# Hirzebruch signature operator for transitive Lie algebroids 

Jan Kubarski<br>Institute of Mathematics, Technical University of Lódź, Poland

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#### Abstract

The aim of the paper is to construct Hirzebruch signature operator for transitive invariantly oriented Lie algebroids


## 1 Signature of Lie algebroids

### 1.1 Definition of Lie algebroids, Atiyah sequence

Lie algebroids appeared as infinitesimal objects of Lie groupoids, principal fibre bundles, vector bundles (Pradines, 1967), TC-foliations and nonclosed Lie subgroups (Molino, 1977), Poisson manifolds (Dazord, Coste, Weinstein, 1987), etc. Their algebraic equivalents are known as Lie pseudo-algebras (Herz 1953) called also further as Lie-Rinehart algebras (Huebschmann, 1990).

A Lie algebroid on a manifold $M$ is a triple

$$
A=\left(A,\left[\cdot, \cdot \rrbracket, \#_{A}\right)\right.
$$

where $A$ is a vector bundle on $M,(\operatorname{Sec} A, \llbracket \cdot, \rrbracket)$ is an $\mathbb{R}$-Lie algebra,

$$
\#_{A}: A \rightarrow T M
$$

is a linear homomorphism (called the anchor) of vector bundles and the following Leibniz condition is satisfied

$$
\llbracket \xi, f \cdot \eta \rrbracket=f \cdot \llbracket \xi, \eta \rrbracket+\#_{A}(\xi)(f) \cdot \eta, \quad f \in C^{\infty}(M), \xi, \eta \in \operatorname{Sec} A
$$

The anchor is bracket-preserving $[\mathrm{B}-\mathrm{K}-\mathrm{W}],[\mathrm{H}]$

$$
\#_{A} \circ \llbracket \xi, \eta \rrbracket=\left[\#_{A} \circ \xi, \#_{A} \circ \eta\right] .
$$

A Lie algebroid is called transitive if $\#_{A}$ is an epimorphism.
For a transitive Lie algebroid $A$ we have the Atiyah sequence

$$
0 \longrightarrow \boldsymbol{g} \hookrightarrow A \xrightarrow{\#_{A}} T M \longrightarrow 0
$$

$\boldsymbol{g}:=\operatorname{ker} \#_{A}$. The fiber $\boldsymbol{g}_{x}$ of the bundle $\boldsymbol{g}$ in the point $x \in M$ is the Lie algebra with the commutator operation being

$$
[v, w]=\llbracket \xi, \eta \rrbracket(x), \quad \xi, \eta \in \operatorname{Sec} A, \quad \xi(x)=v, \eta(x)=w, \quad v, w \in \boldsymbol{g}_{x}
$$

The Lie algebra $\boldsymbol{g}_{x}$ is called the isotropy Lie algebra of $A$ at $x \in M$. The vector bundle $\boldsymbol{g}$ is a Lie Algebra Bundle (LAB in short), called the adjoint of $A$, the fibres are isomorphic Lie algebras.
$T M$ is a Lie algebroid with $i d: T M \rightarrow T M$ as the anchor,
$\mathfrak{g}$-finitely dimensional Lie algebra - is a Lie algebroid over a point $M=\{*\}$.

### 1.2 Cohomology algebra, ellipticity of the complex of exterior derivatives $\left\{d_{A}^{k}\right\}$

To a Lie algebroid $A$ we associate the cohomology algebra $\mathbf{H}(A)$ defined via the DG-algebra of $A$-differential forms (with real coefficients) $\left(\Omega(A), d_{A}\right)$, where

$$
\Omega(A)=\operatorname{Sec} \bigwedge A^{*},- \text { the space of cross-sections of } \bigwedge A^{*}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& d_{A}: \Omega^{\bullet}(A) \rightarrow \Omega^{\bullet+1}(A) \\
&\left(d_{A} \omega\right)\left(\xi_{0}, \ldots, \xi_{k}\right)=\sum_{j=0}^{k}(-1)^{j}\left(\#_{A} \circ \xi_{j}\right)\left(\omega\left(\xi_{0}, \ldots \hat{\jmath} \ldots, \xi_{k}\right)\right) \\
&+\sum_{i<j}(-1)^{i+j} \omega\left(\llbracket \xi_{i}, \xi_{j} \rrbracket, \xi_{0}, \ldots \hat{\imath} \ldots \hat{\jmath} \ldots, \xi_{k}\right),
\end{aligned}
$$

$\omega \in \Omega^{k}(A), \xi_{i} \in \operatorname{Sec} A$. The operators $d_{A}^{k}$ satisfy

$$
d_{A}(\omega \wedge \eta)=d_{A} \omega \wedge \eta+(-1)^{k} \omega \wedge d_{A} \eta
$$

so they are of first order and the symbol of $d_{A}^{k}$ is equal to

$$
\begin{aligned}
S\left(d_{A}^{k}\right)_{(x, v)} & : \bigwedge^{k} A_{x}^{*} \rightarrow \bigwedge^{k+1} A_{x}^{*} \\
S\left(d_{A}^{k}\right)_{(x, v)}(u) & =\left(v \circ\left(\#_{A}\right)_{x}\right) \wedge u, \quad 0 \neq v \in T_{x}^{*} M
\end{aligned}
$$

In consequence the sequence of symbols

$$
\bigwedge^{k} A_{x}^{*} \xrightarrow{S\left(d_{A}^{k}\right)_{(x, v)}} \bigwedge^{k+1} A_{x}^{*} \xrightarrow{S\left(d_{A}^{k+1}\right)_{(x, v)}} \bigwedge^{k+2} A_{x}^{*}
$$

is exact if and only if $A$ is transitive and then the complex $\left\{d_{A}^{k}\right\}$ is an elliptic complex.

The exterior derivative $d_{A}$ introduces the cohomology algebra

$$
\mathbf{H}(A)=\mathbf{H}\left(\Omega(A), d_{A}\right) .
$$

For the trivial Lie algebroid $T M$ - the tangent bundle of the manifold $M$ the differential $d_{T M}$ is the usual de-Rham differential $d_{M}$ of differential forms on $M$ whereas, for $L=\mathfrak{g}$ - a Lie algebra $\mathfrak{g}$ - the differential $d_{\mathfrak{g}}$ is the usual Chevalley-Eilenberg differential, $d_{\mathfrak{g}}=\delta_{\mathfrak{g}}$.

### 1.3 Invariantly oriented Lie algebrois and signature

The following theorem describes the class of transitive Lie algebroids (over compact oriented manifold) for which $\mathbf{H}^{\text {top }}(A) \neq 0$.

Theorem $1[K-M 1]$ For each transitive Lie algebroid $\left(A, \llbracket \cdot, \cdot \rrbracket, \#_{A}\right)$ with the Atiyah sequence

$$
0 \rightarrow \boldsymbol{g} \rightarrow A \xrightarrow{\#_{A}} T M \rightarrow 0,
$$

over a compact oriented manifold $M$ the following conditions are equivalent ( $m=\operatorname{dim} M, n=\operatorname{dim} \boldsymbol{g}_{\mid x}$, i.e. $\operatorname{rank} A=m+n$ )
(a) $\mathbf{H}^{m+n}(A) \neq 0$,
(b) $\mathbf{H}^{m+n}(A) \cong \mathbb{R}$ and $\mathbf{H}(A)$ is an Poincaré algebra, i.e. the pairing $\mathbf{H}^{j}(A) \times$ $\mathbf{H}^{m+n-j}(A) \rightarrow \mathbf{H}^{m+n}(A) \cong \mathbb{R}$ is nondegenerate, $\mathbf{H}^{j}(A) \cong\left(\mathbf{H}^{m+n-j}(A)\right)^{*}$,
(c) there exists a global nonsingular cross-section $\varepsilon \in \operatorname{Sec}\left(\bigwedge^{n} \boldsymbol{g}\right)$ invariant with respect to the adjoint representation $a_{A}$, that is, $A$ is the so-called a TUIO-Lie algebroid, see [K1], (shortly, A is invariantly oriented),
(d) the vector bundle $\boldsymbol{g}$ is orientable and the modular class of $A$ is trivial, $\theta_{A}=0$.

We recall the definition of the isomorphism $\mathbf{H}^{m+n}(A) \cong \mathbb{R}$ (for invariantly oriented transitive Lie algebroids). In [K1] there is defined (for arbitrary transitive Lie algebroids) the so-called fibre integral operator

$$
f_{A}: \Omega^{\bullet}(A) \rightarrow \Omega_{d R}^{\bullet-n}(M)
$$

by the formula

$$
\left(\int_{A} \omega^{k}\right)_{x}\left(w_{1}, \ldots, w_{k-n}\right)=(-1)^{k n} \omega_{x}\left(\varepsilon_{x}, \tilde{w}_{1}, \ldots, \tilde{w}_{k-n}\right), \quad \#_{A}\left(\tilde{w}_{i}\right)=w_{i}
$$

where $\varepsilon \in \operatorname{Sec}\left(\bigwedge^{n} \boldsymbol{g}\right)$ is a nonsingular cross-section. The operator $f_{A}$ commutes with the differentials $d_{A}$ and $d_{M}$ if and only if $\varepsilon$ is invariant. Then, the fibre integral gives a homomorphism in cohomology

$$
f_{A}^{\#}: \mathbf{H}^{\bullet}(A) \rightarrow \mathbf{H}_{d R}^{\bullet-n}(M)
$$

Assume in the sequel that a transitive Lie algebroid $A$ over compact oriented manifold $M$ is invariantly oriented and $\varepsilon \in \operatorname{Sec}\left(\bigwedge^{n} \boldsymbol{g}\right)$ is an invariant crosssection. The scalar Poincaré product

$$
\begin{gathered}
\mathcal{P}_{A}^{k}: \mathbf{H}^{k}(A) \times \mathbf{H}^{m+n-k}(A) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \\
([\omega],[\eta]) \longmapsto \int_{A} \omega \wedge \eta \quad\left(:=\int_{M}\left(\int_{A} \omega \wedge \eta\right)\right)
\end{gathered}
$$

is defined and is nondegenerated [K2]; in consequence

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{H}^{k}(A) & \cong \mathbf{H}^{m+n-k}(A), \\
\mathbf{H}^{m+n}(A) & \cong\left(\mathbf{H}^{0}(M)\right)^{*}=\mathbb{R} \\
\operatorname{dim} \mathbf{H}(M) & <\infty
\end{aligned}
$$

and we can consider an isomorphism

$$
\mathbf{H}^{m+n}(A) \cong \mathbb{R}, \quad[\omega] \longmapsto \int_{A} \omega
$$

The pairing of $A$-differential forms

$$
\begin{align*}
& \langle\langle\cdot, \cdot\rangle\rangle^{k}: \Omega^{k}(A) \times \Omega^{m+n-k}(A) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}  \tag{1}\\
& \langle\langle\omega, \eta\rangle\rangle^{k}=\int_{M} \int_{A} \omega \wedge \eta
\end{align*}
$$

has the property

$$
\langle\langle\omega, \eta\rangle\rangle^{k}=(-1)^{k(m+n-k)}\langle\langle\eta, \omega\rangle\rangle^{m+n-k}
$$

and

$$
\left\langle\left\langle d_{A} \omega, \eta\right\rangle\right\rangle=(-1)^{k+1}\left\langle\left\langle\omega, d_{A} \eta\right\rangle\right\rangle \text { for } \omega \in \Omega^{k}(A), \eta \in \Omega^{m+n-(k+1)}(A) .
$$

If

$$
m+n=4 p
$$

then

$$
\mathcal{P}_{A}^{2 p}: \mathbf{H}^{2 p}(A) \times \mathbf{H}^{2 p}(A) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}
$$

is nondegenerated and symmetric. Therefore its signature is defined and is called the signature of $A$, and is denoted by

$$
\operatorname{Sign}(A) .
$$

The problem is [K2]:

- to calculate the signature $\operatorname{Sign}(A)$ and give some conditions to the equality $\operatorname{Sign}(A)=0$. There are examples for which $\operatorname{Sign}(A) \neq 0$ (this is announced in [K-M2]).


## 2 *-Hodge operator and exterior coderivative $d_{A}^{*}$

### 2.1 Associated scalar product and *-Hodge operator

Consider

- any Riemannian tensor $G_{1}$ in the vector bundle $\boldsymbol{g}=\operatorname{ker} \#_{A}$ for which $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$ is the volume tensor (such a tensor exists).
- any Riemannian tensor $G_{2}$ on $M$.

Next, taking an arbitrary connection $\lambda: T M \rightarrow A$ in the Lie algebroid $A$ i.e. a splitting of the Atiyah sequence

$$
0 \longrightarrow \boldsymbol{g} \hookrightarrow A \underset{\lambda}{\#_{\boldsymbol{A}}} T M \longrightarrow 0
$$

and the horizontal space

$$
\begin{aligned}
H & =\operatorname{Im} \lambda \\
A & =\boldsymbol{g} \bigoplus H
\end{aligned}
$$

we define a Riemannian tensor $G$ (called scalar product associated to $\varepsilon$ ) on $A=\boldsymbol{g} \bigoplus H$ such that $\boldsymbol{g}$ and $H$ are orthogonal, on $\boldsymbol{g}$ we have $G_{1}$ but on $H$ we have the pullback $\lambda^{*} G_{2}$. The vector bundle $A$ is oriented (since $\boldsymbol{g}$ and $M$ are oriented).

At each point $x \in M$ we consider the scalar product $G_{x}$ on $A_{\mid x}$ and the pairing of tensors

$$
\langle,\rangle_{x}^{k}: \bigwedge^{k} A_{x}^{*} \times \bigwedge^{m+n-k} A_{x}^{*} \rightarrow \bigwedge^{m+n} A_{x}^{*} \xrightarrow{\rho_{x}} \mathbb{R}
$$

where $\rho_{x}$ is defined via the volume form for $G_{x}$.
We can notice that $\rho_{x}$ is equal to the composition

\[

\]

Standartly, we can extend the scalar product $G_{x}$ in $A_{x}$ to a scalar product $(\cdot, \cdot)_{x}$ in $\bigwedge A_{x}^{*}$. There exists exactly one the so-called $*$-Hodge operator $*_{x}: \bigwedge^{k} A_{x}^{*} \rightarrow$ $\bigwedge^{m+n-k} A_{x}^{*}$ such that

$$
\left\langle\alpha_{x}, \beta_{x}\right\rangle=\left(\alpha_{x}, *_{x} \beta_{x}\right)
$$

and it is given by

$$
*_{x}\left(e_{i_{1}}^{*} \wedge \ldots \wedge e_{i_{k}}^{*}\right)=\operatorname{sgn}\left(j_{1}, \ldots, j_{m+n-k}, i_{1}, . ., i_{k}\right) e_{j_{1}}^{*} \wedge \ldots \wedge e_{j_{m+n-k}}^{*}
$$

where $1 \leq i_{1}<\ldots<i_{k} \leq m+n, 1 \leq j_{1}<\ldots<j_{m+n-k} \leq m+n$ and $\left\{i_{1}, \ldots, i_{k}\right\} \cap\left\{j_{1}, \ldots, j_{m+n-k}\right\}=\varnothing$ (for ON positive frame $e_{i}$ in $A_{x}$ ). Using all points $x \in M$ we obtain two $C^{\infty}(M)$-linear 2-tensors

$$
\langle,\rangle,(,): \Omega(A) \times \Omega(A) \rightarrow C^{\infty}(M)
$$

defined as above point by point. Integrating along $M$ we get $\mathbb{R}$-linear 2-tensors

$$
\langle\langle,\rangle\rangle,((,)): \Omega(A) \times \Omega(A) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}
$$

The first $\langle\langle\rangle$,$\rangle is, clearly, given by (1)$

$$
\langle\langle\omega, \eta\rangle\rangle=\int_{M}\langle\omega, \eta\rangle=\int_{M} \int_{A} \omega \wedge \eta .
$$

The $*$-Hodge operator $*: \Omega(A) \rightarrow \Omega(A)$ is defined point by point

$$
*(\omega)(x)=*_{x}\left(\omega_{x}\right)
$$

and we have

$$
\langle\langle\alpha, \beta\rangle\rangle=((\alpha, * \beta)) .
$$

### 2.2 Exterior coderivative

We define exterior coderivative $d_{A}^{*}: \Omega^{k}(M) \rightarrow \Omega^{m+n-k}(A)$ by the formula

$$
d_{A}^{*}(\omega)=(-1)^{k(m+n-k)}(-1)^{k} * d_{A} *(\omega), \quad \omega \in \Omega^{k}(A)
$$

where $*$ is the $*$-Hodge operator in $\Omega(A)$. We have
(a)

$$
\begin{equation*}
* *(\omega)=(-1)^{k(m+n-k)} \cdot \omega, \quad \omega \in \Omega^{k}(A) \tag{2}
\end{equation*}
$$

(b)

$$
\left(\left(d^{*}(\omega), \eta\right)\right)=\left(\left(\omega, d_{A}(\eta)\right)\right)
$$

i.e. $d_{A}^{*}$ is adjoint to $d_{A}$ with respect to the scalar product $(()$,$) in \Omega(A)$.

## 3 Laplacian and harmonic differential forms

It enables us to introduce the Laplacian

$$
\Delta_{A}=\left(d_{A}+d_{A}^{*}\right)^{2}=d_{A} d_{A}^{*}+d_{A}^{*} d_{A}
$$

Clearly

$$
\operatorname{ker} \Delta_{A}=\left(\operatorname{Im} \Delta_{A}\right)^{\perp}
$$

(with the respect to the scalar product $(())$,$) .$
Proposition 2 The Laplacian $\Delta_{A}$ is elliptic, self-adjoint and nonnegative operator. In consequence

$$
\begin{equation*}
\Omega(A)=\operatorname{ker} \Delta_{A} \bigoplus \operatorname{Im} \Delta_{A} \tag{3}
\end{equation*}
$$

Proof. The first property follows from the ellipticity of the complex $\left\{d_{A}^{k}\right\}$ (namely: the symbol of the adjoint operator $d_{A}^{* k}$ is equal to the minus of the adjoint symbol of $d_{A}^{k}$ and to prove the ellipticity of the Laplacian we use Remark 6.34 from $[\mathrm{W}]$ ), the next two properties are trivial consequence of the definition. The last property (3) can be proved in the same way as the Theorem 55 from [L-M] using extension $\operatorname{Sec} \bigwedge A^{*}$ to the Hilbert Sobolev spaces $H_{s}\left(\bigwedge A^{*}\right)$, extension $\Delta$ to continuous operator $\Delta_{s}: H_{s}\left(\bigwedge A^{*}\right) \rightarrow H_{s-2}\left(\bigwedge A^{*}\right)$ and the fact that ker $\Delta_{s}$ consists only of smooth sections, ker $\Delta_{s}=\operatorname{ker} \Delta$.

A $A$-differential form $\omega \in \Omega(A)$ is called harmonic if $d_{A} \omega=0$ i $d_{A}^{*} \omega=0$. Denote the space of harmonic $A$-differential forms by $\mathcal{H}(A)$ and harmonic $k$ -$A$-differential forms by $\mathcal{H}^{k}(A) . \mathcal{H}(A)$ is a graded vector space

$$
\mathcal{H}(A)=\bigoplus_{k=0}^{m+n} \mathcal{H}^{k}(A)
$$

and

$$
\mathcal{H}(A)=\operatorname{ker} \Delta_{A}
$$

is the eigenspace of the operator $\Delta$ corresponding to the zero value of the eigenvalue.

Simple calculations assert that $\operatorname{ker} \Delta^{k}$ and $\operatorname{Im} d^{k-1}$ are orthogonal, therefore the inclusion

$$
\mathcal{H}^{k}(W)=\operatorname{ker} \Delta^{k} \hookrightarrow \operatorname{ker} d^{k}
$$

induce a monomorphism

$$
\begin{equation*}
\operatorname{ker} \Delta^{k} \mapsto \mathbf{H}^{k}(W) \tag{4}
\end{equation*}
$$

Since $\operatorname{Im} \Delta^{k} \subset \operatorname{Im} d_{A}^{k-1}+\operatorname{Im} d_{A}^{*(k+1)}$, the inclusion (3) yields $\Omega^{k}(A)=\operatorname{ker} \Delta_{A}^{k}+$ $\operatorname{Im} d_{A}^{k-1}+\operatorname{Im} d_{A}^{*(k+1)}$ and easily we can notice that these three subspaces are orthogonal. Therefore

$$
\Omega^{k}(A)=\operatorname{ker} \Delta_{A}^{k} \bigoplus \operatorname{Im} d_{A}^{k-1} \bigoplus \operatorname{Im} d_{A}^{*(k+1)}
$$

and

$$
\operatorname{ker} d^{k}=\operatorname{ker} \Delta^{k} \bigoplus \operatorname{Im} d^{k-1}
$$

which implies the Hodge Theorem for Lie algebroids:
Corollary 3 The monomorphism (4) is an isomorphism

$$
\mathcal{H}^{k}(W) \cong \operatorname{ker} d^{k} / \operatorname{Im} d^{k-1}=\mathbf{H}^{k}(W)
$$

It means that in each cohomology class $\alpha \in \mathbf{H}^{k}(A)$ there is exactly one harmonic A-differential form $\omega \in \mathcal{H}^{k}(W)$.

$$
\text { Let } \varepsilon_{k}=(-1)^{k(n+m-k)} \text {. Simple calculations yields the equality }
$$

$$
* \Delta_{A} \omega=\varepsilon_{k-1} \varepsilon_{k}(-1)^{n+m+1} \Delta_{A} * \omega, \quad \omega \in \Omega^{k}(A)
$$

therefore

$$
\begin{aligned}
& *\left[\mathcal{H}^{k}(W)\right] \subset \mathcal{H}^{m+n-k}(W), \\
& *: \mathcal{H}^{k}(W) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}^{m+n-k}(W)
\end{aligned}
$$

and (thanks (2) )
is an isomorphism. In consequence we obtain (independently on [K2]) the Duality Theorem

$$
\mathbf{H}^{k}(A) \simeq \mathbf{H}^{m+n-k}(A)
$$

We restrict the scalar product $((\cdot, \cdot)): \Omega^{k}(A) \times \Omega^{k}(A) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ to the space of harmonic $A$-differential forms

$$
((\cdot, \cdot)): \mathcal{H}^{k}(A) \times \mathcal{H}^{k}(A) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}
$$

and we restrict the tensor $\langle\langle\cdot, \cdot\rangle\rangle: \Omega^{k}(A) \times \Omega^{m+n-k}(A) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ to harmonic $A$-differential forms

$$
\mathcal{B}^{k}=\langle\langle\cdot, \cdot\rangle\rangle: \mathcal{H}^{k}(A) \times \mathcal{H}^{m+n-k}(A) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}
$$

Using the isomorphism $\mathcal{H}^{k}(A) \cong \mathbf{H}^{k}(A)$ we see that

$$
\mathcal{B}^{k}=\mathcal{P}_{A}^{k},
$$

therefore, if $m+n=4 p$ then

$$
\operatorname{Sign}(A)=\operatorname{Sign} \mathcal{B}^{2 p}
$$

## 4 Hirzebruch signature operator

Assume $m+n=4 p$. Considering the direct sum $\mathcal{H}^{2 p}(A)=\mathcal{H}_{+}^{2 p}(A) \bigoplus \mathcal{H}_{-}^{2 p}(A)$, where

$$
\mathcal{H}_{ \pm}^{2 p}(W)=\left\{\omega \in \mathcal{H}^{2 p}(W) ; * \omega= \pm \omega\right\}
$$

and noticing that $\mathcal{B}^{2 p}$ is positive on $\mathcal{H}_{+}^{2 p}(A)$, and is negative on $\mathcal{H}_{-}^{2 p}(A)$ we see that

$$
\operatorname{Sign}\left(\mathcal{B}^{2 p}\right)=\operatorname{dim}_{\mathbb{R}} \mathcal{H}_{+}^{2 p}(W)-\operatorname{dim}_{\mathbb{R}} \mathcal{H}_{-}^{2 p}(W)
$$

To construction the Hirzebruch signature operator the fundamental role is played by an auxiliary operator

$$
\tau: \Omega(A) \rightarrow \Omega(A)
$$

defined by

$$
\tau^{k}\left(\omega^{k}\right)=\tilde{\varepsilon}_{k} *\left(\omega^{k}\right), \quad \tilde{\varepsilon}_{k} \in\{-1,+1\}, \quad \omega^{k} \in \Omega^{k}(A)
$$

fulfilling the properties
i) $\tau \circ \tau=I d$,
ii) $d_{A}^{*}=-\tau \circ d_{A} \circ \tau$,
iii) $\tau^{2 p}=*$.

Lemma 4 The operator $\tau$ fulfils axioms i)-iii) if and only if $\tilde{\varepsilon}_{k}=(-1)^{\frac{k(k+1)}{2}}(-1)^{p}$.
Proof. Easy calculations.
We put

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \Omega(A)_{+}=\{\omega \in \Omega(A) ; \tau \omega=+\omega\} \\
& \Omega(A)_{-}=\{\omega \in \Omega(A) ; \tau \omega=-\omega\}
\end{aligned}
$$

The spaces $\Omega(A)_{+}$and $\Omega(A)_{-}$are eigenspaces of $\tau$ corresponding to the eigenvalues $+1 \mathrm{i}-1$ and are spaces of cross-sections of suitable vector bundles.

We notice that

$$
\left(d_{A}+d_{A}^{*}\right)\left[\Omega(A)_{+}\right] \subset \Omega(A)_{-} .
$$

Definition 5 The operator

$$
\left(D_{A}\right)_{+}=d_{A}+d_{A}^{*}: \Omega(A)_{+} \rightarrow \Omega(A)_{-}
$$

is called the Hirzebruch operator (or the signature operator) for the Lie algebroid $A$.

Clearly

$$
\left(D_{A}\right)_{+}^{*}=d_{A}+d_{A}^{*}: \Omega(A)_{-} \rightarrow \Omega(A)_{+}
$$

## Theorem 6

$$
\operatorname{Sign} A=\operatorname{Ind}\left(D_{A}\right)_{+}=\operatorname{dim}_{\mathbb{R}} \operatorname{ker}\left(\left(D_{A}\right)_{+}\right)-\operatorname{dim}_{\mathbb{R}} \operatorname{ker}\left(\left(D_{A}\right)_{+}^{*}\right) .
$$

Proof. It is sufficient to prove that $\operatorname{Ind}\left(D_{A}\right)_{+}=\operatorname{Sign}\left(\mathcal{B}^{2 p}\right)$. The proof is analogous to the classical case [Y]. Firstly, we notice that subspaces $\mathcal{H}^{s}(A)+$ $\mathcal{H}^{m+n-s}(A)$ are $\tau$-stable and for $s=0,1, \ldots, 2 p-1$

$$
\begin{aligned}
\varphi_{ \pm} & : \mathcal{H}^{s}(A) \rightarrow\left(\mathcal{H}^{s}(A)+\mathcal{H}^{m+n-s}(A)\right)_{ \pm} \\
\omega & \longmapsto \frac{1}{2}(\omega \pm \tau \omega)
\end{aligned}
$$

is an isomorphism of real vector spaces. Secondly $\Omega^{2 p}(A)_{ \pm} \cap \mathcal{H}^{2 p}(A)=\mathcal{H}_{ \pm}^{2 p}(A)$, the space $\Omega^{s}(A)+\Omega^{m+n-s}(A)$ is $\tau$-stable and

$$
\Omega(A)=\bigoplus_{s=0}^{2 p-1}\left(\Omega^{s}(A)+\Omega^{m+n-s}(A)\right) \bigoplus \Omega^{2 p}(A)
$$

therefore

$$
\Omega(A)_{+}=\bigoplus_{s=0}^{2 p-1}\left(\Omega^{s}(A)+\Omega^{m+n-s}(A)\right)_{+} \bigoplus \Omega^{2 p}(A)_{+}
$$

Thirdly, (a)

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \operatorname{ker}\left(D_{A}\right)_{+} \\
& =\Omega(A)_{+} \cap \operatorname{ker}\left(d_{A}+d_{A}^{*}: \Omega(A) \rightarrow \Omega(A)\right) \\
& =\Omega(A)_{+} \cap \mathcal{H}(A) \\
& =\bigoplus_{s=0}^{2 p-1}\left(\Omega^{s}(A)+\Omega^{m+n-s}(A)\right)_{+} \bigoplus \Omega^{2 p}(A)_{+} \\
& \cap \bigoplus_{s=0}^{2 p-1}\left(\mathcal{H}^{s}(A)+\mathcal{H}^{m+n-s}(A)\right) \oplus \mathcal{H}^{n}(A) \\
& =\bigoplus_{s=0}^{2 p-1}\left(\mathcal{H}^{s}(A)+\mathcal{H}^{m+n-s}(A)\right)_{+} \bigoplus \mathcal{H}^{2 p}(A)_{+}
\end{aligned}
$$

(b)

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \operatorname{dim} \operatorname{ker}\left(D_{A}\right)_{+}-\operatorname{dim} \operatorname{ker}\left(D_{A}\right)_{+}^{*} \\
& =\sum_{s=0}^{2 p-1} \operatorname{dim}_{\mathbb{R}}\left(\mathcal{H}^{s}(A)+\mathcal{H}^{m+n-s}(A)\right)_{+}+\operatorname{dim}_{\mathbb{R}} \mathcal{H}_{+}^{2 p}(A) \\
& -\sum_{s=0}^{2 p-1} \operatorname{dim}_{\mathbb{R}}\left(\mathcal{H}^{s}(A)+\mathcal{H}^{m+n-s}(A)\right)_{-}-\operatorname{dim}_{\mathbb{R}} \mathcal{H}_{-}^{2 p}(A) \\
& =\operatorname{dim}_{\mathbb{R}} \mathcal{H}_{+}^{2 p}(A)-\operatorname{dim}_{\mathbb{R}} \mathcal{H}_{-}^{2 p}(A) \\
& =\operatorname{Sign}\left(\mathcal{B}^{n}\right) .
\end{aligned}
$$

Thanks the above Theorem, we can use the Atiyah-Singer formula for calculating the signature of $A$.

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