

# Contents

Chapter 1. Introduction and Main Results	1
1.1. The Space $Z$ of Stable Curves	2
1.2. The Bundle $W$	6
1.3. Fredholm Theory	8
1.4. The GW-invariants	8
Chapter 2. Recollections and Technical Results	11
2.1. Deligne–Mumford type Spaces	11
2.2. Sc-smoothness, Sc-splicings, and Polyfolds	28
2.3. Polyfold Fredholm Sections of Strong Polyfold Bundles	39
2.4. Gluings and Anti-Gluings	43
2.5. Implanting Gluings and Anti-gluings into a Manifold	52
2.6. More Sc-smoothness Results.	55
Chapter 3. The Polyfold Structures	61
3.1. Good Uniformizing Families of Stable Curves	61
3.2. Compatibility of Good Uniformizers	73
3.3. Compactness Properties of $M(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{G}')$	78
3.4. The Topology on $Z$	83
3.5. The Polyfold Structure on the Space $Z$	89
3.6. The Polyfold Structure of the Bundle $W \rightarrow Z$	91
Chapter 4. The Nonlinear Cauchy-Riemann Operator	99
4.1. Fredholm Sections of Strong Polyfold Bundles	99
4.2. The Cauchy-Riemann Section: Results	101
4.3. Some Technical Results	104
4.4. Regularization and Sc-Smoothness of $\bar{\partial}_J$	110
4.5. The Filled Section, Proof of Proposition 4.8	116
4.6. Proofs of Proposition 4.23 and Proposition 4.25	123
Chapter 5. Appendices	135
5.1. Proof of Theorem 2.56	135
5.2. Proof of Lemma 3.4	146
5.3. Linearization of the CR-Operator	149
5.4. Consequences of Elliptic Regularity	150
5.5. Proof of Proposition 4.11	160
5.6. Banach Algebra Properties	164
5.7. Proof of Proposition 4.12	165
5.8. Proof of Proposition 4.16	170
5.9. Proof of Lemma 4.19	171

5.10. Orientations for Sc-Fredholm Sections	172
5.11. The Canonical Orientation in Gromov-Witten Theory	187
Bibliography	213
Index	217