha(t)=\Psi_A^{-1}(\beta(t))$ is holomorphic in t. Therefore, if we can show that $g_t=g_{\alpha(t)}$ is holomorphic in t, then the composition of the mappings

$$\Psi_A(B)\,(\subset V_\varepsilon)\xrightarrow{\Psi_A^{-1}}B(\subset V_A)\xrightarrow{\text{the action of } g_t}B'(\subset V_{A'})$$
$$\xrightarrow{\Psi_{A'}}\Psi_{A'}(B')\,(\subset V_{\varepsilon'})$$

is also holomorphic in t, since $\Psi_{A'}(\alpha')$ is the harmonic part of α', $\sum_{\nu=1}^m\langle\alpha',\beta_\nu'\rangle_M\beta_\nu'$.

We now verify the following assertion.

Assertion. *The complex gauge transformations g_t depend holomorphically on t.*

It suffices for this prupose to prove that for any fixed $A+\alpha(t_0)\in B$ g_t is holomrophic with respect to $A+\alpha(t)$ close to $A+\alpha(t_0)$. We set $\gamma(z)=\alpha(t_0+z)-\alpha(t_0)$ and $h_z=g_{(t_0+z)}\cdot(g_{t_0})^{-1}$. Then $\gamma(0)=0$ and $h_0=\mathrm{id}$. If we define α_0' and $\sigma(z)$ in $\Omega^{(0,1)}(\mathfrak{g}^C)$ respectively by $A'+\alpha_0'=g_{t_0}(A+\alpha(t_0))$ and $\sigma(z)=g_{t_0}\cdot\gamma(z)\cdot(g_{t_0})^{-1}$, then for $t=t_0+z$ $g_t(A+\alpha(t))=(h_z\cdot g_{t_0})\,(A+\alpha(t_0)+\gamma(t))$ is written by

$$g_t(A+\alpha(t))=A'+\alpha_0'+(\bar\partial_{(A'+\alpha_0')}h_z)\cdot(h_z)^{-1}+h_z\cdot\sigma(z)\cdot(h_z)^{-1}\,. \tag{5.1}$$

Since h_z is close to id in $\mathcal{G}^C$, there exists a unique $\psi(z)\in\Omega^0(\mathfrak{g}^C)$ with $\psi(0)=0$

and $h_z=\exp\psi(z)$. Then (5.1) reduces to

$$g_t(A+\alpha(t)) = \bar{\partial}_{A''}\psi+A''+\sigma(z)+R(\psi,\sigma(z)) \tag{5.2}$$

for $A''=A'+\alpha_0'$, where the remainder term $R(\psi,\sigma)$ is given by

$$R(\psi,\sigma) = (\bar{\partial}_{A''}\exp\psi)\cdot\exp(-\psi)-\bar{\partial}_{A''}\psi+\exp\psi\cdot\sigma\cdot\exp(-\psi)-\sigma\,. \tag{5.3}$$

Notice that the remainder term indeed including $\bar{\partial}_{A''}\psi$ and σ as linear terms can be represented more exactly by

$$R(\psi,\sigma) = (1/2)\,[\psi,\bar{\partial}_{A''}\psi]+[\psi,\sigma]+R_1(\psi,\bar{\partial}_{A''}\psi)+R_2(\psi,\sigma)\,, \tag{5.4}$$

where R_1 and R_2 are written as matrix-power series of order not less than 3 with respect to ψ and σ.

Since $\bar{\partial}^*_{\tilde{A}'}\alpha_0'=0$, we see that $(\bar{\partial}^*_{\tilde{A}'})\,(g_t(A+\alpha(t))-A')=0$, namely $g_t(A+\alpha(t))-A'$ belongs to the slice, if and only if from (5.2)

$$(\bar{\partial}^*_{\tilde{A}'})\bar{\partial}_{A''}\psi+(\bar{\partial}^*_{\tilde{A}'})\sigma+(\bar{\partial}^*_{\tilde{A}'})R(\psi,\sigma) = 0\,. \tag{5.5}$$

Because $G_{A''}\circ\Delta^2_{A''}=\mathrm{id}$ on $\Omega^0(\mathfrak{g}^C)$, the above reduces to

$$\psi+G_{A''}\langle[\partial_{\tilde{A}''}\psi,\alpha_0']\rangle+G_{A''}(\bar{\partial}^*_{\tilde{A}'})\sigma+G_{A''}(\bar{\partial}^*_{\tilde{A}'})R(\psi,\sigma) = 0\,, \tag{5.6}$$

here $\partial_{\tilde{A}''}\psi$ is the (1,0)-component of $d_{\tilde{A}''}\psi$ with respect to the $SU(n)$-connection $\tilde{A}''$ induced canonically from A''. Then by using the way quite similar to one to solve (4.7) we have a solution $\psi=\psi(z)$ to (5.6) depending smoothly on z. We operate on (5.6) $\bar{\partial}_z$ relative to the parameter z to obtain

$$\bar{\partial}_z\psi+G_{A''}\langle[\partial_{\tilde{A}''}(\bar{\partial}_z\psi),\alpha_0']\rangle+G_{A''}(\bar{\partial}^*_{\tilde{A}''})\bar{\partial}_zR(\psi,\sigma) = 0 \tag{5.7}$$

since $\bar{\partial}_z\sigma(z)=0$ and $\bar{\partial}_z$ commutes with $G_{A''}$ and with $d_{\tilde{A}''}$. The term $\bar{\partial}_zR(\psi,\sigma)$ is obviously linear with respect to $\bar{\partial}_z\psi$. Define a linear operator $L=L_{\alpha_0}$ by $L(\Theta)=\Theta+G_{A''}\langle[\partial_{\tilde{A}''}\Theta,\alpha_0']\rangle$, $\Theta\in L^2_{k+2}(\Omega^0(\mathfrak{g}^C))$. Then L satisfies

$$(1-c|\alpha_0'|_k)|\Theta|_{k+2}\leqq|L(\Theta)|_{k+2}\leqq(1+c|\alpha_0'|_k)|\Theta|_{k+2} \tag{5.8}$$

for a constant $c>0$, independent of α_0. For each α_0' in a sufficiently small slice V_A, L_{α_0} gives a bounded linear operator from (5.8). On the other hand by the remark on $R(\psi,\sigma)$ the norm $|\bar{\partial}_zR(\psi,\sigma)|_{k+1}$ is estimated by

$$|\bar{\partial}_zR(\psi,\sigma)|_{k+1}\leqq c_1|\bar{\partial}_z\psi|_{k+1}\{|\sigma|_{k+1}T_1(|\psi|_{k+1})+|\psi|_{k+2}T_2(|\psi|_{k+1})\} \tag{5.9}$$

for some constant c_1, where $T_1(s)$ and $T_2(s)$ are power series of s with convergence radius ∞.

Since $|\sigma(z)|_{k+1}$ is sufficiently small for small $|z|$, we can let $|\psi(z)|_{k+2}$ be also sufficiently small from (5.5). Thus by the aid of the lower estimate of L $|\bar{\partial}_z\psi|_{k+2}\leqq c_2|\bar{\partial}_z\psi|_{k+1}\leqq c_2|\bar{\partial}_z\psi|_{k+2}$, where $c_2<1$ for sufficiently small $|z|$, therefore (5.7) admits only a trivial solution $\bar{\partial}_z\psi=0$, that is, $\psi=\psi(z)$ and consequently $g_t=(\exp\psi(z))\cdot g_{t_0}$, $t=t_0+z$, is holomorphic.

Proposition 5.1 follows from this assertion since $\dim_C \mathcal{H}^1=c_2(\mathfrak{g}^C)-(n^2-1)\cdot p_a(M)$.

The proof of Theorem 2 is now completed if we pull back to $(\mathcal{M}\backslash\mathcal{K})_0$ the complex structure of $f((\mathcal{M}\backslash\mathcal{K})_0)$ through the f. Theorem 1 is a direct consequence of Theorem 2 from Remark 2.1 because $H_A^2\cong H_A^0\oplus \boldsymbol{H}$ vanishes for every irreducible anti-self-dual connection A over a Kähler surface M which either admits a Kähler metric of positive total scalar curvature or is endowed with trivial canonical line bundle.

Acknowledgement. The author wishes to thank M.F. Atiyah and N.J. Hitchin for useful conversations at Durham, 1982. He also wishes to express appreciation to referee for valuable advice.

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