

Scalar curvature, Kodaira dimension and \widehat{A} -genus

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Abstract

Let (X, g) be a compact Riemannian manifold with quasi-positive Riemannian scalar curvature. If there exists a complex structure J compatible with g, then the Kodaira dimension of (X, J) is equal to $-\infty$ and the canonical bundle K_X is not pseudo-effective. We also introduce the complex Yamabe number $\lambda_c(X)$ for compact complex manifold X, and show that if $\lambda_c(X)$ is greater than 0, then $\kappa(X)$ is equal to $-\infty$; moreover, if X is also spin, then the Hirzebruch A-hat genus $\widehat{A}(X)$ is zero.

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1 Introduction

This is a continuation of our previous paper [38], and we investigate the geometry of Riemannian scalar curvature on compact complex manifolds.

The existences of various positive scalar curvatures are obstructed. For instance, it is wellknown that, if a compact Hermitian manifold has positive *Chern scalar curvature*, then the Kodaira dimension is $-\infty$. On the other hand, a classical result of Lichnerowicz (e.g. [17, Theorem 8.12]) says that if a compact Riemannian spin manifold has positive *Riemannian scalar curvature*, then the \widehat{A} -genus is zero. We state the first main result of this paper.

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Theorem 1.1 Let (X, g) be a compact Riemannian manifold with quasi-positive Riemannian scalar curvature. If there exists a complex structure J compatible with g, then the canonical bundle K_X is not pseudo-effective and the Kodaira dimension $\kappa(X, J)$ is $-\infty$.

Here quasi-positive means non-negative everywhere and strictly positive at some point. As it is well-known, in general the positivity of the Riemannian scalar curvature of (X, J, g) can not imply that of the Chern scalar curvature. As a borderline case, we obtain the second main result of this paper.

Theorem 1.2 Let (X, g) be a compact Riemannian manifold with zero Riemannian scalar curvature. Suppose there exists a complex structure J compatible with g. Then the Kodaira dimension $\kappa(X, J)$ is either $-\infty$ or 0. Moreover, $\kappa(X, J)$ equals 0 if and only if (X, J, ω_g) is a Kähler Calabi–Yau manifold with $\text{Ric}(\omega_g) = 0$.

The proofs of Theorems 1.1 and 1.2 rely on several observations in our previous paper [38] and a new scalar curvature relation in Theorem 3.8.

Note that, on Kähler Calabi–Yau surfaces (e.g. K3 surfaces, bi-elliptic surfaces), there is no Riemannian metrics with quasi-positive scalar curvature (e.g. [18, Theorem A]). However, by Stolz's solution to the Gromov–Lawson conjecture ([27, Theorem A]), on a simply connected Kähler Calabi–Yau manifold with holonomy group SU(2m + 1), there do exist Riemannian metrics with quasi-positive scalar curvature. On the contrary, as an application of Theorems 1.1 and 1.2, we show that those Riemannian metrics with quasi-positive scalar curvature are not compatible with the Calabi–Yau complex structures, and more generally we obtain the following result.

Corollary 1.3 On a compact complex Calabi–Yau manifold X with torsion canonical bundle K_X , there is no Hermitian metric with quasi-positive Riemannian scalar curvature. Moreover, if X is also non-Kähler, then there is no Hermitian metric with non-negative Riemannian scalar curvature.

It is well-known that all compact Kähler Calabi–Yau manifolds have torsion canonical bundle. On the other hand, many non-Kähler Calabi–Yau manifolds also have torsion canonical bundle. For instance, the connected sum $\#_k(\mathbb{S}^3 \times \mathbb{S}^3)$ with $k \ge 2$ ([22]).

On a compact complex manifold X of complex dimension $n \ge 2$, we introduce the complex Yamabe number $\lambda_c(X)$:

$$\lambda_c(X) = \sup_{g \text{ is Hermitian}} \inf_{\widetilde{g} \text{ is conformal to } g} \frac{\int_X s_{\widetilde{g}} dV_{\widetilde{g}}}{\left(\int_X dV_{\widetilde{g}}\right)^{1-\frac{1}{n}}},\tag{1.1}$$

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where $s_{\tilde{g}}$ is the Riemannian scalar curvature of \tilde{g} . Note that in (1.1), if the supremum is taken over all Riemannian metrics, then it is the classical Yamabe number $\lambda(X)$ in conformal geometry. Hence $\lambda(X) \ge \lambda_c(X)$.

Theorem 1.4 Let X be a compact complex manifold. If $\lambda_c(X) > 0$, then $\kappa(X) = -\infty$. Moreover, if X is also spin, then $\widehat{A}(X) = 0$.

According to the results of Gromov–Lawson [13] and Stolz [27], on a simply connected Kähler Calabi–Yau manifold X with dim_C $X \ge 3$, one has $\lambda(X) > 0$ and $\widehat{A}(X) = 0$. However, we have $\lambda_c(X) \le 0$ by Theorem 1.4.

As motivated by Theorems 1.1, 1.2, 1.4, various conjectures described in [38, Section 4] and classical works by Schoen–Yau [30–32], Gromov–Lawson [13], Stolz [27] and LeBrun [18] (see also Zhang [41]), we propose the following conjecture.

Conjecture 1.5 Let X be a compact Kähler manifold with $\kappa(X) = -\infty$. If X has a spin structure, then $\widehat{A}(X) = 0$.

Note that Conjecture 1.5 holds when dim_{$\mathbb{C}} X = 2$ ([18,39]) or 2m + 1. Finally, let's describe some straightforward applications of Theorem 1.1.</sub>

Proposition 1.6 Let X be a compact Kähler threefold. If there exists a Hermitian metric with quasi-positive Riemannian scalar curvature, then X is uniruled, i.e. X is covered by rational curves.

According to the uniruledness conjecture (e.g. [4, Conjecture]), Proposition 1.6 should be true on higher dimensional compact Kähler manifolds.

It is a long-standing open problem to determine whether the six-sphere \mathbb{S}^6 admits a complex structure or not. Now assuming $X := \mathbb{S}^6$ has a complex structure J. As pointed out in [16, p. 122], it is not at all clear whether $\kappa(X, J) = -\infty$, and proving this would seem to be as complicated as to show that there are no divisors on X at all. It is obvious that $c_1(X) = 0 \in H^2(X, \mathbb{Z})$ and it is also proved in [35] that $c_1^{BC}(X, J) \neq 0$. In particular, K_X is not holomorphically torsion. For more related discussions, we refer to [1]. Let \mathscr{S} be the space of Riemannian metrics with non-negative scalar curvature.

Theorem 1.7 If there exists a complex structure J which is compatible with some Riemannian metric $g \in S$, then K_X is not pseudo-effective and

$$\kappa(X, J) = -\infty.$$

It is known that there is no complex structure compatible with metrics in a small neighborhood of the round metric on \mathbb{S}^6 (e.g. [6,20,24,33]).

2 Preliminaries

2.1 Ricci curvature on complex manifolds

Let (X, ω_g) be a compact Hermitian manifold. Locally, we write $\omega_g = \sqrt{-1}g_{i\bar{j}}dz^i \wedge d\bar{z}^j$. The (first Chern-)Ricci form Ric (ω_g) of (X, ω_g) has components

$$R_{i\overline{j}} = -\frac{\partial^2 \log \det(g_{k\overline{\ell}})}{\partial z^i \, \partial \overline{z}^j}$$

which also represents the first Chern class $c_1(X)$ of the complex manifold X (up to a constant). The Chern scalar curvature s_C of (X, ω_g) is given by

$$s_{\rm C} = {\rm tr}_{\omega_g} {\rm Ric}(\omega_g) = g^{i\overline{j}} R_{i\overline{j}}. \tag{2.1}$$

The total Chern scalar curvature of ω_g is

$$\int_X s_{\mathbf{C}} \cdot \omega_g^n = n \int \operatorname{Ric}(\omega_g) \wedge \omega_g^{n-1}, \qquad (2.2)$$

where n is the complex dimension of X.

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2.2 The Bott–Chern classes

The Bott–Chern cohomology on a compact complex manifold X is given by

$$H^{p,q}_{\rm BC}(X) := \frac{{\rm Ker} d \cap \Omega^{p,q}(X)}{{\rm Im} \partial \overline{\partial} \cap \Omega^{p,q}(X)}.$$

Let $\operatorname{Pic}(X)$ be the set of holomorphic line bundles over X. As similar as the first Chern class map $c_1 : \operatorname{Pic}(X) \to H_{\overline{a}}^{1,1}(X)$, there is a *first Bott–Chern class* map

$$c_1^{\text{BC}} : \operatorname{Pic}(X) \to H^{1,1}_{\text{BC}}(X).$$
 (2.3)

Given any holomorphic line bundle $L \to X$ and any Hermitian metric h on L, its curvature form Θ_h is locally given by $-\sqrt{-1}\partial\overline{\partial}\log h$. We define $c_1^{BC}(L)$ to be the class of Θ_h in $H_{BC}^{1,1}(X)$. For a complex manifold X, $c_1^{BC}(X)$ is defined to be $c_1^{BC}(K_X^{-1})$ where K_X^{-1} is the anti-canonical line bundle.

2.3 Special manifolds

Let X be a compact complex manifold.

- (1) A Hermitian metric ω_g is called a Gauduchon metric if $\partial \overline{\partial} \omega_g^{n-1} = 0$. It is proved by Gauduchon ([12]) that, in the conformal class of each Hermitian metric, there exists a unique Gauduchon metric (up to scaling).
- (2) A Hermitian metric ω_g is called a Kähler metric if $d\omega_g = 0$.
- (3) X is called a Calabi–Yau manifold if $c_1(X) = 0 \in H^2(X, \mathbb{Z})$.

2.4 Kodaira dimension of compact complex manifolds

The Kodaira dimension $\kappa(L)$ of a line bundle L over a compact complex manifold X is defined to be

$$\kappa(L) := \limsup_{m \to +\infty} \frac{\log \dim_{\mathbb{C}} H^0(X, L^{\otimes m})}{\log m}$$

and the *Kodaira dimension* $\kappa(X)$ of X is defined as $\kappa(X) := \kappa(K_X)$ where the logarithm of zero is defined to be $-\infty$. In particular, if

$$\dim_{\mathbb{C}} H^0(X, K_X^{\otimes m}) = 0$$

for every $m \ge 1$, then $\kappa(X) = -\infty$.

2.5 Spin manifold and \widehat{A} -genus

Let X be a compact oriented Riemannian manifold. It is called a spin manifold, if it admits a spin structure, i.e. its second Stiefel–Whitney class $w_2(X) = 0$. It is well-known that all compact Calabi–Yau manifolds are spin.

In the following, we shall briefly describe the definition of the \widehat{A} -genus of a compact oriented Riemannian manifold for readers' convenience, and for more necessary background materials, we refer to [17,23-25,37,38] and the references therein. Let $\widehat{A}_i(p_1,\ldots,p_i)$ be the

multiplicative sequence of polynomials in the Pontryagin classes p_i of X belonging to the power series

$$\frac{\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{z}}{\sinh\left(\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{z}\right)} = 1 - \frac{1}{24}z + \frac{7}{2^7 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5}z^2 + \cdots$$

The first few terms are

$$\widehat{A}_1(p_1) = -\frac{1}{24}p_1, \quad \widehat{A}_2(p_1, p_2) = \frac{1}{2^7 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5} \left(-4p_2 + 7p_1^2\right).$$

The \widehat{A} -genus, $\widehat{A}(X)$ is by definition the real number $(\sum_i \widehat{A}_i(p_1, \ldots, p_i))[X]$, where [X] means evaluation of the cohomology class on the fundamental cycle of X. Since $p_i \in H^{4i}(X, \mathbb{Z})$, $\widehat{A}(X)$ is zero unless dim_{\mathbb{R}} $X \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$. Moreover, if X is a spin manifold, $\widehat{A}(X)$ is an integer. The following result is well-known (for more historical explanations, we refer to [36, p. 420] and [17, Theorem 8.12] and the reference therein) and we shall use it frequently in the sequel:

Lemma 2.1 On a compact spin manifold X, if it admits a Riemannian metric with quasipositive scalar curvature, then $\widehat{A}(X) = 0$.

3 The Riemannian scalar curvature and Kodaira dimension

Let (X, ω) be a compact Hermitian manifold. We first give several computational results.

Lemma 3.1 For any smooth real valued function $f \in C^{\infty}(X, \mathbb{R})$, we have

$$\overline{\partial}^*(f\omega) = f\overline{\partial}^*\omega + \sqrt{-1}\partial f.$$
(3.1)

Proof For any smooth (1, 0)-form $\eta \in \Gamma(X, T^{*1,0}X)$, we have the global inner product

$$\begin{pmatrix} \overline{\partial}^*(f\omega), \eta \end{pmatrix} = (f\omega, \overline{\partial}\eta) = (\omega, f\overline{\partial}\eta) = (\omega, \overline{\partial}(f\eta)) - (\omega, \overline{\partial}f \wedge \eta) = (f\overline{\partial}^*\omega, \eta) - (\omega, \overline{\partial}f \wedge \eta) = (f\overline{\partial}^*\omega, \eta) + \sqrt{-1} (\partial f, \eta)$$

where the last identity follows from the fact that f is real valued.

Lemma 3.2 For any (1, 0) form η and real valued function $f \in C^{\infty}(X, \mathbb{R})$, we have

$$\partial^*(f\eta) = f \partial^* \eta - \langle \eta, \partial f \rangle. \tag{3.2}$$

Proof For any smooth function $\varphi \in C^{\infty}(X)$, we have

$$\begin{pmatrix} \partial^*(f\eta), \varphi \end{pmatrix} = (f\eta, \partial\varphi) = (\eta, f\partial\varphi) = (\eta, \partial(f\varphi) - \partial f \cdot \varphi) \\ = (f\partial^*\eta, \varphi) - (\langle \eta, \partial f \rangle, \varphi)$$

and we obtain (3.2).

Let $\omega_f = e^f \omega$ for some $f \in C^{\infty}(X, \mathbb{R})$. We denote by $\overline{\partial}_f^*, \overline{\partial}_f^*$ and $\partial^*, \overline{\partial}^*$ the adjoint operators taking with respect to ω_f and ω respectively. The local and global inner products with respect to ω and ω_f are indicated by $\langle \bullet, \bullet \rangle$, (\bullet, \bullet) and $\langle \bullet, \bullet \rangle_f$, $(\bullet, \bullet)_f$ respectively.

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Lemma 3.3 For any (1, 0) form η and real valued function $f \in C^{\infty}(X, \mathbb{R})$, we have

$$\partial_f^* \eta = e^{-f} \left[\partial^* \eta - (n-1) \langle \eta, \partial f \rangle \right].$$
(3.3)

Proof For any $\varphi \in C^{\infty}(X)$, we have

$$\left(\partial_f^*\eta,\varphi\right)_f = (\eta,\,\partial\varphi)_f = (e^{(n-1)f}\eta,\,\partial\varphi) = \left(\partial^*\left(e^{(n-1)f}\eta\right),\varphi\right)$$

where the second identity holds since η is a (1, 0)-form. By (3.2), we obtain

$$\left(\partial_f^*\eta,\varphi\right)_f = \left(e^{(n-1)f}\partial^*\eta,\varphi\right) - \left(\langle\eta,\partial e^{(n-1)f}\rangle,\varphi\right).$$

Hence,

$$\left(\partial_f^*\eta,\varphi\right)_f = \left(e^{-f}\partial^*\eta,\varphi\right)_f - \left((n-1)e^{-f}\langle\eta,\partial f\rangle,\varphi\right)_f$$

which verifies (3.3).

Lemma 3.4 We have

$$\overline{\partial}_{f}^{*}\omega_{f} = \overline{\partial}^{*}\omega + (n-1)\sqrt{-1}\partial f.$$
(3.4)

Proof For any $\eta \in \Gamma(X, T^{*1,0}X)$, we have

$$\begin{split} \left(\overline{\partial}_{f}^{*}\omega_{f},\eta\right)_{f} &= \left(\omega_{f},\overline{\partial}\eta\right)_{f} = \left(e^{(n-1)f}\cdot\omega,\overline{\partial}\eta\right)\\ &= \left(\overline{\partial}^{*}\left(e^{(n-1)f}\cdot\omega\right),\eta\right). \end{split}$$

Now by (3.1), we have

$$\begin{split} \left(\overline{\partial}_{f}^{*}\omega_{f},\eta\right)_{f} &= \left(e^{(n-1)f}\left[\overline{\partial}^{*}\omega+(n-1)\sqrt{-1}\partial f\right],\eta\right)\\ &= \left(\overline{\partial}^{*}\omega+(n-1)\sqrt{-1}\partial f,\eta\right)_{f} \end{split}$$

since η is a (1, 0) form. Therefore, we obtain (3.4).

Lemma 3.5 We have

$$\sqrt{-1}\partial_{f}^{*}\overline{\partial}_{f}^{*}\omega_{f} = e^{-f} \left(\sqrt{-1}\partial^{*}\overline{\partial}^{*}\omega - (n-1)\left(\Delta_{d}f + \mathrm{tr}_{\omega}\sqrt{-1}\partial\overline{\partial}f\right) + (n-1)^{2}|\partial f|^{2}\right).$$
(3.5)

Proof By formulas (3.2) and (3.4), we have

$$\begin{split} \sqrt{-1}\partial_f^* \overline{\partial}_f^* \omega_f &= \sqrt{-1}\partial_f^* \left(\overline{\partial}^* \omega + (n-1)\sqrt{-1}\partial f \right) \\ &= e^{-f} \left(\sqrt{-1}\partial^* \overline{\partial}^* \omega - \sqrt{-1}(n-1)\langle \overline{\partial}^* \omega, \partial f \rangle - (n-1)\partial^* \partial f + (n-1)^2 |\partial f|^2 \right). \end{split}$$

We also observe that

$$\sqrt{-1}\langle \overline{\partial}^* \omega, \partial f \rangle = \overline{\partial}^* \overline{\partial} f + \operatorname{tr}_{\omega} \sqrt{-1} \partial \overline{\partial} f.$$
(3.6)

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Indeed, for any text function $\varphi \in C^{\infty}(X)$, we have

$$\left(\sqrt{-1}\langle\overline{\partial}^*\omega,\partial f\rangle,\varphi\right) = \sqrt{-1}\left(\overline{\partial}^*\omega,\varphi\partial f\right)$$
$$= \sqrt{-1}\left(\omega,\overline{\partial}\varphi\wedge\partial f + \varphi\overline{\partial}\partial f\right)$$
$$= (\overline{\partial}f,\overline{\partial}\varphi) + (\omega,\varphi\cdot\sqrt{-1}\partial\overline{\partial}f)$$
$$= (\overline{\partial}^*\overline{\partial}f,\varphi) + (\mathrm{tr}_{\omega}\sqrt{-1}\partial\overline{\partial}f,\varphi)$$
$$O_{\mathcal{A}}(f) = d^*df = \overline{\partial}^*\overline{\partial}f + \partial^*\partial f, \text{ we obtain (3.5).}$$

which gives (3.6). Since $\Delta_d f = d^* df = \overline{\partial}^* \overline{\partial} f + \partial^* \partial f$, we obtain (3.5).

The following observation is one of the key ingredients in the curvature computations.

Lemma 3.6 Let (X, ω) be a compact Hermitian manifold. Then

$$\langle \overline{\partial \partial}^* \omega, \omega \rangle = |\overline{\partial}^* \omega|^2 - \sqrt{-1} \partial^* \overline{\partial}^* \omega.$$
(3.7)

In particular, if ω is a Gauduchon metric, we have

$$\langle \overline{\partial}\overline{\partial}^*\omega, \omega \rangle = |\overline{\partial}^*\omega|^2.$$
 (3.8)

Proof For any smooth real valued function $\varphi \in C^{\infty}(X, \mathbb{R})$, we have

$$\begin{pmatrix} \langle \overline{\partial}\overline{\partial}^*\omega, \omega \rangle, \varphi \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \overline{\partial}\overline{\partial}^*\omega, \varphi \omega \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \overline{\partial}^*\omega, \overline{\partial}^*(\varphi \omega) \end{pmatrix}$$
$$= \begin{pmatrix} \overline{\partial}^*\omega, \varphi \overline{\partial}^*\omega + \sqrt{-1}\partial\varphi \end{pmatrix}$$
$$= \begin{pmatrix} |\overline{\partial}^*\omega|^2, \varphi \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} -\sqrt{-1}\partial^*\overline{\partial}^*\omega, \varphi \end{pmatrix}$$

where we use formula (3.1) in the second identity. Since φ is an arbitrary smooth real function, we obtain (3.7). If ω is Gauduchon, i.e. $\partial \overline{\partial} \omega^{n-1} = 0$, we have $\partial^* \overline{\partial}^* \omega = 0$, and so (3.8) follows from (3.7).

Corollary 3.7 On a compact Hermitian manifold (X, ω) , the Riemannian scalar curvature s and the Chern scalar curvature s_{C} are related by

$$s = 2s_{\rm C} - 2\sqrt{-1}\partial^*\overline{\partial}^*\omega - \frac{1}{2}|T|^2.$$
(3.9)

where T is the torsion tensor of the Hermitian metric ω .

Proof By Lemma 6.2 in the Appendix, we have

$$s = 2s_{\rm C} + \left(\langle \overline{\partial} \overline{\partial}^* \omega + \partial \partial^* \omega, \omega \rangle - 2 |\overline{\partial}^* \omega|^2 \right) - \frac{1}{2} |T|^2$$

Hence, by formula (3.7) we obtain (3.9).

Let $\omega_f = e^f \omega$ be a smooth Gauduchon metric (i.e. $\partial \overline{\partial} \omega_f^{n-1} = 0$) in the conformal class of ω for some smooth function $f \in C^{\infty}(X, \mathbb{R})$.

Theorem 3.8 The total Chern scalar curvature of the Gauduchon metric ω_f is

$$n \int_{X} \operatorname{Ric}(\omega_{f}) \wedge \omega_{f}^{n-1} = \int_{X} e^{(n-1)f} \cdot \left(\frac{s}{2} + \frac{|T|^{2}}{4}\right) \omega^{n} + (n-1)^{2} \|\partial f\|_{\omega_{f}}^{2}.$$
 (3.10)

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Proof Indeed, since ω_f satisfies $\partial \overline{\partial} \omega_f^{n-1} = 0$, we have

$$n \int_X \operatorname{Ric}(\omega_f) \wedge \omega_f^{n-1} = n \int_X \operatorname{Ric}(\omega) \wedge \omega_f^{n-1}$$

= $n \int_X e^{(n-1)f} \cdot \operatorname{Ric}(\omega) \wedge \omega^{n-1} = \int_X e^{(n-1)f} \cdot s_{\mathbb{C}} \cdot \omega^n$
= $\int_X e^{(n-1)f} \left(\frac{s}{2} + \frac{|T|^2}{4}\right) \omega^n + \int_X e^{(n-1)f} \cdot \sqrt{-1} \partial^* \overline{\partial}^* \omega \cdot \omega^n,$

where we use the scalar curvature relation (3.9) in the third identity. Since ω_f is Gauduchon, we have $\partial_f^* \overline{\partial}_f^* \omega_f = 0$. By formula (3.5), we have

$$\sqrt{-1}\partial^*\overline{\partial}^*\omega = (n-1)\left(\Delta_d f + \mathrm{tr}_\omega\sqrt{-1}\partial\overline{\partial}f\right) - (n-1)^2|\partial f|^2.$$
(3.11)

It is easy to show that

$$\int_X e^{(n-1)f} \mathrm{tr}_\omega \sqrt{-1} \partial \overline{\partial} f \cdot \omega^n = n \int_X \sqrt{-1} \partial \overline{\partial} f \wedge \omega_f^{n-1} = 0$$

and

$$\int_X e^{(n-1)f} |\partial f|^2 \omega^n = \|\partial f\|_{\omega_f}^2.$$

Moreover,

$$\int_X e^{(n-1)f} \Delta_d f \omega^n = \left(d^* df, e^{(n-1)f} \right)$$
$$= (n-1) \left(df, e^{(n-1)f} df \right)$$
$$= (n-1) \left(df, df \right)_f$$

since df is a 1-form. Finally, we obtain

$$\int_{X} e^{(n-1)f} \cdot \sqrt{-1} \partial^* \overline{\partial}^* \omega \cdot \omega^n = (n-1)^2 \|df\|_{\omega_f}^2 - (n-1)^2 \|\partial f\|_{\omega_f}^2 = (n-1)^2 \|\partial f\|_{\omega_f}^2.$$

Putting all together, we get (3.10).

The proof of Theorem 1.1 Let ω be the Hermitian metric of (g, J). Let $\omega_f = e^f \omega$ be a smooth Gauduchon metric in the conformal class of ω . If the Riemannian scalar curvature *s* of ω is quasi-positive, then by formula (3.10), the total Chern scalar curvature of the Gauduchon metric ω_f is strictly positive, i.e.

$$n\int_X \operatorname{Ric}(\omega_f) \wedge \omega_f^{n-1} > 0$$

By [38, Theorem 1.1] and [38, Corollary 3.3], K_X is not pseudo-effective and $\kappa(X, J) = -\infty$.

The following result follows from the proofs of Theorem 1.1 and [38, Lemma 3.2].

Corollary 3.9 Let (X, ω) be a compact Hermitian manifold such that the background Riemannian metric has quasi-positive Riemannian scalar curvature, then there exists a (possible different) Hermitian metric $\tilde{\omega}$ with positive Chern scalar curvature.

The proof of Theorem 1.2 Suppose $\kappa(X, J) \ge 0$. If ω_g is not a Kähler metric, i.e. the torsion $|T|^2$ is not identically zero, then by formula (3.10), there exists a Gauduchon metric with positive total Chern scalar curvature. Hence, by [38, Corollary 3.3] we have $\kappa(X, J) = -\infty$ which is a contradiction. Therefore, ω_g is a Kähler metric and so in formula (3.10), f is a constant and T = 0. That means, ω_g is a Kähler metric with zero scalar curvature. Since $\kappa(X, J) \ge 0$, by [38, Corollary 1.6], X is a Calabi–Yau manifold and $\kappa(X, J) = 0$. By the Calabi–Yau theorem ([40]), there exists a Kähler Ricci-flat metric ω_{CY} , i.e. $Ric(\omega_{CY}) = 0$. Hence,

$$\operatorname{Ric}(\omega_g) = \operatorname{Ric}(\omega_g) - \operatorname{Ric}(\omega_{\mathrm{CY}}) = \sqrt{-1}\partial\overline{\partial}F$$

where $F = \log\left(\frac{\omega_{CY}^n}{\omega_g^n}\right)$. Since ω_g has zero scalar curvature, we have

$$\Delta_{\omega_g} F = \operatorname{tr}_{\omega_g} \sqrt{-1} \partial \partial F = 0$$

which implies F = const and $\text{Ric}(\omega_g) = 0$.

If (X, J, ω_g) is a Kähler Calabi–Yau manifold with $\operatorname{Ric}(\omega_g) = 0$, it is well-known that K_X is a holomorphic torsion, i.e. $K_X^{\otimes \ell} = \mathcal{O}_X$ for some positive integer ℓ . Hence, $\kappa(X, J) = 0$. \Box

As an application of Theorems 1.1 and 1.2, we have the following result.

Corollary 3.10 Let (X, g) be a compact Riemannian manifold with nonnegative Riemannian scalar curvature. If there exists a complex structure J which is compatible with g, then either

(1) $\kappa(X, J) = -\infty$; or (2) $\kappa(X, J) = 0$ and (X, J, g) is a Kähler Calabi–Yau.

Proposition 3.11 Suppose X is a compact complex manifold with $c_1^{BC}(X) \leq 0$. Then

(1) there exists a Hermitian metric with non-positive Riemannian scalar curvature;

(2) there is no Hermitian metric with quasi-positive Riemannian scalar curvature.

Moreover, X admits a Hermitian metric g with zero Riemannian scalar curvature if and only if (X, g) is a Kähler Calabi–Yau.

Proof Note that by definition there exists a *d*-closed non-positive (1, 1) form η which represents $c_1^{BC}(X)$. By [28, Theorem 1.3], there exists a non-Kähler Gauduchon metric ω_G such that

$$\operatorname{Ric}(\omega_G) = \eta \leq 0.$$

Hence, for any Gauduchon metric ω ,

$$\int_{X} \operatorname{Ric}(\omega) \wedge \omega^{n-1} = \int_{X} \operatorname{Ric}(\omega_{G}) \wedge \omega^{n-1} \le 0.$$
(3.12)

(1). Since ω_G is Gauduchon, by formula (3.9), we have

$$s = 2s_{\rm C} - \frac{1}{2}|T|^2 = 2{\rm tr}_{\omega_G}{\rm Ric}(\omega_G) - \frac{1}{2}|T|^2 \le 0.$$

(2). If there exists a Hermitian metric with quasi-positive Riemannian scalar curvature, then it induces a Gauduchon metric with positive total Chern scalar curvature which is a contradiction.

Suppose X admits a Hermitian metric g with zero Riemannian scalar curvature, then by formulas (3.10) and (3.12), we have T = 0 and f = 0, i.e. (X, ω_g) is a Kähler manifold with zero scalar curvature. Since $c_1^{BC}(X) = c_1(X) \le 0$, we have $\text{Ric}(\omega_g) = 0$.

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The proof of Corollary 1.3 If K_X is a torsion, i.e. $K_X^{\otimes m} = \mathcal{O}_X$ for some $m \ge 1$, then $\kappa(X) = 0$. The first part of Corollary 1.3 follows from Theorem 1.1, and the second part follows from Theorem 1.2.

The proof of Proposition 1.6 By Theorem 1.1, K_X is not pseudo-effective and $\kappa(X) = -\infty$. Hence by [7, Corollary 1.2] or [15, Corollary 1.4], we conclude X is uniruled.

The proof of Theorem 1.7 Since $H^2(X, \mathbb{R}) = 0$, the Hermitian metric (g, J) is not Kähler. Then Theorem 1.7 follows from Theorem 1.1 and Theorem 1.2.

4 The Yamabe number, \widehat{A} -genus and Kodaira dimension

Let (X, g_0) be a compact Riemannian manifold with real dimension 2n. The Yamabe invariant $\lambda(X, g_0)$ of the conformal class $[g_0]$ is defined as

$$\lambda(X, g_0) = \inf_{g = e^f g_0, f \in C^{\infty}(X, \mathbb{R})} \frac{\int_X s_g dV_g}{\left(\int_X dV_g\right)^{1 - \frac{1}{n}}}$$
(4.1)

where s_g is the Riemannian scalar curvature of g. Moreover, one can define the Yamabe number

$$\lambda(X) = \sup_{\text{all Riemannian metric } g} \lambda(X, g).$$
(4.2)

As analogous to (4.2), on a compact complex manifold X, one can define the complex version

$$\lambda_c(X) = \sup_{\text{all Hermitian metric } g} \lambda(X, g).$$
(4.3)

Theorem 4.1 Let X be a compact complex manifold. If $\lambda_c(X) > 0$, then $\kappa(X) = -\infty$. Moreover, if X is also spin, then $\widehat{A}(X) = 0$.

Proof Suppose $\lambda_c(X) > 0$, then there exists a Hermitian metric g_0 such that

$$\lambda(X, g_0) = \inf_{g \in [g_0]} \frac{\int_X s_g dV_g}{\left(\int_X dV_g\right)^{1 - \frac{1}{n}}} > 0$$

Let $\omega_f = e^f \omega_{g_0}$ be a Gauduchon metric in the conformal class of ω_{g_0} . Hence, ω_f has positive total Riemannian scalar curvature

$$\int_X s_f \cdot \omega_f^n > 0.$$

Moreover, by formula (3.9), the total Chern scalar curvature of ω_f is

$$\int_{X} (s_{\rm C})_f \cdot \omega_f^n = \int_{X} \frac{s_f}{2} \cdot \omega_f^n + \frac{1}{4} \int_{X} |T_f|_f^2 \cdot \omega_f^n > 0, \tag{4.4}$$

where we use the fact that ω_f is Gauduchon, i.e. $\partial_f^* \overline{\partial}_f^* \omega_f = 0$. Therefore, the Gauduchon metric ω_f has positive total Chern scalar curvature, and by [38, Corollary 3.2], $\kappa(X) = -\infty$. We also have $\lambda(X) \ge \lambda_c(X) > 0$. On the other hand, by a straightforward calculation ([29, Lemma 1.2]), one can show that $\lambda(X) > 0$ if and only if there exists a Riemannian metric with positive Riemannian scalar curvature. Hence, by Lichnerowicz's result (e.g. Lemma 2.1), if X is spin and $\lambda_c(X) > 0$, then $\widehat{A}(X) = 0$.

Note that on a simply connected Kähler Calabi–Yau manifold X with dim_C X = 2m + 1, one has $\lambda(X) > 0$ and $\widehat{A}(X) = 0$. However, $\lambda_c(X) \le 0$.

Question 4.2 On a compact Kähler (or complex) manifold *X*, find sufficient and necessary conditions such that $\lambda(X)$ and $\lambda_c(X)$ have the same sign, or $\lambda(X) = \lambda_c(X)$.

A result along this line is

Corollary 4.3 Let X be a simply connected compact complex manifold with dim_{\mathbb{C}} $X \ge 3$. If $\lambda_c(X)$ has the same sign as $\lambda(X)$, then $\kappa(X) = -\infty$.

Proof By Gromov–Lawson [13] and Stolz [27], if X is a simply connected complex manifold with dim_C $X \ge 3$, then X has a Riemannian metric with positive scalar curvature, hence $\lambda(X) > 0$ and so $\lambda_c(X) > 0$. By Theorem 4.1, we obtain $\kappa(X) = -\infty$.

Finally, we want to present a nice result of LeBrun, which answers Conjecture 1.5 affirmatively when X is a compact spin Kähler surface (for related works, see also [14] and [20]):

Theorem 4.4 [18, Theorem A] Let X be a compact Kähler surface, then

$$\begin{cases} \lambda(X) > 0 \text{ if and only if } \kappa(X) = -\infty; \\ \lambda(X) = 0 \text{ if and only if } \kappa(X) = 0 \text{ or } 1; \\ \lambda(X) < 0 \text{ if and only if } \kappa(X) = 2. \end{cases}$$

$$(4.5)$$

According to Theorems 1.1, 1.2, 1.4 and [38, Theorem 1.1], there should be some analogous results for $\lambda_c(X)$ on compact Kähler manifolds, which will be addressed in future studies. For some related settings, we refer to [2,3,8,21] and the references therein.

5 Examples on compact non-Kähler Calabi–Yau surfaces

In this section, we discuss two special Calabi–Yau surfaces of class VII. One is the diagonal Hopf surface $\mathbb{S}^1 \times \mathbb{S}^3$ and the other one is the Inoue surface. It is well-known, they are non-Kähler Calabi–Yau surfaces with Kodaira dimension $-\infty$, $b_1(X) = 1$ and $b_2(X) = 0$. We show by the following example that the converses of Theorems 1.1 and 1.4 are not valid in general:

Proposition 5.1 For every Inoue surface X, it has $\kappa(X) = -\infty$ and $\widehat{A}(X) = 0$. However, it can not support a Hermitian metric with non-negative Riemannian scalar curvature. In particular, $\lambda_c(X) \leq 0$.

Proof Since X is a non-Kähler Calabi–Yau manifold with $b_2(X) = 0$, one can see $c_1^2 = 0$ and $c_2 = 0$ (e.g. [5, Proposition 19.2 in Chapter V]). Hence, by the index theorem, we have

$$\widehat{A}(X) = -\frac{1}{8}\tau(X) = -\frac{1}{24}(c_1^2 - c_2) = 0.$$

On the other hand, on each Inoue surface, there exists a smooth Gauduchon metric with nonpositive Ricci curvature. Indeed, let $(w, z) \in \mathbb{H} \times \mathbb{C}$ be the holomorphic coordinates, then by the precise definition of each Inoue surface ([9,10,25,34]), it is easy to see that the metric $h^{-1} = [\operatorname{Im}(w)]^{-1}(dw \wedge dz) \otimes (d\overline{w} \wedge d\overline{z})$ (resp. $h^{-1} = [\operatorname{Im}(w)]^{-2}(dw \wedge dz) \otimes (d\overline{w} \wedge d\overline{z})$)

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is a globally defined Hermitian metric on the anti-canonical bundle of S_M (resp. $S_{N,p,q,r;t}^+$) (e.g. [9, Section 6]). Hence, the Chern Ricci curvature of S_M is

$$-\sqrt{-1}\partial\overline{\partial}\log h^{-1} = \sqrt{-1}\partial\overline{\partial}\log[\operatorname{Im}(w)] = -\frac{\sqrt{-1}}{4}\frac{dw \wedge d\overline{w}}{[\operatorname{Im}(w)]^2},$$

which also represents $c_1^{BC}(X)$. By Theorem [28, Theorem 1.3], there exists a Gauduchon metric ω_G with

$$\operatorname{Ric}(\omega_G) = -\frac{\sqrt{-1}}{4} \frac{dw \wedge d\overline{w}}{[\operatorname{Im}(w)]^2} \le 0.$$

(Note also that the Riemannian scalar curvature of ω_G is strictly negative according to (3.9).) Hence, for any Gauduchon metric ω , the total Chern scalar curvature

$$2\int_X \operatorname{Ric}(\omega) \wedge \omega = 2\int_X \operatorname{Ric}(\omega_G) \wedge \omega < 0.$$

If X admits a Hermitian metric ω with non-negative Riemannian scalar curvature, then by formula (3.10), there exists a Gauduchon metric with positive total Chern scalar curvature. This is a contradiction. We can deduce similar contradictions for $S_{N,p,q,r;t}^{\pm}$.

A straightforward computation shows that on diagonal Hopf surfaces $\mathbb{S}^1 \times \mathbb{S}^3$, there exist Hermitian metrics ω_+ , ω_- , ω_0 with positive, negative and zero Riemannian scalar curvature respectively ([24, Section 6]). However, their Chern scalar curvatures are all positive.

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6 Appendix: The scalar curvature relation on compact complex manifolds

Let's recall some elementary settings (e.g. [24, Section 2]). Let (M, g, ∇) be a 2*n*-dimensional Riemannian manifold with the Levi–Civita connection ∇ . The tangent bundle of *M* is also denoted by $T_{\mathbb{R}}M$. The Riemannian curvature tensor of (M, g, ∇) is

$$R(X, Y, Z, W) = g\left(\nabla_X \nabla_Y Z - \nabla_Y \nabla_X Z - \nabla_{[X,Y]} Z, W\right)$$

for tangent vectors $X, Y, Z, W \in T_{\mathbb{R}}M$. Let $T_{\mathbb{C}}M = T_{\mathbb{R}}M \otimes \mathbb{C}$ be the complexification. We can extend the metric g and the Levi–Civita connection ∇ to $T_{\mathbb{C}}M$ in the \mathbb{C} -linear way. Hence for any $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{C}$ and $X, Y, Z, W \in T_{\mathbb{C}}M$, we have

$$R(aX, bY, cZ, dW) = abcd \cdot R(X, Y, Z, W).$$

Let (M, g, J) be an almost Hermitian manifold, i.e., $J : T_{\mathbb{R}}M \to T_{\mathbb{R}}M$ with $J^2 = -1$, and for any $X, Y \in T_{\mathbb{R}}M$, g(JX, JY) = g(X, Y). The Nijenhuis tensor $N_J : \Gamma(M, T_{\mathbb{R}}M) \times \Gamma(M, T_{\mathbb{R}}M) \to \Gamma(M, T_{\mathbb{R}}M)$ is defined as

$$N_J(X, Y) = [X, Y] + J[JX, Y] + J[X, JY] - [JX, JY].$$

The almost complex structure *J* is called *integrable* if $N_J \equiv 0$ and then we call (M, g, J) a Hermitian manifold. We can also extend *J* to $T_{\mathbb{C}}M$ in the \mathbb{C} -linear way. Hence for any $X, Y \in T_{\mathbb{C}}M$, we still have g(JX, JY) = g(X, Y). By Newlander–Nirenberg's theorem,

there exists a real coordinate system $\{x^i, x^I\}$ such that $z^i = x^i + \sqrt{-1}x^I$ are local holomorphic coordinates on M. Let's define a Hermitian form $h: T_{\mathbb{C}}M \times T_{\mathbb{C}}M \to \mathbb{C}$ by

$$h(X,Y) := g(X,Y), \quad X,Y \in T_{\mathbb{C}}M.$$
(6.1)

By J-invariant property of g,

$$h_{ij} := h\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial z^i}, \frac{\partial}{\partial z^j}\right) = 0, \text{ and } h_{\overline{ij}} := h\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \overline{z}^i}, \frac{\partial}{\partial \overline{z}^j}\right) = 0$$
 (6.2)

and

$$h_{i\overline{j}} := h\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial z^{i}}, \frac{\partial}{\partial \overline{z}^{j}}\right) = \frac{1}{2}\left(g_{ij} + \sqrt{-1}g_{iJ}\right).$$
(6.3)

It is obvious that $(h_{i\bar{j}})$ is a positive Hermitian matrix. Let ω be the fundamental two-form associated to the *J*-invariant metric *g*:

$$\omega(X, Y) = g(JX, Y). \tag{6.4}$$

In local complex coordinates,

$$\omega = \sqrt{-1}h_{i\bar{j}}dz^i \wedge d\bar{z}^j. \tag{6.5}$$

In the local holomorphic coordinates $\{z^1, \ldots, z^n\}$ on M, the complexified Christoffel symbols are given by

$$\Gamma_{AB}^{C} = \sum_{E} \frac{1}{2} g^{CE} \left(\frac{\partial g_{AE}}{\partial z^{B}} + \frac{\partial g_{BE}}{\partial z^{A}} - \frac{\partial g_{AB}}{\partial z^{E}} \right)$$
$$= \sum_{E} \frac{1}{2} h^{CE} \left(\frac{\partial h_{AE}}{\partial z^{B}} + \frac{\partial h_{BE}}{\partial z^{A}} - \frac{\partial h_{AB}}{\partial z^{E}} \right)$$
(6.6)

where $A, B, C, E \in \{1, ..., n, \overline{1}, ..., \overline{n}\}$ and $z^A = z^i$ if $A = i, z^A = \overline{z}^i$ if $A = \overline{i}$. For example

$$\Gamma_{ij}^{k} = \frac{1}{2} h^{k\overline{\ell}} \left(\frac{\partial h_{j\overline{\ell}}}{\partial z^{i}} + \frac{\partial h_{i\overline{\ell}}}{\partial z^{j}} \right), \ \Gamma_{\overline{i}j}^{k} = \frac{1}{2} h^{k\overline{\ell}} \left(\frac{\partial h_{j\overline{\ell}}}{\partial \overline{z}^{i}} - \frac{\partial h_{j\overline{i}}}{\partial \overline{z}^{\ell}} \right).$$
(6.7)

We also have $\Gamma_{ij}^k = \Gamma_{ij}^{\overline{k}} = 0$ by the Hermitian property $h_{pq} = h_{\overline{ij}} = 0$. The complexified curvature components are

$$R^{D}_{ABC} = \sum_{E} R_{ABCE} h^{ED} = -\left(\frac{\partial \Gamma^{D}_{AC}}{\partial z^{B}} - \frac{\partial \Gamma^{D}_{BC}}{\partial z^{A}} + \Gamma^{F}_{AC} \Gamma^{D}_{FB} - \Gamma^{F}_{BC} \Gamma^{D}_{AF}\right).$$
(6.8)

By the Hermitian property again, we have

$$R_{i\overline{j}k}^{l} = -\left(\frac{\partial\Gamma_{ik}^{l}}{\partial\overline{z}^{j}} - \frac{\partial\Gamma_{\overline{j}k}^{l}}{\partial z^{i}} + \Gamma_{ik}^{s}\Gamma_{\overline{j}s}^{l} - \Gamma_{\overline{j}k}^{s}\Gamma_{is}^{l} - \Gamma_{\overline{j}k}^{\overline{s}}\Gamma_{i\overline{s}}^{l}\right).$$
(6.9)

It is computed in [24, Lemma 7.1] that

Lemma 6.1 On the Hermitian manifold (M, h), the Riemannian Ricci curvature of the Riemannian manifold (M, g) satisfies

$$Ric(X,Y) = h^{i\overline{\ell}} \left[R\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial z^{i}}, X, Y, \frac{\partial}{\partial \overline{z}^{\ell}}\right) + R\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial z^{i}}, Y, X, \frac{\partial}{\partial \overline{z}^{\ell}}\right) \right]$$
(6.10)

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for any $X, Y \in T_{\mathbb{R}}M$. The Riemannian scalar curvature is

$$s = 2h^{i\overline{j}}h^{k\overline{\ell}} \left(2R_{i\overline{\ell}k\overline{j}} - R_{i\overline{j}k\overline{\ell}}\right).$$
(6.11)

The following result is established in [24, Corollary 4.2] (see also some different versions in [11]). For readers' convenience we include a straightforward proof without using "normal coordinates".

Lemma 6.2 On a compact Hermitian manifold (M, ω) , the Riemannian scalar curvature s and the Chern scalar curvature s_C are related by

$$s = 2s_{\rm C} + \left(\langle \partial \partial^* \omega + \overline{\partial} \overline{\partial}^* \omega, \omega \rangle - 2 |\partial^* \omega|^2 \right) - \frac{1}{2} |T|^2, \tag{6.12}$$

where T is the torsion tensor with

$$T_{ij}^{k} = h^{k\overline{\ell}} \left(\frac{\partial h_{j\overline{\ell}}}{\partial z^{i}} - \frac{\partial h_{i\overline{\ell}}}{\partial z^{j}} \right)$$

Proof For simplicity, we denote by

$$s_{\rm R} = h^{i\overline{j}} h^{k\overline{\ell}} R_{i\overline{\ell}k\overline{j}}$$
 and $s_{\rm H} = h^{i\overline{j}} h^{k\overline{\ell}} R_{i\overline{j}k\overline{\ell}}$.

Then, by formula (6.11), we have $s = 4s_R - 2s_H$. In the following, we shall show

$$s_{\rm H} = s_{\rm C} - \frac{1}{2} \langle \partial \partial^* \omega + \overline{\partial \partial}^* \omega, \omega \rangle - \frac{1}{4} |T|^2$$
(6.13)

and

$$s_{\rm R} = s_{\rm C} - \frac{1}{2} |\partial^* \omega|^2 - \frac{1}{4} |T|^2.$$
 (6.14)

It is easy to show that

$$\overline{\partial}^* \omega = 2\sqrt{-1}\overline{\Gamma^k_{\bar{i}k}} dz^i \tag{6.15}$$

and so

$$-\frac{\partial\partial^*\omega + \overline{\partial\partial}^*\omega}{2} = \sqrt{-1} \left(\frac{\partial\Gamma^k_{\overline{j}k}}{\partial z^i} + \frac{\partial\overline{\Gamma^k_{\overline{i}k}}}{\partial\overline{z}^j} \right) dz^i \wedge d\overline{z}^j.$$
(6.16)

On the other hand, by formula (6.9), we have

$$R_{i\bar{j}k}^{k} = -\frac{\partial\Gamma_{ik}^{k}}{\partial\bar{z}^{j}} + \frac{\partial\Gamma_{\bar{j}k}^{k}}{\partial z^{i}} + \Gamma_{\bar{j}k}^{\bar{s}}\Gamma_{i\bar{s}}^{k}.$$
(6.17)

A straightforward calculation shows

$$h^{i\overline{j}}\Gamma^{\overline{s}}_{\overline{j}k}\Gamma^k_{\overline{i}\overline{s}} = -\frac{1}{4}|T|^2.$$

Moreover, we have

$$\left(-\frac{\partial\Gamma_{ik}^{k}}{\partial\overline{z}^{j}} + \frac{\partial\Gamma_{jk}^{k}}{\partial z^{i}}\right) - \left(\frac{\partial\Gamma_{jk}^{k}}{\partial z^{i}} + \frac{\partial\overline{\Gamma_{ik}^{k}}}{\partial\overline{z}^{j}}\right) = -\frac{\partial\Gamma_{ik}^{k}}{\partial\overline{z}^{j}} - \frac{\partial\overline{\Gamma_{ik}^{k}}}{\partial\overline{z}^{j}} = -\frac{\partial^{2}\log\det(g)}{\partial z^{i}\partial\overline{z}^{j}}$$

$$(6.18)$$

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where the last identity follows from (6.7). Indeed, we have

$$\Gamma_{ik}^{k} + \overline{\Gamma_{\bar{i}k}^{k}} = h^{k\bar{\ell}} \frac{\partial h_{k\bar{\ell}}}{\partial z^{i}} = \frac{\partial \log \det(g)}{\partial z^{i}}.$$

Hence, we obtain

$$s_{\rm H} + \left\langle \frac{\partial \partial^* \omega + \overline{\partial \partial}^* \omega}{2}, \omega \right\rangle = s_{\rm C} - \frac{1}{4} |T|^2$$

which proves (6.13). Similarly, one can show (6.14).

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