

Huybrechts 1.2.1 page 40:

$(V, (\cdot, \cdot))$ low dimensional \mathbb{R} -vector space with inner product. The set of all compatible almost complex structures consists of two copies of S^2 .

Proof: Choose $v_1 \in V$, $(v_1, v_1) = 1$. Set $v_2 := I v_1$.

Choose $v_3 \in \{v_1, v_2\}^\perp$ with $(v_3, v_3) = 1$.

Set $v_4 := I v_3$. Then $B := \{v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4\}$ is an orthonormal basis for V and the B -matrix of I

is

$$[I]_B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 & | & 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 & | & 0 & -1 \\ \hline & & & 0 & -1 \\ & & & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$O(V)$ acts transitively on the set of orthonormal bases for V . Hence, every two complex structures are conjugate in $O(V)$.

Now $O(V)$ has two connected components, $SO(V)$, and orthogonal matrices with determinant -1 . Hence, the set of all compatible complex structures has at most two connected components.

The stabilizer of I in $SO(V)$ is 4 dimensional, since the tangent space to the stabiliser consists of

skew-symmetric matrices which commute with $[I]_B$ so of the form $\begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ -B & D \end{pmatrix}$, A, D skew symm, and $B = \begin{pmatrix} a & -b \\ b & a \end{pmatrix}$ is the matrix of mult by a \mathbb{C} complex number.

Hence, each $SO(V)$ conjugacy class is
 2 -dim^l $2 = \underbrace{\dim(SO(V))}_6 - 4$.

Finally, take $V = \mathbb{H} = \text{Sp}\{1, i, j, k\}$
 \mathbb{R}

$$(g_1, g_2) = g_1 \circ \bar{g}_2 \quad (\text{where } \bar{1}=1, \bar{i}=-i, \bar{j}=-j, \bar{k}=-k)$$

and observe that each unit purely imaginary quaternion $g = ai + bj + ck$, $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 1$, satisfies $g^2 = -1$, so both left multiplication L_g of \mathbb{H} by g and right R_g of \mathbb{H} by g are almost complex structures. Writing their matrices, we see that $R_g \neq L_{g'}$ for every such g, g' . So we have two orbits, each an S^2 .

Remark; The Pfaffian of a skew-symmetric 4×4 matrix M

$$\text{Pf} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & a & b & c \\ -a & 0 & d & e \\ -b & -d & 0 & f \\ c & -e & -f & 0 \end{pmatrix} = af - be + dc. \quad \text{It is an}$$

invariant poly w.r.t the $SO(4)$ conjugation action and $\det(M) = \text{Pf}(M)^2$. The matrices $[X]_{\mathcal{B}}$ w.r.t an orthonormal basis \mathcal{B} are skew-symmetric, and the two $SO(4)$ orbits are distinguished by their Pfaffian (it has values 1 or -1).

Indeed, if $\beta = \{1, i, j, k\}$, and $g = ai + bj + ck$
 $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 1$,

then

$$[L_g]_{\beta} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -a & -b & -c \\ a & 0 & -c & b \\ b & c & 0 & -a \\ c & -b & a & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and } \text{pf}(L_g) = 1$$

$$[R_g]_{\beta} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -a & -b & -c \\ a & 0 & c & -b \\ b & -c & 0 & a \\ c & b & -a & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and } \text{pf}(R_g) = -1.$$