

## BI-TANGENT QUATERNION KAEHLER MANIFOLDS

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*Complex structures and tangent structures are well known. Almost semi-quaternion manifolds formed by the combination of these two structures have been also studied. In this paper, firstly, the existence of a structure similar to the quaternion Kaehler manifold for an almost semi-quaternion manifold is investigated. For this purpose, the necessary conditions are obtained for the covariant derivative of each cross-section to remain in the vector bundle formed by these cross-sections. After this stage, the interactions of these cross-sections and the curvature tensor field are investigated. In this direction, new relations were found. Finally, the flatness of the manifolds with this type of structure in case of constant curvature is examined.*

**Keywords:** Tangent structure, Quaternion Kaehler structure, Almost bi-tangent quaternion structure, Bi-tangent quaternion Kaehler manifold

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### 1. Introduction

In differential geometry, manifold endowed with certain structures have been active field since almost complex manifolds were introduced in 1930's. Nowadays, there are many structures inspiring from complex manifolds and contact manifolds see: [4, 10, 15, 23, 28].

Since Ishihara[16] defined and studied quaternion Kaehler manifolds, manifolds containing more than one linear endomorphism have been studied by many authors. Among these, hypercomplex structures, polysymplectic structures [1, 2], 3-contact structures [17] and Para-quaternionic structures [5] can be mentioned. Various versions of product structures and complex structures were also studied by Crceanu in [6, 7, 8].

On the other hand, almost tangent structures or almost subtangent structures have interesting properties. Manifolds containing these structures have been studied by many authors [3], [21] and [22]. The almost semiquaternion structures is a degenerate, hypercomplex structure defined by the semiquaternion algebra. It has appeared in F. Tricerri's classification of the structures of type  $F_1F_2 + F_2F_1 = \alpha I$ ,  $F_1^2 = F_2^2 = -I$  ( $I$  identity,  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ ), on a differentiable manifold, when  $\alpha^2 = 4$ . In Tricerri's paper [24] this is irregular case. All these considerations hold good for  $\alpha \neq 4$ . Munteanu [18, 19, 20] examined manifolds with two tangent structures and one complex structure, calling them semi-quaternions, and showed the existence of the Riemannian metric on such manifolds. However, if the covariant derivative of almost complex structures on an almost quaternion manifold remain in the subbundle determined by these almost complex structures, such almost quaternion manifolds are called quaternion Kaehler manifolds and such manifolds are the most studied quaternion manifold types in the literature. However, Munteanu did not examine this situation.

In this paper, we define the bi-tangent quaternion Kaehler manifold with the help of almost semiquaternion structure which we will call almost bi-tangent quaternion structure.

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We give an example and obtain the covariant derivatives of each cross-section to be in the vector bundle defined by these cross-sections. Then we obtain certain relations for curvature tensor fields with linear endomorphisms. Finally, we show that a manifold endowed with such structure is flat when it is a manifold with constant sectional curvature.

## 2. Preliminaries

Let  $(M(c), g)$  be a complete simply connected Riemannian manifold of constant curvature  $c$ . Then the curvature tensor field  $R$  is given by

$$R(X, Y)Z = c \{g(Y, Z)X - g(X, Z)Y\}$$

for any vector fields  $X$  and  $Y$  on  $M$ .

If  $M$  is a  $4m$ -dimensional manifold with the Riemannian metric  $g$ , then  $M$  is said to be a quaternion Kaehler manifold [29] if there exists a 3-dimensional vector bundle  $V$  of type  $(1, 1)$  with local basis of almost Hermitian structures  $J_1, J_2, J_3$  satisfying

$$J_1 \circ J_2 = -J_2 \circ J_1 = J_3$$

and

$$\nabla_X J_k = \sum_{l=1}^3 Q_{kl}(X) J_l, \quad k = 1, 2, 3,$$

for all vector fields  $X$  tangent to  $M$ , where  $\nabla$  is the Levi-Civita connection and  $Q_{kl}$  are certain 1-forms locally defined on  $M$  such that  $Q_{kl} + Q_{lk} = 0$ . The second condition can be given by

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_X J_1 &= r(X)J_2 - q(X)J_3, \\ \nabla_X J_2 &= -r(X)J_1 + p(X)J_3, \\ \nabla_X J_3 &= q(X)J_1 - p(X)J_2, \end{aligned}$$

for all vector fields  $X$  tangent to  $M$ , where  $p, q$  and  $r$  are certain 1-forms locally defined on  $M$ .

## 3. Almost bi-tangent quaternion manifolds

Inspiring from quaternion Kaehler manifolds, there are many new manifolds similar to the quaternion Kaehler manifolds such as paraquaternionic manifolds, almost 3-contact structure, bi-product manifolds, etc ([5, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 17, 25, 26, 27]).

We recall the definition of semiquaternion manifolds, but we will give a new name for such manifolds because the notion of semiquaternion sounds semi-Riemannian geometry however metric almost semiquaternion manifolds are Riemannian manifolds.

Let  $M$  be a differentiable manifold with  $\dim M = 4m$  and  $J, T_1, T_2$  are  $(1, 1)$  tensor fields on  $M$ . If the following conditions are satisfied

$$J^2 = -I, \quad T_1^2 = T_2^2 = 0, \quad \text{rank} T_1 = 2m,$$

$$JT_1 = -T_1J = T_2, \quad JT_2 = -T_2J = -T_1, \quad T_1T_2 = T_2T_1 = 0, \quad (1)$$

then  $M$  is called almost bi-tangent quaternion (almost semiquaternion) [19] structure, shortly SQ-structure on  $M$ .

Considering the vertical distribution  $\mathcal{V} = \text{Ker}T_1$  and  $\mathcal{H}$  a fixed distribution, called horizontal, complementary to  $\mathcal{V}$  in  $T(M)$  (i.e.  $T_x(M) = \mathcal{H}_x \otimes \mathcal{V}_x$ ,  $\forall(x) \in M$ ) which is preserved by  $J$  and denoting by  $h$  and  $v$  the corresponding projectors, from [20] and [28] it is known the

existence of a  $(1, 1)$  tensor field  $T_1^*$ ,  $(T_1^*)^2 = 0$ , called generalized inverse of  $T_1$ , uniquely defined (for chosen distribution  $\mathcal{H}$ ) by the conditions:

$$T_1^*T_1 = h, \quad vT_1^* = 0, \quad T_1^*h = 0.$$

The triad  $SQ^* = (J, T_1^*, T_2^* = J \cdot T_1^*)$  defines also on  $M$  a bi-tangent quaternion structure, called adjoint to  $SQ$ .

If  $g$  is a Riemannian metric on  $M$ , then we can define uniquely  $\mathcal{H}$  as the distribution orthogonal to  $\mathcal{V}$  by  $g$ , i.e.:

$$g(vX, hY) = 0, \quad X, Y \in \chi(M). \quad (2)$$

**Definition 3.1.** [19] Let  $M$  be an almost bi-tangent quaternion manifold. Then we define a Riemannian metric on  $M$  by

$$g(JX, JY) = g(X, Y), \quad (3)$$

$$X, Y \in \chi(M)$$

$$g(T_1X, T_1Y) = g(hX, hY), \quad (4)$$

where  $h$  is the projector on  $\mathcal{H}$ , orthogonal to  $\mathcal{V}$ , with respect to  $g$ . In this case,  $(M, J, T_1, T_2, g)$  is called metric almost bi-tangent quaternion manifold.

**Proposition 3.1.** [19] On every paracompact manifold  $M$ , endowed with a QS-structure, there exist a metric almost bi-tangent quaternion structure.

*Proof.* Let be the SQ-structure given by (1). Choosing a Riemannian metric  $f$  on  $M$ , let  $\mathcal{H}$  be the orthocomplement of  $\mathcal{V}$  with respect to the metric  $f$ . Let be the Riemannian metric:

$$\tilde{g}(X, Y) = f(X, Y) + f(T_1X, T_1Y) + f(T_1^*X, T_1^*Y).$$

Then the metric

$$g(X, Y) = \tilde{g}(X, Y) + \tilde{g}(JX, JY)$$

determines on  $M$  a metric almost bi-tangent quaternion structure.  $\square$

**Example 3.1.** Let  $\mathbb{R}^{4m}$ , ( $m \geq 1$ ) be a Euclidean space. Then the canonical structures  $J, T_1, T_2$  of  $\mathbb{R}^{4m}$  and the Riemannian metric  $g$  are given by

$$J = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & -I & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & I \\ I & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -I & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, T_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & I & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & I \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, T_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & -I \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & I & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} & g((x_1, y_1, z_1, w_1, \dots, x_m, y_m, z_m, w_m), (x'_1, y'_1, z'_1, w'_1, \dots, x'_m, y'_m, z'_m, w'_m)) \\ & = x_1x'_1 + y_1y'_1 + z_1z'_1 + w_1w'_1 + \dots + x_mx'_m + y_my'_m + z_mz'_m + w_mw'_m \end{aligned}$$

for all  $X = (x, y, z, w), Y = (x', y', z', w') \in \mathbb{R}^{4m}$ , where  $I$  is the  $m \times m$  identity matrix.

Now we can define

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{V} = \text{Ker}T_1 & = \{(x, y, z, w) : T_1(x, y, z, w) = 0\} \\ & = \{(x, 0, z, 0) : x, z \in \mathbb{R}\}, \\ \mathcal{H} & = \{(0, y, 0, w) : y, w \in \mathbb{R}\}. \end{aligned}$$

It is easy to see that Definition 3.1 is satisfied.

#### 4. Bi-tangent quaternion Kaehler manifolds

In this section we introduce bi-tangent quaternion Kaehler manifolds and investigate curvature relations. We also show that a bi-tangent quaternion Kaehler manifold  $M$  with  $\dim M = 4m$  is flat when  $M$  is of constant curvature.

**Definition 4.1.** *Let  $M$  be a almost bi-tangent quaternion manifold with a 3-dimensional vector bundle  $V$  consisting of  $\{J, T_1, T_2\}$ . If  $\Phi$  is a cross-section (local or global) of the bundle  $V$ , then  $\nabla_X \Phi$  also a cross-section of  $V$ ,  $X$  being an arbitrary vector field in  $M$ . In this case,  $M$  will be called bi-tangent quaternion Kaehler manifold.*

We now obtain the meaning of the above definition.

**Theorem 4.1.** *Let  $M$  be a bi-tangent quaternion Kaehler manifold, then we have*

$$\nabla_X J = p(X)T_1 + q(X)T_2, \quad (5)$$

$$\nabla_X T_1 = r(X)T_1 + s(X)T_2, \quad (6)$$

$$\nabla_X T_2 = -s(X)T_1 + r(X)T_2, \quad (7)$$

for  $X \in \chi(M)$ , where  $p(X)$ ,  $q(X)$ ,  $r(X)$  and  $s(X)$  differentiable functions on  $M$ .

*Proof.* From Definition 4.1, we can write

$$\nabla_X J = a_{11}J + a_{12}T_1 + a_{13}T_2 \quad (8)$$

$$\nabla_X T_1 = a_{21}J + a_{22}T_1 + a_{23}T_2 \quad (9)$$

$$\nabla_X T_2 = a_{31}J + a_{32}T_1 + a_{33}T_2. \quad (10)$$

for  $X \in \chi(M)$ . From (1) we have

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_X T_1 &= \nabla_X T_2 J \\ &= (\nabla_X T_2)J + T_2(\nabla_X J). \end{aligned}$$

Using (8) and (10) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_X T_1 &= (a_{31}J + a_{32}T_1 + a_{33}T_2)J + T_2(a_{11}J + a_{12}T_1 + a_{13}T_2) \\ &= a_{31}JJ + a_{32}T_1J + a_{33}T_2J + a_{11}T_2J + a_{12}T_2T_1 + a_{13}T_2T_2 \\ &= -a_{31} + (a_{33} + a_{11})T_1 - a_{32}T_2. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly from (1) we have

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_X T_2 &= \nabla_X J T_1 \\ &= (\nabla_X J)T_1 + J(\nabla_X T_1) \end{aligned}$$

and using (8) and (9) we get

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_X T_2 &= (a_{11}J + a_{12}T_1 + a_{13}T_2)T_1 + J(a_{21}J + a_{22}T_1 + a_{23}T_2) \\ &= a_{11}JT_1 + a_{12}T_1T_1 + a_{13}T_2T_1 + a_{21}JJ + a_{22}JT_1 + a_{23}JT_2 \\ &= -a_{21} - a_{23}T_1 + (a_{11} + a_{22})T_2. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore we have  $a_{21} = a_{31} = a_{11} = 0$ ,  $a_{23} = -a_{32}$  and  $a_{22} = a_{33}$ .  $\square$

There is such a relationship between the above equations.

**Lemma 4.1.** *Let  $M$  be a bi-tangent quaternion Kaeher manifold. Then the following relation is satisfied,*

$$\nabla_X J = \left( \frac{p(X)r(X) + q(X)s(X)}{s(X)^2 + r(X)^2} \right) \nabla_X T_1 + \left( \frac{q(X)r(X) - p(X)s(X)}{s(X)^2 + r(X)^2} \right) \nabla_X T_2,$$

for any vector field  $X$  on  $M$ .

*Proof.* Multiplying (6) with  $s(X)$  and multiplying (7) with  $r(X)$  gives  $T_2$ . Also multiplying (6) with  $r(X)$  and multiplying (7) with  $-s(X)$  gives  $T_1$ . If we substitute  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  in (5), then we obtain the relation.  $\square$

Now we will examine the relationship between the curvature tensors.

**Lemma 4.2.** *Let  $M$  be a bi-tangent quaternion Kaeher manifold. Then the following curvature relations are satisfying*

$$(R(X, Y)J)Z = C(X, Y)T_1Z + B(X, Y)T_2Z, \quad (11)$$

$$(R(X, Y)T_1)Z = A(X, Y)T_1Z + D(X, Y)T_2Z, \quad (12)$$

$$(R(X, Y)T_2)Z = -D(X, Y)T_1Z + A(X, Y)T_2Z, \quad (13)$$

for  $X, Y, Z \in \chi(M)$ , where  $A, B, C$  and  $D$  are differentiable functions on  $M$ .

*Proof.* From (5) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_X \nabla_Y JZ &= \nabla_X((\nabla_Y J)Z + J\nabla_Y Z) \\ &= \nabla_X(p(Y)T_1Z + q(Y)T_2Z + J\nabla_Y Z) \\ &= \nabla_X p(Y)T_1Z + \nabla_X q(Y)T_2Z + \nabla_X J\nabla_Y Z \\ &= X(p(Y))T_1Z + p(Y)\nabla_X T_1Z + X(q(Y))T_2Z \\ &\quad + q(Y)\nabla_X T_2Z + (\nabla_X J)(\nabla_Y Z) + J\nabla_X \nabla_Y Z. \end{aligned}$$

Hence we have

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_X \nabla_Y JZ &= X(p(Y))T_1Z + p(Y)[(\nabla_X T_1)Z + T_1 \nabla_X Z] \\ &\quad + X(q(Y))T_2Z + q(Y)[(\nabla_X T_2)Z + T_2 \nabla_X Z] \\ &\quad + p(X)T_1 \nabla_Y Z + q(X)T_2 \nabla_Y Z + J\nabla_X \nabla_Y Z. \end{aligned}$$

From (6) and (7) we derive

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_X \nabla_Y JZ &= X(p(Y))T_1Z + p(Y)[r(X)T_1Z + s(X)T_2Z + T_1 \nabla_X Z] \\ &\quad + X(q(Y))T_2Z + q(Y)[-s(X)T_1Z + r(X)T_2Z + T_2 \nabla_X Z] \\ &\quad + p(X)T_1 \nabla_Y Z + q(X)T_2 \nabla_Y Z + J\nabla_X \nabla_Y Z. \end{aligned}$$

Hence we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_X \nabla_Y JZ &= X(p(Y))T_1Z + p(Y)r(X)T_1Z + p(Y)s(X)T_2Z + p(Y)T_1 \nabla_X Z \\ &\quad + X(q(Y))T_2Z - q(Y)s(X)T_1Z + q(Y)r(X)T_2Z \\ &\quad + q(Y)T_2 \nabla_X Z + p(X)T_1 \nabla_Y Z + q(X)T_2 \nabla_Y Z + J\nabla_X \nabla_Y Z. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly we get

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_Y \nabla_X JZ &= \nabla_Y((\nabla_X J)Z + J\nabla_X Z) \\ &= Y(p(X))T_1Z + p(X)r(Y)T_1Z + p(X)s(Y)T_2Z + p(X)T_1 \nabla_Y Z \\ &\quad + Y(q(X))T_2Z - q(X)s(Y)T_1Z + q(X)r(Y)T_2Z \\ &\quad + q(X)T_2 \nabla_Y Z + p(Y)T_1 \nabla_X Z + q(Y)T_2 \nabla_X Z + J\nabla_Y \nabla_X Z. \end{aligned}$$

From (5) we have

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla_{[X,Y]}JZ &= (\nabla_{[X,Y]}J)Z + J\nabla_{[X,Y]}Z \\ &= p([X,Y])T_1Z + q([X,Y])T_2Z + J\nabla_{[X,Y]}Z.\end{aligned}$$

Summing up we conclude that

$$\begin{aligned}(R(X,Y)J)Z &= (X(p(Y))T_1Z - Y(p(X))T_1Z - p([X,Y])T_1Z) + (p(Y)r(X)T_1Z \\ &\quad - p(X)r(Y)T_1Z) + (p(Y)s(X)T_2Z - p(X)s(Y)T_2Z) \\ &\quad + (X(q(Y))T_2Z - Y(q(X))T_2Z - q([X,Y])T_2Z) \\ &\quad - (q(Y)s(X)T_1Z - q(X)s(Y)T_1Z) + (q(Y)r(X)T_2Z \\ &\quad - q(X)r(Y)T_2Z) + (J\nabla_X\nabla_YZ - J\nabla_Y\nabla_XZ - J\nabla_{[X,Y]}Z).\end{aligned}$$

Thus we find

$$\begin{aligned}(R(X,Y)J)Z &= 2dp(X,Y)T_1Z + (p \wedge r)(Y,X)T_1Z + (p \wedge s)(Y,X)T_2Z \\ &\quad + 2dq(X,Y)T_2Z - (q \wedge s)(Y,X)T_1Z + (q \wedge r)(Y,X)T_2Z \\ &\quad + JR(X,Y)Z - JR(X,Y)Z \\ &= (2dp + (r \wedge p) + (q \wedge s))(X,Y)T_1Z + (2dq + (s \wedge p) \\ &\quad + (r \wedge q))(X,Y)T_2Z.\end{aligned}$$

Similarly from (6) we find

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla_X\nabla_YT_1Z &= \nabla_X((\nabla_YT_1)Z + T_1\nabla_YZ) \\ &= \nabla_X(r(Y)T_1Z + s(Y)T_2Z + T_1\nabla_YZ) \\ &= \nabla_Xr(Y)T_1Z + \nabla_Xs(Y)T_2Z + \nabla_XT_1\nabla_YZ \\ &= X(r(Y))T_1Z + r(Y)\nabla_XT_1Z + X(s(Y))T_2Z \\ &\quad + s(Y)\nabla_XT_2Z + (\nabla_XT_1)(\nabla_YZ) + T_1\nabla_X\nabla_YZ.\end{aligned}$$

Hence we have

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla_X\nabla_YT_1Z &= X(r(Y))T_1Z + r(Y)[(\nabla_XT_1)Z + T_1\nabla_XZ] \\ &\quad + X(s(Y))T_2Z + s(Y)[(\nabla_XT_2)Z + T_2\nabla_XZ] \\ &\quad + r(X)T_1\nabla_YZ + s(X)T_2\nabla_YZ + T_1\nabla_X\nabla_YZ.\end{aligned}$$

From (6) and (7) we derive

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla_X\nabla_YT_1Z &= X(r(Y))T_1Z + r(Y)[r(X)T_1Z + s(X)T_2Z + T_1\nabla_XZ] \\ &\quad + X(s(Y))T_2Z + s(Y)[-s(X)T_1Z + r(X)T_2Z + T_2\nabla_XZ] \\ &\quad + r(X)T_1\nabla_YZ + s(X)T_2\nabla_YZ + T_1\nabla_X\nabla_YZ.\end{aligned}$$

Hence we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla_X\nabla_YT_1Z &= X(r(Y))T_1Z + r(Y)r(X)T_1Z + r(Y)s(X)T_2Z + r(Y)T_1\nabla_XZ \\ &\quad + X(s(Y))T_2Z - s(Y)s(X)T_1Z + s(Y)r(X)T_2Z \\ &\quad + s(Y)T_2\nabla_XZ + r(X)T_1\nabla_YZ + s(X)T_2\nabla_YZ + T_1\nabla_X\nabla_YZ.\end{aligned}$$

Similarly we get

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla_Y\nabla_XT_1Z &= \nabla_Y((\nabla_XT_1)Z + T_1\nabla_XZ) \\ &= Y(r(X))T_1Z + r(X)r(Y)T_1Z + r(X)s(Y)T_2Z + r(X)T_1\nabla_YZ \\ &\quad + Y(s(X))T_2Z - s(X)s(Y)T_1Z + s(X)r(Y)T_2Z \\ &\quad + s(X)T_2\nabla_XZ + r(Y)T_1\nabla_XZ + s(Y)T_2\nabla_XZ + T_1\nabla_Y\nabla_XZ\end{aligned}$$

and from (6) we have

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla_{[X,Y]}T_1Z &= (\nabla_{[X,Y]}T_1)Z + T_1\nabla_{[X,Y]}Z \\ &= r([X,Y])T_1Z + s([X,Y])T_2Z + T_1\nabla_{[X,Y]}Z.\end{aligned}$$

Summing up we conclude that

$$\begin{aligned}(R(X,Y)T_1)Z &= (X(r(Y))T_1Z - Y(r(X))T_1Z - r([X,Y])T_1Z) \\ &\quad + (X(s(Y))T_2Z - Y(s(X))T_2Z - s([X,Y])T_2Z) \\ &= 2dr(X,Y)T_1Z + 2ds(X,Y)T_2Z.\end{aligned}$$

Similarly from (7) we find

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla_X\nabla_YT_2Z &= \nabla_X((\nabla_YT_2)Z + T_2\nabla_YZ) \\ &= \nabla_X(-s(Y)T_1Z + r(Y)T_2Z + T_2\nabla_YZ) \\ &= -\nabla_Xs(Y)T_1Z + \nabla_Xr(Y)T_2Z + \nabla_XT_2\nabla_YZ \\ &= -X(s(Y))T_1Z - s(Y)\nabla_XT_1Z + X(r(Y))T_2Z \\ &\quad + r(Y)\nabla_XT_2Z + (\nabla_XT_2)(\nabla_YZ) + T_2\nabla_X\nabla_YZ.\end{aligned}$$

Hence we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla_X\nabla_YT_2Z &= -X(s(Y))T_1Z - s(Y)[(\nabla_XT_1)Z + T_1\nabla_XZ] \\ &\quad + X(r(Y))T_2Z + r(Y)[(\nabla_XT_2)Z + T_2\nabla_XZ] \\ &\quad - s(X)T_1\nabla_YZ + r(X)T_2\nabla_YZ + T_2\nabla_X\nabla_YZ.\end{aligned}$$

From (6) and (7) we derive

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla_X\nabla_YT_2Z &= -X(s(Y))T_1Z - s(Y)[r(X)T_1Z + s(X)T_2Z + T_1\nabla_XZ] \\ &\quad + X(r(Y))T_2Z + r(Y)[-s(X)T_1Z + r(X)T_2Z + T_2\nabla_XZ] \\ &\quad - s(X)T_1\nabla_YZ + r(X)T_2\nabla_YZ + T_2\nabla_X\nabla_YZ.\end{aligned}$$

Thus we have

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla_X\nabla_YT_2Z &= -X(s(Y))T_1Z - s(Y)r(X)T_1Z - s(Y)s(X)T_2Z - s(Y)T_1\nabla_XZ \\ &\quad + X(r(Y))T_2Z - r(Y)s(X)T_1Z + r(Y)r(X)T_2Z \\ &\quad + r(Y)T_2\nabla_XZ - s(X)T_1\nabla_YZ + r(X)T_2\nabla_YZ + T_2\nabla_X\nabla_YZ.\end{aligned}$$

Similarly we get

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla_Y\nabla_XT_2Z &= \nabla_Y((\nabla_XT_2)Z + T_2\nabla_XZ) \\ &= -Y(s(X))T_1Z - s(X)r(Y)T_1Z - s(X)s(Y)T_2Z - s(X)T_1\nabla_YZ \\ &\quad + Y(r(X))T_2Z - r(X)s(Y)T_1Z + r(X)r(Y)T_2Z \\ &\quad + r(X)T_2\nabla_XZ - s(Y)T_1\nabla_YZ + r(Y)T_2\nabla_XZ + T_2\nabla_Y\nabla_XZ.\end{aligned}$$

From (7) we find

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla_{[X,Y]}T_2Z &= (\nabla_{[X,Y]}T_2)Z + T_2\nabla_{[X,Y]}Z \\ &= -s([X,Y])T_1Z + r([X,Y])T_2Z + T_2\nabla_{[X,Y]}Z.\end{aligned}$$

Summing up we conclude that

$$\begin{aligned}(R(X,Y)T_2)Z &= (-X(s(Y))T_1Z + Y(s(X))T_1Z + s([X,Y])T_1Z) \\ &\quad + (X(r(Y))T_2Z - Y(r(X))T_2Z - r([X,Y])T_2Z) \\ &= -2ds(X,Y)T_1Z + 2dr(X,Y)T_2Z.\end{aligned}$$

□

There is a relationship between the equations we found above as follows:

**Lemma 4.3.** *Let  $M$  be a bi-tangent quaternion Kaehler manifold. Then the following relation is satisfied,*

$$\begin{aligned} (R(X, Y)J)Z &= \frac{C(X, Y)A(X, Y) + B(X, Y)D(X, Y)}{A(X, Y)^2 + D(X, Y)^2}(R(X, Y)T_1)Z \\ &\quad + \frac{B(X, Y)A(X, Y) - C(X, Y)D(X, Y)}{A(X, Y)^2 + D(X, Y)^2}(R(X, Y)T_2)Z. \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* Multiplying (12) with  $D(X, Y)$  and multiplying (13) with  $A(X, Y)$  gives  $T_2Z$ . Also multiplying (12) with  $A(X, Y)$  and multiplying (13) with  $-D(X, Y)$  gives  $T_1Z$ . If we substitute  $T_1Z$  and  $T_2Z$  in (11), then we obtain the relation.  $\square$

Now we will show that a bi-tangent quaternion Kaehler manifold  $M$  with  $\dim M = 4m$  is flat when  $M$  is of constant curvature.

**Theorem 4.2.** *Let  $M$  be a real  $4m$ -dimensional bi-tangent quaternion Kaehler manifold. If  $M$  is of constant curvature, then  $M$  is flat.*

*Proof.* If  $M$  is of constant curvature  $c$ , then

$$R(X, Y)Z = c\{g(Y, Z)X - g(X, Z)Y\} \quad (14)$$

for any vector fields  $X, Y$  and  $Z$  on  $M$ . From (12) and (13) we can write

$$R(X, Y)T_1Z = T_1R(X, Y)Z + A(X, Y)T_1Z + D(X, Y)T_2Z, \quad (15)$$

$$R(X, Y)T_2Z = T_2R(X, Y)Z - D(X, Y)T_1Z + A(X, Y)T_2Z. \quad (16)$$

Choosing  $Z = T_1Z$  in (14) and using (15) we have

$$\begin{aligned} c\{g(Y, T_1Z)X - g(X, T_1Z)Y\} &= c\{g(Y, Z)T_1X - g(X, Z)T_1Y\} \\ &\quad + A(X, Y)T_1Z + D(X, Y)T_2Z. \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

Now substituting  $Z$  by  $T_2Z$  in (14) and using (16) we have

$$\begin{aligned} c\{g(Y, T_2Z)X - g(X, T_2Z)Y\} &= c\{g(Y, Z)T_2X - g(X, Z)T_2Y\} \\ &\quad - D(X, Y)T_1Z + A(X, Y)T_2Z. \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

If we take  $Z = -JY$  in (17) then we have

$$\begin{aligned} c\{g(Y, T_2Y)X - g(X, T_2Y)Y\} &= c\{g(Y, -JY)T_1X + g(X, JY)T_1Y\} \\ &\quad + A(X, Y)T_2Y - D(X, Y)T_1Y. \end{aligned}$$

Taking inner product of both sides the above equation with  $T_2Y$

$$\begin{aligned} &c\{g(Y, T_2Y)g(X, T_2Y) - cg(X, T_2Y)g(Y, T_2Y)\} \\ &= cg(X, JY)g(T_1Y, T_2Y) + A(X, Y)g(T_2Y, T_2Y) - D(X, Y)g(T_1Y, T_2Y). \end{aligned}$$

Hence we find

$$A(X, Y) = 0. \quad (19)$$

Similarly taking inner product of both sides the same equation with  $JY$

$$\begin{aligned} &c\{g(Y, T_2Y)g(X, JY) - cg(X, T_2Y)g(Y, JY)\} \\ &= cg(X, JY)g(T_1Y, JY) + A(X, Y)g(T_2Y, JY) - D(X, Y)g(T_1Y, JY). \end{aligned}$$

Hence we find

$$D(X, Y) = 2cg(X, JY). \quad (20)$$

If we substitute (19) and (20) in (18) then we have

$$c\{g(Y, T_2Z)X - g(X, T_2Z)Y\} = c\{g(Y, Z)T_2X - g(X, Z)T_2Y\} - 2cg(X, JY)T_1Z.$$

Taking inner product of both sides of above equation with any vector field  $W$  on  $M$

$$\begin{aligned} & c\{g(Y, T_2Z)g(X, W) - g(X, T_2Z)g(Y, W)\} \\ &= c\{g(Y, Z)g(T_2X, W) - g(X, Z)g(T_2Y, W)\} - 2cg(X, JY)g(T_1Z, W). \end{aligned}$$

Let  $\{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_{4m}\}$  be a orthonormal frame of  $M$ . Taking  $X = W = e_i$

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{i=1}^{4m} (c\{g(Y, T_2Z)g(e_i, e_i) - g(e_i, T_2Z)g(Y, e_i)\}) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^{4m} (c\{g(Y, Z)g(T_2e_i, e_i) - g(e_i, Z)g(T_2Y, e_i)\} - 2cg(e_i, JY)g(T_1Z, e_i)). \end{aligned}$$

Then we get

$$4mcg(Y, T_2Z) - cg(T_2Z, Y) = cg(Y, Z)g(T_2e_i, e_i) - cg(T_2Y, Z) + 2cg(Y, T_2Z)$$

and therefore we have

$$(4m - 3)cg(Y, T_2Z) = cg(Y, Z)g(T_2e_i, e_i) - cg(Z, T_2Y).$$

Choosing  $Z = JY$

$$(4m - 3)cg(Y, T_1Y) = cg(Y, JY)g(T_2e_i, e_i) - cg(JY, T_2Y).$$

Then we find

$$(4m - 2)cg(Y, T_1Y) = 0.$$

This completes the proof.  $\square$

**Remark 4.1.** We note that  $g(Y, T_1Y) \neq 0$ . Indeed, from our Example 3.1 it is easy to see that  $T_1Y = (y, 0, w, 0)$  for non zero  $Y = (x, y, z, w) \in \mathbb{R}^4$  and  $g(T_1Y, Y) = xy + zw$ . In a similar way, one can see that  $g(Y, T_2Y) \neq 0$ .

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