

# THE EXISTENCE OF $J$ -HOLOMORPHIC CURVES AND APPLICATIONS TO THE WEINSTEIN CONJECTURE\*\*

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## Abstract

The author first proves the existences of  $J$ -holomorphic curves in the symplectizations of Legendre fibrations and then as an application confirms the Weinstein conjectures on contact manifolds of Legendre fibrations. As a corollary, a new proof on the theorem due to Hofer, Viterbo, Gluck, Ziller, Weinstein and Ljusternik-Fet Theorem is provided, which is quite different from their original proofs.

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## §1. Introduction and Results

We first recall several definitions in [1]. A contact structure on a manifold is a field of a tangent hyperplanes (contact hyperplanes) that is “nondegenerate” at any point, locally such a field is defined as the field of zeros of a 1-form  $\alpha$ , called a contact form. The nondegeneracy condition is that  $d\alpha$  is nondegenerate on the hyperplanes on which  $\alpha$  vanishes; equivalently, in  $(2n+1)$ -space:

$$\alpha \wedge (d\alpha)^n \neq 0.$$

The important example of contact manifold is the well-known projective cotangent bundles defined as follows: Let  $N = T^*M$  be the cotangent bundle of the smooth connected compact manifold  $M$ .  $N$  carries a canonical symplectic structure  $\omega = -d\lambda$ , where  $\lambda = \sum_{i=1}^n y_i dx_i$  is the Liouville form on  $N$  (see [1,9]). Let  $P = PT^*M$  be the oriented projective cotangent bundle of  $M$ , i.e.  $P = \bigcup_{x \in M} PT_x^*M$ . It is well known that  $P$  carries a canonical contact structure induced by the Liouville form and the projection  $\pi : T^*M \mapsto PT^*M$ . Now we fix a Riemannian metric on  $M$  and pull back the symplectic structure in  $T^*M$  via the “Rieszmap”  $TM \simeq T^*M : x \mapsto \langle x, \cdot \rangle$ . We get a symplectic structure  $\omega = d\lambda$  and the Liouville form  $\lambda$  on  $TM$ . The restriction of the Liouville form  $\lambda$  on the unit sphere bundle  $STM$  defines a contact structure  $\xi$  on  $STM$ . It is easy to see that  $STM$  is contact diffeomorphic to  $PT^*M$ .

Let  $\Sigma$  be a smooth closed oriented manifold of dimension  $2n+1$ . A contact form on  $\Sigma$  is a 1-form such that  $\lambda \wedge (d\lambda)^n$  is a volume form on  $\Sigma$ . Associated to  $\lambda$  there are two important

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structures, first of all the so-called Reeb vectorfield  $X = X_\lambda$  defined by  $i_X \lambda \equiv 1$ ,  $i_X d\lambda \equiv 0$  and secondly the contact structure  $\xi = \xi_\lambda \mapsto \Sigma$  given by  $\xi_\lambda = \ker(\lambda) \subset T\Sigma$ . Let  $W = R \times \Sigma$  and put  $\xi = \ker(\lambda)$ . Then  $d\lambda$  is a symplectic structure for the vector bundle  $\xi \rightarrow \Sigma$ . We choose a complex structure  $J$  for  $\xi$  such that  $g_J : d\lambda \circ (Id \times J)$  is a metric for  $\xi \rightarrow \Sigma$ . As in [7], we define an almost complex structure  $\tilde{J}$  on  $W$  by

$$\tilde{J}(t, u)(h, k) = (-\lambda(u)(k), J(u)\pi k + hX(u)).$$

$\pi : T\Sigma \mapsto \Sigma$  is the bundle projection along  $RX \mapsto \xi$  and  $X$  the Reeb vectorfield associated to  $\lambda$ .

Let  $\Sigma = \{\psi \in C^\infty(R, [\frac{1}{2}, 1]) | 0 \leq \psi' \leq 1\}$  as in [7]. To  $\psi \in \Sigma$  we associate an exact form  $\omega_\psi$  on  $W$  by  $\omega_\psi = d(\psi\lambda)$ . Consider a solution of

$$\tilde{u}_s + \tilde{J}(\tilde{u})\tilde{u}_t = 0, \quad (1.1)$$

$$\tilde{u} = (a, u) : C \mapsto W. \quad (1.2)$$

We define the  $\Sigma$ -energy of a solution of (1.1)–(1.2) as

$$E_\Sigma(\tilde{u}) = \sup_{\psi \in \Sigma} \int_C \tilde{u}^* \omega_\psi. \quad (1.3)$$

**Theorem 1.1.** *There exists a non-constant solution  $\tilde{u} = (a, u) : C \rightarrow W$  of the partial differential equations (1.1)–(1.2) with  $E_\Sigma(\tilde{u}) < \infty$ .*

Then as in [3,6,7,10], the above theorem implies

**Theorem 1.2.** *Let  $STM$  be a unit sphere bundle of  $M$  and  $\lambda = f \sum_{i=1}^n y_i dx_i$  be a contact form on  $STM$ . If  $M$  is simply connected, then  $(STM, \lambda)$  carries a closed orbit of Reeb vectorfield.*

The above theorem was proved by means of variational method in [4,8,16]. If  $f \equiv 1$  in the above theorem, then the Reeb flow is the well-known geodesic flow and the closed orbit of Reeb flow in this case corresponds to the closed geodesics. Therefore we have

**Theorem 1.3 (Ljusternik-Fet).**<sup>[9]</sup> *Every simply connected Riemannian manifold has at least one closed geodesics.*

Therefore we get a new proof on the well-known Ljusternik-Fet Theorem without using the classical minimax principle. It is well known that  $S^3$  with standard contact structure is a Legendre fibration (see[1]), so we have

**Theorem 1.4.** *There exists a non-constant solution  $\tilde{u} = (a, u) : C \rightarrow W = S^3 \times R$  of the partial differential equations (1.1) – (1.2) with  $E_\Sigma(\tilde{u}) < \infty$ .*

This result completes the ones in [7] in which the existence of  $J$ -planes in  $S^3 \times R$  with overtwisted contact form  $\lambda$  was proved.

**Theorem 1.5.**<sup>[12]</sup> *Let  $S^3$  be a unit sphere with  $\lambda = f \sum_{i=1}^2 y_i dx_i$  being a contact form on  $S^3$ . Then  $(S^3, \lambda)$  carries a closed orbit of Reeb vectorfield.*

Theorem 1.5 was proved by means of variational method in [12] and the other method in [7].

**Sketch of Proofs.** In Section 2, by comparing the topology of the space  $\mathcal{D}(\Sigma)$  of disks in manifold  $\Sigma$  with the one of the loop space  $\Lambda(B)$  of base manifold  $B$ , we know that the global topologies of these spaces are different. In Section 3, we construct a Fredholm map from  $\mathcal{D}(\Sigma)$  to  $\Lambda(B)$  as in [6]. In Section 4, we use a theorem due to K. K. Mukherjea<sup>[11]</sup> to conclude that the Fredholm map constructed in Section 5 is not proper. In the final

section, we use the Sacks-Uhlenbeck-Gromov's trick as in [3,6,7,10,13] to conclude that the non-properness of the Fredholm map implies the existence of  $J$ -holomorphic planes, and then we observed that the existence of  $J$ -holomorphic plane implies the existence of periodic orbit (see [3,6,7,10]).

## §2. The Topology of Disk Space and Loop Space

Let  $\Sigma \rightarrow B$  be a contact manifold of Legendre fibration with the contact form  $\lambda$ . Let  $W = \Sigma \times R \rightarrow B$  be the Lagrangian fibration induced by the Legendre fibration and its symplectization  $(\Sigma \times R, d(e^t \lambda))$ . Let  $D \subset \mathbb{C}$  be the closed unit disk in the complex plane, i.e.  $D = \{Z \in \mathbb{C} | |z| \leq 1\}$ , and  $\mathcal{K}(W) = C^\infty(D, W)$  be the space of all smooth maps from  $D$  to  $W$  with compact open topology. Thus a sub-basis for the open sets in  $\mathcal{K}(W)$  is given by taking  $K \subset D$  a compact subset,  $U \subset W$  an open set, and letting  $\langle K, U \rangle$  be all the maps  $f : D \rightarrow W$  with  $f(K) \subset U$ . Let  $\mathcal{K}_p(W) = \{f \in \mathcal{K}(W) | f(1) = p\}$ . We call  $\mathcal{K}$  a disk space and  $\mathcal{K}_p$  the disk space with base point  $p$ . Similarly let  $\Omega(B)$  be the space of all smooth maps from  $S^1$  to  $B$  with compact open topology. Let  $\Omega(B, b)$  be the subspace of  $\Omega(B)$  with base point  $p$ , i.e.  $\Omega(B, b) = \{z \in \Omega(B) | z(0) = b\}$ .

**Proposition 2.1.** *The disk space  $\mathcal{K}_p(W)$  is contractible.*

**Proof.** Define  $\mathcal{K}_p(W) \times I \rightarrow \mathcal{K}_p(W)$  by  $h(u, t)(z) = u(1 - t + tz)$ . Clearly,  $h(u, 0)$  is the constant map at  $p$  for any  $u \in \mathcal{K}_p(W)$  and  $h(u, 1) = u$ .

In the following, we shall study the algebraic topology of loop space  $\Omega(B, b)$ . Define the path space  $\mathcal{L}(B, b)$  based at  $b \in B$  to be the set of all paths given by  $w : I \rightarrow B, w(0) = q$ , and with the compact open topology as above. Define  $\pi : \mathcal{L}(B) \rightarrow B$  by  $\pi(w) = w(1)$ .

**Lemma 2.1.**<sup>[5,p.13]</sup>  $\pi : \mathcal{L}(B) \rightarrow B$  is a fibration.

**Lemma 2.2.**<sup>[5]</sup>  $\mathcal{L}(B, b)$  is contractible (i.e., homotopically equivalent to a point).

**Proposition 2.2.**<sup>[9]</sup> *If  $B$  is a simply connected compact manifold, then the loop space  $\Omega(B, b)$  is not contractible.*

Now we consider the Hilbert topology on the disk space and the loop space. Assume that  $H^{k,2}(D, W)$  is the Sobolev space and  $\mathcal{D}(W) = H^{k,2}(D, W)$ .

**Lemma 2.3.**<sup>[6,9,13]</sup> *For  $k \geq 2$ ,  $\mathcal{D}(W)$  is a Hilbert manifold.*

**Lemma 2.4.** *For  $k \geq 2$ ,  $\mathcal{D}(W)$  and  $\mathcal{D}(W, p) = \{u \in \mathcal{D}(W) | u(1) = p\}$  are weakly homotopically equivalent to  $\mathcal{K}(W)$  and  $\mathcal{K}(W, p)$  respectively.*

**Proof.** Apply the Palais-Svarc Lemma, and see [9, chapter 1] for a similar proof.

Similarly we have

**Lemma 2.5.** *For  $k \geq 1$ , let  $\Lambda(B) = H^{k,2}(S^1, B)$  and  $\Lambda(B, b) = \{z \in \Lambda(B) | z(0) = b\}$ . Then  $\Lambda(B)$  and  $\Lambda(B, b)$  are Hilbert manifolds. Moreover  $\Lambda(B)$  and  $\Lambda(B, b)$  are weakly homotopically equivalent to  $\Omega(B)$  and  $\Omega(B, b)$  respectively.*

Finally, by Lemmas 2.3–2.5 and Propositions 2.1, 2.2, one has the following crucial result.

**Proposition 2.3.** *The Hilbert manifold  $\mathcal{D}(W, p)$  is contractible, but the Hilbert manifold  $\Lambda(B, b)$  is non-contractible if  $B$  is a simply connected closed manifold.*

## §3. Fredholm Theory

### 3.1. Linear Fredholm Operator.

For  $3 < k < \infty$ , consider the Hilbert space  $V_k$  consisting of all maps  $u \in H^{k,2}(D, \mathbb{C}^n)$ , such that  $u(z) \in \mathbb{R}^n \subset \mathbb{C}^n$  for almost all  $z \in \partial D$ .  $L_{k-1}$  denotes the usual Hilbert  $L_{k-1}$ -space

$H_{k-1}(D, C^n)$ . We define an operator  $\bar{\partial} : V_p \mapsto L_p$  by

$$\bar{\partial}u = u_s + iu_t, \quad (3.1)$$

where the coordinates on  $D$  are  $(s, t) = s + it$ ,  $D = \{z \mid |z| \leq 1\}$ . The following result is well known.

**Proposition 3.1.**<sup>[6]</sup>  $\bar{\partial} : V_p \mapsto L_p$  is a surjective real linear Fredholm operator of index  $n$ . The kernel consists of the constant real valued maps.

Let  $(C^n, \sigma = -\text{Im}(\cdot, \cdot))$  be the standard symplectic space. We consider a real  $n$ -dimensional plane  $R^n \subset R^{2n}$ . It is called Lagrangian if the skew-scalar product of any two vectors of  $R^n$  equals zero. For example, the plane  $p = 0$  and  $q = 0$  are Lagrangian subspaces. The manifold of all (nonoriented) Lagrangian subspaces of  $R^{2n}$  is called the Lagrangian-Grassmanian  $\Lambda(n)$ . One can prove that the fundamental group of  $\Lambda(n)$  is free cyclic, i.e.  $\pi_1(\Lambda(n)) = Z$ . Next assume that  $(\Gamma(z))_{z \in \partial D}$  is a smooth map associating to a point  $z \in \partial D$  a Lagrangian subspace  $\Gamma(z)$  of  $C^n$ , i.e.  $(\Gamma(z))_{z \in \partial D}$  defines a smooth curve  $\alpha$  in the Lagrangian-Grassmanian manifold  $\Lambda(n)$ . Since  $\pi_1(\Lambda(n)) = Z$ , we have  $[\alpha] = ke$ . We call integer  $k$  the Maslov index of curve  $\alpha$ , and denote it by  $m(\Gamma)$  (see [1, 6]).

Now let  $z : S^1 \mapsto W$  be a smooth curve,  $\pi \circ z : S^1 \rightarrow W \rightarrow B$  be a smooth curve in  $B$ ,  $L_t = \pi^{-1}(\pi(z))$ , and  $TW$  be the tangent bundle of the symplectic manifold  $W$ . Let

$$TW|_z \equiv S^1 \times R^{2n}$$

be the trivialization of  $TW|_z$ . Then  $TL_t$  defines a family of Lagrangian subspace of  $R^{2n}$ , i.e. defines a loop  $\alpha$  in Lagrangian-Grassmanian manifold  $\Lambda(n)$ . This loop defines the Maslov index  $m(\alpha)$  of the map  $z$ .

**Lemma 3.1.** Let  $u : D^2 \rightarrow W$  be a  $C^k$ -map ( $k \geq 1$ ). Then  $m(u|_{\partial D}) = 0$ .

**Proof.** Let

$$TW|_D \equiv D \times R^{2n}, \quad h(r, t) = u(re^{2\pi it}).$$

Then  $h$  defines a homotopy from  $h(1, t) = u|_{\partial D}$  to  $h(0, t) = p$  which induces a homotopy  $\bar{h}$  in Lagrangian-Grassmanian manifold. Note that  $m(\bar{h}(0, \cdot)) = 0$ . By the homotopy invariance of Maslov index, we know that  $m(u|_{\partial D}) = 0$ .

Consider the partial differential equation

$$\bar{\partial}u + A(z)u = 0 \text{ on } D, \quad (3.2)$$

$$u(z) \in \Gamma(z) \text{ for } z \in \partial D, \quad (3.3)$$

$$m(\Gamma) = 0. \quad (3.4)$$

For  $3 < k < \infty$ , consider the Banach space  $\bar{V}_k$  consisting of all maps  $u \in H^{k,2}(D, C^n)$  such that  $u(z) \in \Gamma(z)$  for almost all  $z \in \partial D$ . Let  $L_{k-1}$  be the usual  $L_{k-1}$ -space  $H_{k-1}(D, C^n)$  and  $L_{k-1}(S^1) = \{u \in H^{k-1}(S^1) \mid u(z) \in \Gamma(z) \text{ for } z \in \partial D\}$ . We define an operator  $P : \bar{V}_k \rightarrow L_{k-1} \times L_{k-1}(S^1)$  by

$$P(u) = (\bar{\partial}u + Au, u|_{\partial D}), \quad (3.5)$$

where  $D$  as in (3.1).

**Proposition 3.2.**<sup>[6]</sup>  $\bar{\partial} : \bar{V}_p \rightarrow L_p$  is a real linear Fredholm operator of index  $n$ .

### 3.2. Nonlinear Fredholm Operator.

Now let  $\pi : \Sigma \rightarrow B$  be a contact manifold of Legendre fibration with contact form  $\lambda$ . Let  $L = R \times \Sigma \rightarrow B$  be the Lagrangian fibration induced by the Legendre fibration  $\Sigma \rightarrow B$  and

its symplectization  $(R \times \Sigma, de^t \lambda)$ . Recall that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{D}^k(L, p) &= \{u \in H^k(D, R^N) | u(x) \in L \text{ a.e. for } x \in D \text{ and } u(1) = p\}, \\ \Lambda^k(B, b) &= \{z \in H^k(S^1, R^N) | u(z) \in B \text{ a.e. for } z \in S^1 \text{ and } z(1) = b\}. \end{aligned}$$

**Lemma 3.2.** *Let  $\pi : L \rightarrow B$  be the Lagrangian fibration as above and  $\pi(p) = b$ . Let*

$$\mathcal{D}_z^k(L, p) = \{u \in \mathcal{D}_k(L, p) | u(\tau) \in \pi^{-1}(z(\tau)) \text{ for } \tau \in \partial D\}.$$

*Then,  $\mathcal{D}_z^k(L, p)$  is a smooth Hilbert manifold and*

$$\mathcal{D}^k(L, p) = \bigcup_{z \in \Lambda^{k-1}(B, b)} \mathcal{D}_z^k(L, p) \quad (3.6)$$

*is a Hilbert fibration defined by*

$$P_r \circ u = \pi \circ (u|_{\partial D}). \quad (3.7)$$

**Proof.** First we prove  $\mathcal{D}_z^k(L, p) = \{u \in \mathcal{D}^k(L, p) | \pi \circ (u|_{\partial D}) = z\}$  is a Hilbert manifold, i.e. the space of disks with boundary in the family of Lagrangian submanifolds  $L_{z(t)} = R \times \pi^{-1}(z(t))$  is a Hilbert manifold. In principle, we can use the Gauss normal charts on  $L$  to construct the Hilbert chart on  $\mathcal{D}_z^k(L, p)$  (see [9]) in the loop space of a Riemannian manifold. However, because of the boundary conditions, we have to introduce the  $t$ -dependent metric. Let therefore  $g_t$  be a smooth family of metrics so that  $L_t$  is totally geodesic with respect to  $g_t$ . Then we define

$$\exp : S^1 \times TP \mapsto P, \quad \exp : (t, p, \xi) = \exp_{g_t}(p, \xi).$$

Then one can use the above  $\exp$  to construct Hilbert chart on  $\mathcal{D}^k(L, p)$  (for the detail see [3]). Since  $\pi : L \mapsto B$  is a fibration it is obvious that it induces the fibration

$$P_r : \mathcal{D}^k(L, p) \rightarrow B^{k-1}(B, b) \quad (3.8)$$

by

$$P_r \circ u = \pi \circ (u|_{\partial D}). \quad (3.9)$$

Now we consider the tangent bundle of Hilbert manifold  $\mathcal{D}^k(L, p)$ . Let

$$W^k(u) = H^{k,2}(u^*TL), \quad (3.10)$$

$$W^k(L) = \bigcup_{u \in \mathcal{D}^{k+1}(L, p)} W^k(u), \quad (3.11)$$

$$W^k(L, o) = \{v \in W^k(L) | v(1) = o\}. \quad (3.12)$$

$$P_r : W^k(L, o) \mapsto \mathcal{D}^{k+1}(L, p), \quad (3.13)$$

$$P_r \circ v = u, \quad v \in W^k(u) \quad (3.14)$$

is the tangent bundle of  $\mathcal{D}^{k+1}(L, p)$  (see [3,6]). Now we construct a nonlinear Fredholm operator from  $\mathcal{D}^k(L, p)$  to  $T\mathcal{D}^k(L, p) \times \Lambda(B, b)$  follows in [3,6]. Let  $\bar{\partial} : \mathcal{D}^k(L, p) \rightarrow T\mathcal{D}^k(L, p)$  be the Cauchy-Riemann Section induced by the Cauchy-Riemann operator, locally,

$$\bar{\partial}u = \frac{\partial u}{\partial s} + J \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \quad (3.15)$$

for  $u \in \mathcal{D}^k(W, p)$ . Since the space  $\mathcal{D}^k(W, p)$  is contractible, the tangent space  $T\mathcal{D}^k(W, p)$  is trivial, i.e. there exists a bundle isomorphism

$$\Phi : T\mathcal{D}^k(W, p) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}^k(W, p) \times E,$$

where  $E$  is a Hilbert Space. Then the Cauchy-Riemann section  $\bar{\partial}$  on  $T\mathcal{D}^k(W, p)$  induces a nonlinear map  $\Phi \circ \bar{\partial} : \mathcal{D}^k(W, p) \mapsto E$ . In the following, we still denote  $\Phi \circ \bar{\partial}$  by  $\bar{\partial}$  for convenience. Now we define

$$F : \mathcal{D}^k(W, p) \rightarrow E \times \Lambda(B, b), \quad (3.16)$$

$$F(u) = (\bar{\partial}u, P_r \circ u), \quad (3.17)$$

where  $P_r : \mathcal{D}^k(W, p) \mapsto \Lambda(B, b)$  is the projection defined by  $P_r \circ u = \pi \circ (u|_{\partial D})$ .

**Theorem 3.1.** *The nonlinear operator  $F$  defined in (3.16)–(3.17) is a nonlinear Fredholm operator of index zero.*

**Proof.** According to the definition of the nonlinear Fredholm operator, we need to prove that  $u \in \mathcal{D}^k(L, p)$ , the linearization  $DF(u)$  of  $F$  at  $u$  is a linear Fredholm operator. Note that

$$DF(u) = (D\bar{\partial}_{[u]}, (DP_r)_{[u]}), \quad (3.18)$$

where

$$(D\bar{\partial}_{[u]})v = \frac{\partial v}{\partial s} + J \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + A(u)v \quad (3.19)$$

and  $A(u)$  is a  $2n \times 2n$  matrix induced by the torsion of almost complex structure (see [3,6] for the computation). Here the second term  $(DP_r)_{[u]}$  can be computed as follows:

$$(DP_r)_{[u]} = (D\pi)(D\tau)_{[u]}, \quad (3.20)$$

where  $D\pi : TL \rightarrow TB$  and  $D\tau$  are tangent maps of projection  $\pi$  and ordinary trace operator  $\tau$ , i.e.,  $\tau \circ u = u|_{\partial D}$ .

Observe that the linearization  $DF(u)$  of  $F$  at  $u$  is equivalent to the following Lagrangian boundary value problem

$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial s} + J \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + A(u)v = f, \quad v \in W^k(u^*TW), \quad (3.21)$$

$$v(t) \in T_{\pi \circ u(t)} = (T\pi)^{-1}(h), \quad t \in \partial D, \quad (3.22)$$

where  $(f, h) \in E \times T_{(\pi \circ \tau)(u)}\Lambda(B, b)$ . One can check that (3.18)–(3.19) or (3.21)–(3.22) defines a linear Fredholm operator. In fact, by Proposition 3.2 and Lemma 3.2, since the operator  $A(u)$  is compact, we know that the operator  $F$  is a nonlinear Fredholm operator of index zero.

**Definition 3.1.** *A nonlinear Fredholm  $F : X \rightarrow Y$  operator is proper if any  $y \in Y$ ,  $F^{-1}(y)$  is finite or for any compact set  $K \subset Y$ ,  $F^{-1}(K)$  is compact in  $X$ .*

**Definition 3.2.**  $\deg(F, y) = \#\{F^{-1}(y)\} \bmod 2$  is called the Fredholm degree of a nonlinear proper Fredholm operator (see [6, 14]).

**Theorem 3.2.** *Assume that the nonlinear Fredholm operator  $F : \mathcal{D}^k(W, p) \rightarrow E \times \Lambda^{k-1}(B, b)$  constructed in (3.16)–(3.17) is proper and  $\pi(p) = b$ . Then  $\deg(F, (0, b)) = 1$ .*

**Proof.** Since  $b$  is a constant loop in  $\Lambda(B, b)$ ,  $\pi^{-1}(b) = L_b$  is a Lagrangian submanifold by noting that

$$e^t \lambda|_{L_b} = e^t \lambda|_{\Sigma_b \times R} = 0. \quad (3.23)$$

Now we assume that  $u : D \mapsto W$  is a  $J$ -holomorphic disk with boundary  $u(\partial D) \subset L_b$ . Since almost complex structure  $\tilde{J}$  tamed by the symplectic form  $de^t \lambda$ , by Stokes formula and (4.17), we conclude that  $u : D^2 \rightarrow w$  is a constant map. Because  $u(1) = p$ , we know that  $F^{-1}(0, b) = p$ . Next we show that the linearization  $DF(p)$  of  $F$  at  $p$  is an isomorphism

from  $T^p\mathcal{D}(W, p)$  to  $E \times T^p\Lambda(B, b)$ . This is equivalent to solving the equations

$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial s} + J \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} = f, \quad (3.24)$$

$$v|_{\partial D} \subset T_p L_b. \quad (3.25)$$

By Lemma 3.1, we know that  $DF(p)$  is an isomorphism. Therefore  $\deg(F, (b, 0)) = 1$ .

**Corollary 3.1.**  $\deg(F, w) = 1$  for any  $w \in E \times \Lambda$ .

**Proof.** Use the connectedness of  $E \times \Lambda$  and the homotopy invariance of  $\deg$ .

#### §4. The Non-Properness of the Fredholm Operator

We shall prove in this section that the operator  $F : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow E \times \Lambda$  constructed in the above section is non proper. We recall some basic definitions on Fredholm structures which were discussed widely in 1960's by many mathematicians (see [2]).

**Definition 4.1.**<sup>[2,11]</sup> A Fredholm structure on  $M$  is an integrable reduction of its principal bundle  $\pi : PM \rightarrow M$  to  $GC(E)$ . A Fredholm manifold is a Banach manifold together with a Fredholm structure.

For the Fredholm manifold, one can define the infinite dimensional Cohomology theory on it (see [11]). Especially, he proved the following celebrated theorem.

**Proposition 4.1.** Let  $M, N$  be Fredholm manifolds and  $f : M \rightarrow N$  be a proper,  $C^\infty$ -Fredholm map of index zero. Suppose  $M$  is contractible and  $\deg(f) = 1$ . Then,  $N$  is contractible.

Note that Proposition 4.1 is slightly different from Theorem 4.4 in [11]. K. K. Mukherjea used the integer coefficient for cohomology of  $M, N$  and assume that  $f : M \rightarrow N$  is orientation preserving. However, his proof can be carried to the case of proposition 4.1 (see [2,11]).

**Theorem 4.1.** The Fredholm operator  $F : \mathcal{D}^k(W, p) \rightarrow E \times \Lambda^{k-1}(B, b)$  is not proper.

**Proof.** By Theorems 3.1 and 3.2, we know that the index of  $F$  is zero and  $\deg(F) = 1$ . By Theorem 2.1,  $\mathcal{D}(W, p)$  is contractible and  $\Lambda^{k-1}(B, b)$  is noncontractible. By Mukherjea's theorem,  $F$  is not proper.

#### §5. The Existences of Holomorphic Planes and Periodic Solutions

In this section, we use the Sacks-Uhlenbeck-Gromov's trick to prove the existence of  $J$ -holomorphic plane as in [3,6,7,10] for symplectization of contact manifolds. Then this implies the existence of periodic orbit of Reeb vector field by the method as in [3,6,7,10]. Now, we fix a point  $q \in \Lambda(B, b)$  and  $F \in T\mathcal{D}(W, p)$ . Consider the inverse image  $F^{-1}(f, q)$  as

$$u : D^2 \rightarrow W, \quad (5.1)$$

$$\bar{\partial}_J u = f, \quad (5.2)$$

$$u(e^{2\pi i t}) \in L_{q(t)}. \quad (5.3)$$

In order to get the estimate of energy on solution  $u$ , we consider  $(\Sigma, \lambda) = \left(S(M), f \sum_{i=1}^n p_i dq_i\right)$ , where  $S(M)$  is the unit sphere bundle of the Riemann manifold  $M$  and  $f$  is a positive function on  $S(M)$ .

Now we recall  $\Sigma = S(M)$  and  $W = R \times \Sigma$  and put  $\xi = \ker(\lambda)$ . Then  $d\lambda$  is a symplectic structure for the vectorbundle  $\xi \rightarrow \Sigma$ . We choose a complex structure  $J$  for  $\xi$  such that

$g_J := d\lambda \circ (Id \times J)$  is a metric for  $\xi \rightarrow \Sigma$ . As before we define an almost complex structure  $\tilde{J}$  on  $W$  by

$$\tilde{J}(t, u)(h, k) = (-\lambda(u)(k), J(u)\pi k + hX(u)), \quad (5.4)$$

where  $\pi : T\Sigma \rightarrow \Sigma$  is the bundle projection along  $RX \rightarrow \Sigma$  and  $X$  the Reeb vector field associated to  $\lambda$ . We define a complete metric  $\tilde{g}$  on  $W = R \times \Sigma$  by

$$\langle (h_1, k_1), (h_2, k_2) \rangle = h_1 h_2 + \lambda(k_1)\lambda(k_2) + g_J(\pi k_1, \pi k_2). \quad (5.5)$$

Now we introduce a family of pseudo-Riemannian metrics on  $W$ , i.e.,

$$g_\varphi(\cdot, \cdot) = \omega_\varphi(\cdot, \tilde{J}\cdot) = (d\varphi\lambda)(\cdot, \tilde{J}\cdot). \quad (5.6)$$

Here

$$\Sigma = \left\{ \varphi \in C^\infty\left(R, \left[\frac{1}{2}, 1\right]\right) \mid 0 \leq \varphi' \leq 1 \right\}. \quad (5.7)$$

Now for  $\tilde{u} \in F^{-1}(f, q)$ , define

$$E_\Sigma(\tilde{u}) = \sup_{\varphi \in \Sigma} \left\{ \int_D \left( g_\varphi\left(\frac{\partial \tilde{u}}{\partial x}, \tilde{J}\frac{\partial \tilde{u}}{\partial x}\right) + g_\varphi\left(\frac{\partial \tilde{u}}{\partial y}, \tilde{J}\frac{\partial \tilde{u}}{\partial y}\right) \right) d\sigma \right\}. \quad (5.8)$$

**Lemma 5.1.** *Let  $(S(M), g \sum_{i=1}^n p_i dq_i)$  be the contact manifold induced by Riemannian manifold with the contact form  $\lambda = g \sum_{i=1}^n p_i dq_i$ . Let  $q \in \Lambda(M)$  and  $\tilde{u} \in F^{-1}(f, q)$ . Then, one has the following estimates*

$$E_\Sigma(\tilde{u}) = \sup_{\varphi \in \Sigma} \left\{ \int_D \left( g_\varphi\left(\frac{\partial \tilde{u}}{\partial x}, \tilde{J}\frac{\partial \tilde{u}}{\partial x}\right) + g_\varphi\left(\frac{\partial \tilde{u}}{\partial y}, \tilde{J}\frac{\partial \tilde{u}}{\partial y}\right) \right) d\sigma \right\} \leq c(q), \quad (5.9)$$

where  $\Sigma = \{\varphi \in C^\infty(R, [\frac{1}{2}, 1]) \mid 0 \leq \varphi' \leq 1\}$  and  $\omega_\varphi = d(\phi\lambda)$ .

**Proof.** Since  $u(z) = (a, q(z), p(z)) \in R \times S(M)$  and  $\lambda = g \sum_{i=1}^n p_i dq_i$ , by Stokes formula,

$$\int_D \tilde{u}^* \omega_\varphi = \int_D \tilde{u}^* d\varphi\lambda = \int_{\partial D} (\tilde{u}|_{\partial D})^*(\varphi\lambda) = \int_{\partial D} g\varphi p(z) dq(z). \quad (5.10)$$

So

$$\left| \int_D \tilde{u}^* d\varphi\lambda \right| \leq M_1 M_2 M_3, \quad (5.11)$$

where

$$M_1 = \max_{a \in R} \varphi(a) = 1, \quad M_2 = \max_{x \in S(M)} f(x), \quad M_3 = \max_{t \in S^1} |q(t)|.$$

Since  $f \in T\mathcal{D}(W, p)$ , we have

$$\|f\|_{L^2(D)} \leq c_1. \quad (5.12)$$

Note that the Pseudo-Riemann norm  $|\cdot|_{g_\varphi} \leq |\cdot|_{\tilde{g}}$  since

$$\langle (k_1, h_1), (k_2, h_2) \rangle_{g_\varphi} = \varphi'(a)(h_1 h_2 + \lambda(k_1)\lambda(k_2)) + \varphi(a)(g_J(\pi k_1, \pi k_2)). \quad (5.13)$$

So, we get

$$\|f\|_{L^2(D), \varphi} \leq \|f\|_{L^2(D)} \leq c_1 \quad (5.14)$$

with  $\varphi \in \Sigma$ . By the following formula,

$$\tilde{u}^* \omega_\varphi = \frac{1}{4} (|\partial \tilde{u}|_\varphi^2 - |\bar{\partial} \tilde{u}|_\varphi^2), \quad (5.15)$$

$$|\nabla \tilde{u}|_\varphi = \frac{1}{2} (|\partial \tilde{u}|_\varphi^2 + |\bar{\partial} \tilde{u}|_\varphi^2) \quad (5.16)$$



and the (5.2), (5.11)–(5.12) and (5.15)–(5.16), we finish the proof of Lemma 5.1.

**Theorem 5.1.** *There exists a non-constant solution  $\tilde{u} = (a, u) : C \rightarrow W$  of the partial differential equations*

$$\tilde{u}_s + \tilde{J}(\tilde{u})\tilde{u}_t = 0, \quad (5.17)$$

where

$$E_\Sigma(\tilde{u}) < \infty, \quad (5.18)$$

$$E_\Sigma(\tilde{u}) = \sup_{\varphi \in \Sigma} \int_C \tilde{u}^* \omega_\varphi \quad (5.19)$$

and

$$\Sigma = \left\{ \varphi \in C^\infty \left( R, \left[ \frac{1}{2}, 1 \right] \right) \mid 0 \leq \varphi' \leq 1 \right\}, \quad (5.20)$$

$$\omega_\varphi = d(\varphi \lambda). \quad (5.21)$$

**Proof.** (1) Gradient bounds imply  $C^0$ –bounds. In fact, for a given point  $q \in \Lambda(B, b)$  and  $f \in T\mathcal{D}(W, p)$ , the point  $\tilde{u} \in F^{-1}(f, q)$  considered as a map  $u : D^2 \mapsto W$  has a bounded image. Since

$$|\nabla u| \leq C \text{ for } u \in F^{-1}(f, q), \quad (5.22)$$

$$u(1) = p \in W. \quad (5.23)$$

By the mean value formula we know that the image of  $u$  for  $u \in F^{-1}(f, q)$  is contained in a bounded set  $K \subset W$ .

(2) Gradient bounds imply the  $C^\infty$ –bounds as in [6].

(3) By Theorem 4.1 we know that there exists a point  $(f, q) \in E \times \Lambda^{k-1}(B, b)$  such that  $F^{-1}(f, q)$  is not compact. By the above (1) and (2), there exists a sequence  $\{\tilde{u}_n\}$  of solutions of equation

$$\bar{\partial}_J \tilde{u}_k = f, \quad (5.24)$$

$$\tilde{u}_k(t) \in L_{q(t)} \quad (5.25)$$

such that

$$E_\Sigma(u_k) = \sup_{\varphi \in \Sigma} \int_D u_k^* \omega_\varphi \leq c_1(q), \quad (5.26)$$

$$\varepsilon_k |\nabla \tilde{u}_k(z_k)| \rightarrow +\infty, \quad (5.27)$$

$$\varepsilon_k \rightarrow 0, \quad z_k \rightarrow z_0 \in D, \quad (5.28)$$

$$|\nabla \tilde{u}(z)| \leq 2|\nabla \tilde{u}(z_k)| \text{ if } |z - z_k| \leq \varepsilon_k. \quad (5.29)$$

Let  $r_k = \text{dist}(z_k, \partial D)/\varepsilon_k$ . If  $r_k \rightarrow +\infty$ , we define

$$\tilde{v}_k = \left( a \left( z_k + \frac{z}{R_k} \right) - a(z_k), u \left( z_k + \frac{z}{R_k} \right) \right) \quad (5.30)$$

on  $B_{\varepsilon_k R_k} \subset C$  with  $R_k = |\nabla \tilde{u}(z_k)|$ . Then

$$\sup_{\varphi \in \Sigma} \int_{B_{\varepsilon_k R_k}} \tilde{v}_k^* \omega_\varphi \leq E_\Sigma(\tilde{u}_k) \leq c_1(q), \quad (5.31)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial s} \tilde{v}_k + \tilde{J}(\tilde{v}_k) \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \tilde{v}_k = \frac{1}{R_k} f, \quad (5.32)$$

$$|\nabla \tilde{v}_k(z)| \leq 2 \text{ on } B_{\varepsilon_k R_k}, \quad (5.33)$$

$$|\nabla \tilde{v}_k(0)| = 1. \quad (5.34)$$

As in [6], we may assume after perhaps taking a subsequence that  $\tilde{v}_k \rightarrow \tilde{v}$  in  $C_{\text{loc}}^\infty$ . Hence we find

$$\tilde{v}_s + \tilde{J}(\tilde{V})\tilde{v}_t = 0, \quad (5.35)$$

$$\int_C \tilde{v}^* d\varphi \lambda \leq c_1(q), \quad (5.36)$$

$$|\nabla \tilde{v}(0)| = 1, \quad (5.37)$$

$$|\nabla \tilde{v}(z)| \leq 2 \quad \text{on } C. \quad (5.38)$$

So, the same arguments as in [6] finish the proof of Theorem 5.1.

**Proof of Theorem 1.1.** By the assumption of Theorem 1.1, we know that the space of disks with base point  $p$  in  $W$  is contractible and the loop space of base manifold  $B$  is non-contractible (see Section 2). By Section 3, we have a Fredholm map from the disk space of total space to the loop space of base space. By the Mukherjea's theorem in Section 4, we know that the operator is non-proper. The non-properness of the operator implies the existence of  $J$ -holomorphic plane. By the arguments as in [3,6,7,10], the bubble concludes the existence of closed orbit of Reeb vectorfield.

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