# ON THE SPECTRAL GEOMETRY FOR THE JACOBI OPERATORS OF HARMONIC MAPS INTO PRODUCT MANIFOLDS OF QUATERNIONIC PROJECTIVE SPACES

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ABSTRACT. We study the spectral characterization of harmonic submersions when the target manifold is  $QP^n \times QP^n$ .

### 1. Introduction

The inverse eigenvalue problem of the second order operators arising in Riemannian geometry has been studied by many authors. Among them, the Jacobi operator for a harmonic map was studied in [8,11,12,13], and that for the area functional was studied in [1,5,9]. The Jacobi operator of a harmonic map f arises in the second variation formula of the energy of the harmonic map f. This formula can be expressed in terms of an elliptic differential operator  $J_f$  (called the *Jacobi operator*) defined on the space of sections of the bundle induced from the tangent bundle of the target manifold.

The spectral characterization of harmonic Riemannian submersions among the set of all harmonic morphisms has been studied in the cases

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when the target manifolds are the standard sphere  $S^n$ , complex projective space  $CP^n([13])$ , the quaternionic projective space  $QP^n([11])$  and product manifolds ([8]).

In this paper, we shall prove the following

Main Theorem. Let f and f' be harmonic morphisms of a compact Riemannian manifold (M,g) with constant scalar curvature into  $QP^n \times QP^n$ , where  $QP^n$  is the quaternionic projective space of real 4n-dimension. Assume that  $Spec(J_f) = Spec(J_{f'})$ . If f is a Riemannian submersion, then so is f'.

## 2. Preliminaries

Let (M,g) be an m-dimensional connected, closed (i.e., compact without boundary) Riemannian manifold with metric g and (N,h) an n-dimensional Riemannian manifold with metric h. A smooth map f:  $(M,g) \longrightarrow (N,h)$  is said to be harmonic if it is a critical point of the energy functional

$$E(f) := \int_{M} e(f) \, dv_g,$$

where the energy density e(f) of f is defined to be  $e(f) := \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{m} h(f_*e_i, f_*e_i)$ ,  $f_*$  is the differential of f,  $\{e_1, \dots, e_m\}$  is a local orthonormal frame field on M, and  $dv_q$  is the volume element with respect to g.

Let us consider the Jacobi operator  $J_f$  for a harmonic map f defined by

$$J_fV := \tilde{\Delta}_f V - \mathcal{R}_f V$$

for  $V \in \Gamma(E)$  (the space of smooth sections of E), where  $\tilde{\Delta}$  is the rough Laplacian associated to the induced connection  $\tilde{\nabla}$  of the induced bundle  $E := f^*TN$  defined by  $\tilde{\nabla}_X V := \nabla_{f_*X}^h V$  (for X a tangent vector of M,  $\nabla^h$  the Levi-Civita connection of the metric h), and  $\mathcal{R}_f V := \sum_{i=1}^m R_h(V, f_*e_i) f_*e_i(R_h)$  is the Riemannian curvature tensor of (N, h)). In this paper, we take the convention

$$R_h(\tilde{X}, \tilde{Y}) := [\nabla^h_{\tilde{X}}, \nabla^h_{\tilde{Y}}] - \nabla^h_{[\tilde{X}, \tilde{Y}]},$$

where  $\tilde{X}$  and  $\tilde{Y}$  are tangent vector fields on N. Then  $J_f$  is self-adjoint, elliptic of second order and has a discrete spectrum as a consequence of the compactness of M.

Consider the semigroup  $e^{-tJ_f}$  given by

$$e^{-tJ_f}V(x) = \int_M K(t, x, y, J_f)V(y) dv_g(y),$$

where  $K(t, x, y, J_f) \in \text{Hom}(E_y, E_x)$  is the kernel function  $(x, y \in M, E_x)$  is the fibre of E over  $E_x$ . Then we have asymptotic expansions for the  $E_x$ -trace

$$(2.1) \qquad Tr(e^{-tJ_f}) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} e^{-t\lambda_i} \sim (4\pi t)^{-\frac{m}{2}} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} t^n a_n(J_f) \quad (t \downarrow 0^+),$$

where each  $a_n(J_f)$  is the spectral invariant of  $J_f$ , which depends only on the discrete spectrum;

$$Spec(J_f) = \{\lambda_1 \leq \lambda_2 \leq \cdots \leq \lambda_i \cdots \uparrow + \infty\}.$$

Applying Gilkey's results in [4,p.327] to the Jacobi operator  $J_f$  of a harmonic map f, we obtain

**Theorem 2.1** [cf.13]. For a harmonic map  $f:(M,g) \longrightarrow (N,h)$ ,

$$(2.2) a_0(J_f) = n Vol(M, g),$$

(2.3) 
$$a_1(J_f) = \frac{n}{6} \int_M \tau_g \, dv_g + \int_M Tr(\mathcal{R}_f) \, dv_g,$$

$$egin{align} a_2(J_f) &= rac{n}{360} \int_M \left[ 5{ au_g}^2 - 2 \|
ho_g\|^2 + 2 \|R_g\|^2 
ight] dv_g \ &+ rac{1}{360} \int_M \left[ -30 \|R^{ ilde{
abla}}\|^2 + 60 { au_g} Tr(\mathcal{R}_f) + 180 Tr(\mathcal{R}_f^{\ 2}) 
ight] dv_g, \end{split}$$

where  $R^{\tilde{\nabla}}$  is the curvature tensor of the connection  $\tilde{\nabla}$  on E, which is defined by  $R^{\tilde{\nabla}} := f^*R_h$ , and  $R_g, \rho_g, \tau_g$  are the curvature tensor, Ricci tensor, scalar curvature of M, respectively.

**Remark 2.2.** dim(M) = m is determined by  $Spec(J_f)$  (i.e., dim(M) is a spectral invariant of  $J_f$ ) because of the asymptotic expansion (2.1).

# 3. PRODUCT MANIFOLDS OF QUATERNIONIC KAEHLER MANIFOLDS

To begin with we define an almost product manifold. Let N be a smooth manifold with a tensor F of type (1,1) such that

$$F^2 = I$$

where I denotes the identity transformation. Then we say that N is an almost product manifold with almost product structure F. If an almost product manifold N admits a Riemannian metric h such that

$$h(F\tilde{X}, F\tilde{Y}) = h(\tilde{X}, \tilde{Y})$$

for any vector fields  $\tilde{X}$  and  $\tilde{Y}$  on N, then N is called to be an almost product Riemannian manifold. Let  $N_1$  be a quaternionic Kaehler manifold with metric  $h_1$ . Then there exists a 3-dimensional vector bundle  $E_1$  of tensors of type (1,1) such that in any coordinate neighborhood  $U_1$  of  $N_1$ , there exists a local basis of almost Hermitian structures  $\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_3$  of  $E_1$  satisfying

(3.1) 
$$\begin{aligned} \phi_s^2 &= -I (\text{the identity transformation})(s=1,2,3), \\ \phi_1 \circ \phi_2 &= -\phi_2 \circ \phi_1 = \phi_3, \phi_2 \circ \phi_3 = -\phi_3 \circ \phi_2 = \phi_1, \\ \phi_3 \circ \phi_1 &= -\phi_1 \circ \phi_3 = \phi_2, \end{aligned}$$

and local 1-forms  $a_1$ ,  $a_2$  and  $a_3$  on  $U_1$  satisfying

(3.2) 
$$^{1}\nabla_{X}\phi_{1} = a_{3}(X)\phi_{2} - a_{2}(X)\phi_{3}$$

$$^{1}\nabla_{X}\phi_{2} = -a_{3}(X)\phi_{1} + a_{1}(X)\phi_{3}$$

$$^{1}\nabla_{X}\phi_{3} = a_{2}(X)\phi_{1} - a_{1}(X)\phi_{2}$$

for any vector field X on  $N_1$ , where  ${}^1\nabla$  is the Levi-Civita connection of  $N_1$ . The bundle  $E_1$  satisfying (3.1) and (3.2) is called a *quaternionic* Kaehler structure in  $N_1$ . The bundle  $E_1$  satisfying the algebraic relation (3.1) is called an almost quaternionic structure. A manifold with

an almost quaternionic structure is called an almost quaternionic manifold (cf. [6,14]).

Let  $N_2$  be another quaternionic Kaehler manifold with metric  $h_2$ . Note that a local basis of almost Hermitian structures  $\psi_1, \psi_2, \psi_3$  of the quaternionic Kaehler structure  $E_2$  of  $N_2$  satisfy the above algebraic relation (3.1), and there exist local 1-forms  $b_1$ ,  $b_2$  and  $b_3$  in a coordinate neighborhood  $U_2$  of  $N_2$  satisfying the relation (3.2) in covariant differentiation.

Now we consider a product manifold  $N := N_1 \times N_2$  of two quaternionic Kaehler manifolds  $N_1$  and  $N_2([10])$ . We denote by P and Q the projection operators of the tangent space of N to that of  $N_1$  and  $N_2$ , respectively. Then we have

$$P^2 = P$$
,  $Q^2 = Q$ ,  $PQ = 0 = QP$ .

Setting F = P - Q, then we obtain  $F^2 = I$ , i.e., F is an almost product structure on N. Moreover, we define a Riemannian metric h on N by

$$h(\tilde{X}, \tilde{Y}) = h_1(P\tilde{X}, P\tilde{Y}) + h_2(Q\tilde{X}, Q\tilde{Y})$$

for any vector fields  $\tilde{X}$  and  $\tilde{Y}$  of N. Then we have

$$h(F\tilde{X}, \tilde{Y}) = h(F\tilde{Y}, \tilde{X}).$$

For any vector field  $\tilde{X}$  on N we put

(3.3) 
$$heta_s ilde{X} = \phi_s P ilde{X} + \psi_s Q ilde{X}, \ s=1,2,3.$$

Now we consider the vector bundle E over N generated by  $\{\theta_s = \phi_s \oplus \psi_s : s = 1, 2, 3\}$ , where  $\{\phi_s : s = 1, 2, 3\}$  and  $\{\psi_s : s = 1, 2, 3\}$  are local bases of quaternionic Kaehler structures  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  respectively. Then, for any local coordinate neighborhood  $U_1 \times U_2$ , we see that the local basis of almost Hermitian structures  $\theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3$  satisfies the algebraic relation (3.1). Moreover we know from (3.3) that

(3.4) 
$$P\theta_s = \phi_s P, \, Q\theta_s = \psi_s Q.$$

Let N be a Riemannian product manifold of quaternionic Kaehler manifolds with the almost product structure F, and  $\{\theta_s: s=1,2,3\}$  a canonical local basis of the almost quaternionic structure. Let f:

 $M \longrightarrow N$  be an isometric immersion of a Riemannian manifold M into N. If  $Ff_*(T_xM) \subset f_*(T_xM)$  (resp.  $Ff_*(T_xM) \subset f_*(T_xM)^{\perp}$ ) for each  $x \in M$ , then f is said to be an F-invariant (resp. F-anti-invariant) immersion. f is called an invariant(resp. totally real) immersion if for each  $x \in M$ ,  $f_*T_xM$  is invariant(resp. totally real) subspace under  $\{\theta_s; s = 1, 2, 3\}$  (cf. [3,10,11]).

Let  $N_1$  be a quaternionic Kaehler manifold with a local basis  $\{\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_3\}$  of  $E_1$ . Let Q(X) be the so-called quaternionic section determined by X, which is a 4-plane spanned by  $\{X, \phi_s X : s = 1, 2, 3\}$ , where X is a unit vector on  $N_1$ . Any 2-plane in a quaternionic section is called a quaternionic plane. The sectional curvature of a quaternionic plane  $\pi$  is called the quaternionic sectional curvature of  $\pi$ . A quaternionic Kaehler manifold is a quaternionic space form if its quaternionic sectional curvatures are equal to a constant.

It is well known that a quaternionic Kaehler manifold  $N_1$  is a quaternionic space form with constant quaternionic sectional curvature  $\lambda_1$  if and only if its curvature tensor  $R_1$  is of the form (cf. [6], [14]):

$$R_1(X,Y)Z = \frac{\lambda_1}{4} [h_1(Y,Z)X - h_1(X,Z)Y + \sum_s \{h_1(\phi_s Y, Z)\phi_s X - h_1(\phi_s X, Z)\phi_s Y - 2h_1(\phi_s X, Y)\phi_s Z\}],$$

where X, Y and Z are vector fields on  $N_1$ .

Here and in the sequel, we denote by  $N_1^{n_1}(\lambda_1)$  the real  $4n_1$ -dimensional quaternionic space form of constant quaternionic sectional curvature  $\lambda_1$ .

Let  $N_2^{n_2}(\lambda_2)$  be a real  $4n_2$ -dimensional quaternionic space form with constant quaternionic sectional curvature  $\lambda_2$  and a local basis  $\{\psi_1, \psi_2, \psi_3\}$  of  $E_2$ . Then the curvature tensor  $R_2$  of  $N_2$  is given by

$$egin{aligned} R_2(X,Y)Z &= rac{\lambda_2}{4} ig[ h_2(Y,Z)X - h_2(X,Z)Y \ &+ \sum_s \{h_2(\psi_s Y,Z)\psi_s X - h_2(\psi_s X,Z)\psi_s Y \ &- 2h_2(\psi_s X,Y)\psi_s Z \} ig], \end{aligned}$$

where X, Y and Z are vector fields on  $N_2$ .

Now we consider the product manifold  $N=N_1^{n_1}$   $(\lambda_1)\times N_2^{n_2}$   $(\lambda_2)$  of quaternionic space forms  $N_1^{n_1}$   $(\lambda_1)$  and  $N_2^{n_2}$   $(\lambda_2)$ . Then the curvature tensor  $R_h$  of  $N=N_1^{n_1}(\lambda_1)\times N_2^{n_2}(\lambda_2)$  is given by

 $(3.5) R_{h}(\tilde{X}, \tilde{Y})\tilde{Z} = \alpha \left[ h(\tilde{Y}, \tilde{Z})\tilde{X} - h(\tilde{X}, \tilde{Z})\tilde{Y} + h(F\tilde{Y}, \tilde{Z})F\tilde{X} - h(F\tilde{X}, \tilde{Z})F\tilde{Y} \right. \\ \left. + \sum_{s} \left\{ h(\theta_{s}\tilde{Y}, \tilde{Z})\theta_{s}\tilde{X} - h(\theta_{s}\tilde{X}, \tilde{Z})\theta_{s}\tilde{Y} - 2h(\theta_{s}\tilde{X}, \tilde{Y})\theta_{s}\tilde{Z} \right\} \right. \\ \left. + \sum_{s} \left\{ h(F\theta_{s}\tilde{Y}, \tilde{Z})F\theta_{s}\tilde{X} - h(F\theta_{s}\tilde{X}, \tilde{Z})F\theta_{s}\tilde{Y} - 2h(F\theta_{s}\tilde{X}, \tilde{Y})F\theta_{s}\tilde{Z} \right\} \right] \\ \left. + \beta \left[ h(F\tilde{Y}, \tilde{Z})\tilde{X} - h(F\tilde{X}, \tilde{Z})\tilde{Y} + h(\tilde{Y}, \tilde{Z})F\tilde{X} - h(\tilde{X}, \tilde{Z})F\tilde{Y} \right. \\ \left. + \sum_{s} \left\{ h(F\theta_{s}\tilde{Y}, \tilde{Z})\theta_{s}\tilde{X} - h(F\theta_{s}\tilde{X}, \tilde{Z})\theta_{s}\tilde{Y} + h(\theta_{s}\tilde{Y}, \tilde{Z})F\theta_{s}\tilde{X} \right. \\ \left. - h(\theta_{s}\tilde{X}, \tilde{Z})F\theta_{s}\tilde{Y} - 2h(F\theta_{s}\tilde{X}, \tilde{Y})\theta_{s}\tilde{Z} - 2h(\theta_{s}\tilde{X}, \tilde{Y})F\theta_{s}\tilde{Z} \right\} \right]$ 

for any vector fields  $\tilde{X}, \tilde{Y}$  and  $\tilde{Z}$  on N, where F := P - Q is an almost product structure on N,  $\alpha := \frac{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2}{16}$  and  $\beta := \frac{\lambda_1 - \lambda_2}{16}$  ([10]).

**Remark 3.1.** In the product manifold  $N = N_1^{n_1}$  ( $\lambda_1$ )  $\times$   $N_2^{n_2}$  ( $\lambda_2$ ), if  $n_1 = n_2$  and  $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2$ , then N is an Einstein manifold. In fact, The Ricci tensor  $\rho_h$  of N is given by

$$ho_h( ilde{X}, ilde{Y}) = lpha\{(4(n+4)h( ilde{X}, ilde{Y}) + (Tr_hF)h(F ilde{X}, ilde{Y})\} + eta\{(4(n+4)h(F ilde{X}, ilde{Y}) + (Tr_hF)h( ilde{X}, ilde{Y})\}$$

for any vector fields  $\tilde{X}$  and  $\tilde{Y}$  on N. If  $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2$  (i.e.,  $\beta = 0$ ) and  $n_1 = n_2 = n$  (i.e.,  $Tr_h F = 0$ ), then  $\rho_h = 4(n+4)\alpha h$ . Hence N is an Einstein manifold.

4. Spectral invariants for  $J_f$  of a harmonic map f In this section we consider the target manifold N as  $N=N_1^{n_1}$   $(\lambda)$ 

imes  $N_2^{n_2}$   $(\lambda).$  In this case  $\beta=0.$  We adopt the following notations :

$$\Omega(\tilde{X}, \tilde{Y}) := h(\tilde{X}, F\tilde{Y}),$$
 $\Omega_s(\tilde{X}, \tilde{Y}) := h(\tilde{X}, \theta_s \tilde{Y}),$ 
 $\Theta_s(\tilde{X}, \tilde{Y}) := h(\tilde{X}, F\theta_s \tilde{Y}),$ 
 $\Omega_s \boxtimes \Theta_s(\tilde{X}, \tilde{Y}) := \Omega_s(\tilde{X}, \tilde{Y}) \Theta_s(\tilde{X}, \tilde{Y}), s = 1, 2, 3$ 

for any vector fields  $\tilde{X}$  and  $\tilde{Y}$  on N. Then for a harmonic map  $f:(M,g)\longrightarrow (N,h)$  we obtain from (3.4) and (3.5)

$$(4.1) Tr(\mathcal{R}_f) = 2(n+16)\alpha[e(f) + (Tr_h F)(Tr_g f^*\Omega)],$$

(4.2)

$$Tr(\mathcal{R}_{f}^{2}) = \sum_{i,j=1}^{m} \sum_{a=1}^{n} h(R_{h}(f_{*}e_{i}, v_{a})f_{*}e_{i}, R_{h}(f_{*}e_{j}, v_{a})f_{*}e_{j})$$

$$= \alpha^{2} \left[ 4(n+32)e(f)^{2} + 56\|f^{*}h\|^{2} + 24\sum_{s} \|f^{*}\Omega_{s}\|^{2} + 56\|f^{*}\Omega\|^{2} + (n+32)(Tr_{g}f^{*}\Omega)^{2} + 24\|f^{*}\Theta_{s}\|^{2} + 4e(f)(Tr_{g}f^{*}\Omega)(Tr_{h}F) \right],$$

$$\begin{aligned} \left\|R^{\tilde{\nabla}}\right\|^{2} &= \sum_{i,j=1}^{m} \sum_{a,b=1}^{n} h(R_{h}(f_{*}e_{i},f_{*}e_{j})v_{a},v_{b})h(R_{h}(f_{*}e_{i},f_{*}e_{j})v_{a},v_{b}) \\ &= \alpha^{2} \left[64e(f)^{2} - 16\|f^{*}h\|^{2} + (4n+18)\sum_{s} \|f^{*}\Omega_{s}\|^{2} \right. \\ &+ 16(Tr_{g}f^{*}\Omega)^{2} - 16\|f^{*}\Omega\|^{2} + (4n+18)\sum_{s} \|f^{*}\Theta_{s}\|^{2} \\ &+ 8\sum_{i,j,s} f^{*}(\Omega_{s} \boxtimes \Theta_{s})(e_{i},e_{j})(Tr_{h}F)\right], \end{aligned}$$

where  $\{v_a: a=1, \dots, n:=n_1+n_2\}$  is a local orthonormal frame field on N and  $\{e_i: i=1, \dots, m\}$  is a local orthonormal frame field on M. Substituting  $(4.1) \sim (4.3)$  into Theorem 2.1, we get

**Proposition 4.1.** Let  $f:(M,g) \longrightarrow N = N^{n_1}(\lambda) \times N^{n_2}(\lambda)$  be a harmonic map of an m-dimensional compact Riemannian manifold (M,g) into an  $n(=n_1+n_2)$ -dimensional product manifold N. Then the coefficients  $a_0(J_f)$ ,  $a_1(J_f)$  and  $a_2(J_f)$  of the asymptotic expansion for the Jacobi operator  $J_f$  are respectively given by

$$(4.4) a_0(J_f) = nVol(M, g),$$

$$egin{align} (4.5) & a_1(J_f) = rac{n}{6} \int_M au_g dv_g \ & + lpha \int_M igl[ 2(n+16)e(f) + (Tr_h F)(Tr_g f^*\Omega) igr] \, dv_g, \end{split}$$

$$(4.6) a_{2}(J_{f}) = \frac{n}{360} \int_{M} [5\tau_{g}^{2} - 2\|\rho_{g}\|^{2} + 2\|R_{g}\|^{2}] dv_{g}$$

$$+ \frac{\alpha^{2}}{12} \int_{M} [8(3n + 88)e(f)^{2} + 352\|f^{*}h\|^{2}$$

$$+ 2(3n + 88)(Tr_{g}f^{*}\Omega)^{2} + 2(63 - 2n) \sum_{s} \|f^{*}\Theta_{s}\|^{2}$$

$$+ 352\|f^{*}\Omega\|^{2} - 8 \sum_{i,j,s} f^{*}(\Omega_{s} \boxtimes \Theta_{s})(e_{i}, e_{j})(Tr_{h}F)$$

$$+ 24e(f)(Tr_{g}f^{*}\Omega)(Tr_{h}F) + 2(63 - 2n) \sum_{s} \|f^{*}\Omega_{s}\|^{2} ] dv_{g}$$

$$+ \frac{1}{6} \int_{M} [2(n + 16)e(f) + (Tr_{h}F)(Tr_{g}f^{*}\Omega)] \tau_{g} dv_{g}.$$

Corollary 4.2. Let f and f' be harmonic maps of a Riemannian manifold (M,g) of constant scalar curvature into  $N=N^{n_1}(\lambda)\times N^{n_2}(\lambda)$  with  $n_1=n_2$ . Assume that  $Spec(J_f)=Spec(J_{f'})$ . Then we obtain (i) E(f)=E(f').

$$\begin{aligned} &(ii) \ \int_{M} \left[ 8(3n+88)e(f)^{2} + 352 \|f^{*}h\|^{2} + 2(3n+88)(Tr_{g}f^{*}\Omega)^{2} \right. \\ &\left. + 2(63-2n) \sum_{s} \|f^{*}\Theta_{s}\|^{2} + 352 \|f^{*}\Omega\|^{2} + 2(63-2n) \sum_{s} \|f^{*}\Omega_{s}\|^{2} \right] dv_{g} \\ &= \int_{M} \left[ 8(3n+88)e(f')^{2} + 352 \|f'^{*}h\|^{2} + 2(3n+88)(Tr_{g}f'^{*}\Omega)^{2} \right. \\ &\left. + 2(63-2n) \sum_{s} \|f'^{*}\Theta_{s}\|^{2} + 352 \|f'^{*}\Omega\|^{2} + 2(63-2n) \sum_{s} \|f'^{*}\Omega_{s}\|^{2} \right] dv_{g} \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* Since  $n_1 = n_2$ ,  $Tr_h F = 0$ . Hence (i) follows from (4.5) and (ii) follows from (i) and (4.6), respectively.

Corollary 4.3. Let f and f' be isometric minimal immersions of (M,g) into  $N=N^{n_1}(\lambda)\times N^{n_2}(\lambda)$  with  $n_1=n_2$ . Assume that  $Spec(J_f)=Spec(J_{f'})$ . Then we have

$$\begin{split} \int_{M} \left[ 2(3n+88)(Tr_{g}f^{*}\Omega)^{2} + 2(63-2n)\sum_{s} \|f^{*}\Theta_{s}\|^{2} \right. \\ \left. + 352\|f^{*}\Omega\|^{2} + 2(63-2n)\sum_{s} \|f^{*}\Omega_{s}\|^{2} \right] dv_{g} \\ = \int_{M} \left[ 2(3n+88)(Tr_{g}f'^{*}\Omega)^{2} + 2(63-2n)\sum_{s} \|f'^{*}\Theta_{s}\|^{2} \right. \\ \left. + 352\|f'^{*}\Omega\|^{2} + 2(63-2n)\sum_{s} \|f'^{*}\Omega_{s}\|^{2} \right] dv_{g}. \end{split}$$

*Proof.* Note that  $Tr_h F = 0$ ,  $e(f) = \frac{m}{2}$  and  $||f^*h||^2 = m$ . Then (4.7) follows from (ii).

Now we prepare the following lemma for later use.

**Lemma 4.4.** Let f be an isometric immersion of a compact Riemannian manifold (M,g) into an almost quaternionic manifold (N,h). Then we have the inequality

$$(4.8) 0 \leq \int_{M} \sum_{s} \left\| f^{*} \Omega_{s} \right\|^{2} dv_{g} \leq 3 dim(M) \operatorname{Vol}(M, g).$$

Moreover,

- (i) the equality  $\int_M \sum_s \|f^*\Omega_s\|^2 dv_g = 0$  holds if and only if the immersion f is totally real, and
- (ii) the equality  $\int_{M} \sum_{s} \|f^* \Omega_s\|^2 dv_g = 3 \text{dim}(M) \text{Vol}(M, g)$  holds if and only if the immersion f is invariant.

*Proof.* The proof is similar to that of Lemma 6.4([13]).

**Proposition 4.5.** Let f and f' be F-anti-invariant minimal immersions of (M,g) into  $QP^n \times QP^n$ . Assume that  $Spec(J_f) = Spec(J_{f'})$ . Then

- (i) if f is a totally real immersion, then so is f', and
- (ii) if f is an invariant immersion, then so is f'.

*Proof.* Note that  $||f^*\Omega||^2 = m = ||f^*h||^2$  and  $||f'^*\Omega||^2 = m = ||f'^*h||^2$ . Since f and f' are F-anti-invariant immersions,  $||f^*\Omega|| = 0 = Tr_g f^*\Omega$ . From this and (4.7), we get

(4.9) 
$$\int_{M} \left[ \sum_{s} \|f^{*}\Theta_{s}\|^{2} + \sum_{s} \|f^{*}\Omega_{s}\|^{2} \right] dv_{g}$$

$$= \int_{M} \left[ \sum_{s} \|f'^{*}\Theta_{s}\|^{2} + \sum_{s} \|f'^{*}\Omega_{s}\|^{2} \right] dv_{g}.$$

Assume that f is a totally real immersion. Then we have  $\sum_s \|f^*\Theta_s\|^2 = 0 = \sum_s \|f^*\Omega_s\|^2$ . Hence the equation (4.9) implies that  $\sum_s \|f'^*\Theta_s\|^2 = 0 = \sum_s \|f'^*\Omega_s\|^2$ . Then Lemma 4.4 implies that f' is a totally real immersion.

Next, assume that f is an invariant immersion. Then we have  $\sum_{s} \|f^*\Theta_s\|^2 = 3m = \|f^*\Omega\|^2$ . From (4.9) we obtain

$$0 = \int_{M} \left[ \left(3m - \sum_{s} \left\| f'^* \Omega_{s} 
ight\|^2 
ight) + \left(3m - \sum_{s} \left\| f'^* \Theta_{s} 
ight\|^2 
ight) \right] dv_{g}.$$

This and (4.8) give  $\sum_{s} \|f'^* \Omega_s\|^2 = 3m$ . Hence Lemma 4.4 shows that f' is also an invariant immersion.

## 5. Proof of Main Theorem

To proceed to the proof of main theorem we need the notion of harmonic morphisms (for details, see [2,7]).

A smooth map  $f:(M,g) \longrightarrow (N,h)$  is a harmonic morphism if  $\nu \circ f$  is a harmonic function in  $f^{-1}(V)$  for every function  $\nu$  which is harmonic in an open set  $V \subset N$  such that  $f^{-1}(V) \neq \phi$ .

A smooth map  $f:(M,g) \longrightarrow (N,h)$  is horizontally weakly conformal if (i)  $f_{*x}:T_xM \longrightarrow T_{f(x)}N$  is surjective at each point x with  $e(f)(x) \neq 0$ , and (ii) there exists a smooth function  $\lambda$  on M such that for each  $x \in M$  with  $e(f)(x) \neq 0$ ,  $f^*h(X,Y) = \lambda^2(x)g(X,Y)$  for  $X,Y \in H_x$ , where  $H_x$  is the orthogonal complement of  $\operatorname{Ker} f_*$  with respect to  $g_x, x \in M$ .

**Lemma 5.1** [2,7]. (i) if dim(M) < dim(N), then every harmonic morphism is constant.

(ii) If  $\dim(M) \ge \dim(N)$ , then a smooth map  $f: (M,g) \longrightarrow (N,h)$  is a harmonic morphism if and only if f is horizontally weakly conformal and harmonic.

It is known (cf.[2]) that the set  $M^* := \{x \in M : e(f)(x) \neq 0\}$  is open and dense in M, the function  $\lambda^2$  is given by  $\lambda^2 = 2e(f)\dim(N)^{-1}$ , and  $||f^*h||^2 = \dim(N)\lambda^4$ . A smooth map  $f: (M,g) \longrightarrow (N,h)$  is a *Riemannian submersion* if it is horizontally weakly conformal with  $\lambda = 1$  on M.

**Proof of Main Theorem.** It is sufficient to show that the function  $\lambda^2$  for f' satisfies  $\lambda^2 = 1$  everywhere on M. Note that  $e(f') = n\lambda^2$  and  $\|f'^*h\|^2 = 2n\lambda^4$ , where n is of quaternionic dimension.

First of all, we show that if f is a harmonic morphism of (M, g) into  $(QP^n \times QP^n, h)$ , then

(5.1) 
$$||Tr_{g}f^{*}\Omega||^{2} = \lambda^{4}(Tr\tilde{F})^{2},$$

$$||f^{*}\Omega||^{2} = ||f^{*}h||^{2} \text{ on } M^{*}.$$

In fact, at each point  $x \in M^*$ , we can define a linear transformation  $\tilde{F}$  of  $H_x$  into itself such that  $F \circ f_* = f_* \circ \tilde{F}$ . Then

$$\tilde{F}^2 = I, g(\tilde{F}X, \tilde{F}Y) = g(X, Y), X, Y \in H_x.$$

Taking an orthonormal basis  $\{e_a; a=1,...,2n\}$  of  $(H_x,g_x)$ , we obtain

$$(Tr_g f^* \Omega)^2 = \left[\sum_{a=1}^{2n} h(f_* e_a, Ff_* e_a)\right]^2 = \left[\sum_{a=1}^{2n} h(f_* e_a, f_* \tilde{F} e_a)\right]^2$$
  
=  $\left[\sum_{a=1}^{2n} \lambda^2 g(e_a, \tilde{F} e_a)\right]^2 =: \lambda^4 (Tr \tilde{F})^2$ 

and

$$||f^*\Omega||^2 = \sum_{a,b=1}^{2n} h(f_*e_a, Ff_*e_b)^2 = \sum_{a,b=1}^{2n} h(f_*e_a, f_*\tilde{F}e_b)^2$$
  
=  $2n\lambda^4 = ||f^*h||^2$ ,

where  $Tr\tilde{F}$  is constant on  $M^*$ .

Next, at each point  $x \in M^*$ , we define a linear transformation  $\tilde{\theta}_s$  of  $H_x$  into itself such that  $\theta_s \circ f_* = f_* \circ \tilde{\theta}_s$ . Then we obtain

$$\begin{split} \tilde{\theta}_s^2 &= -I(s=1,2,3), \tilde{\theta}_1 \circ \tilde{\theta}_2 = -\tilde{\theta}_2 \circ \tilde{\theta}_1 = \tilde{\theta}_3 \\ \tilde{\theta}_2 \circ \tilde{\theta}_3 &= -\tilde{\theta}_3 \circ \tilde{\theta}_2 = \tilde{\theta}_1, \tilde{\theta}_3 \circ \tilde{\theta}_1 = -\tilde{\theta}_1 \circ \tilde{\theta}_3 = \tilde{\theta}_2, \\ g(\tilde{\theta}_s X, \tilde{\theta}_s Y) &= g(X,Y) \text{ and } g(\tilde{\theta}_s X, X) = 0, X, Y \in H_x. \end{split}$$

Also we get

(5.2) 
$$||f^*\Theta_s||^2 = ||f^*\Omega_s||^2 = ||f^*h||^2 = 2n\lambda^4.$$

Now, let f and f' be harmonic morphisms (M,g) into  $(QP^n \times QP^n,h)$  with  $Spec(J_f) = Spec(J_{f'})$ . Using (5.1) and (5.2), we have from Corollary 4.2

$$(i') E(f) = E(f')$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{(ii')} \int_{M} \left\{ 8(3n + 88)e(f)^{2} + 4(365 - 6n) \|f^{*}h\|^{2} + 2(3n + 88)(Tr_{g}f^{*}\Omega)^{2} \right\} dv_{g} \\ &= \int_{M} \left\{ 8(3n + 88)e(f')^{2} + 4(365 - 6n) \|f'^{*}h\|^{2} + 2(3n + 88)(Tr_{g}f'^{*}\Omega)^{2} \right\} dv_{g}. \end{aligned}$$

If f is a Riemannian submersion, then e(f) = n and  $\|f^*h\|^2 = 2n$ . Hence (i') is equivalent to  $\int_M \lambda^2 dv_g = \int_M dv_g$ , and (ii') is equivalent

to  $\int_M \lambda^4 dv_g = \int_M dv_g$ . Therefore we get  $\lambda^2 = 1$  everywhere on M by the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality. Thus we complete the proof.

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