

ON COMPLEX DEFORMATIONS OF KÄHLER-RICCI SOLITONS

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Abstract

We obtain a formal obstruction, i.e. a necessary condition for the existence of polarized complex deformations of Kähler-Ricci solitons. This obstruction is expressed in terms of the harmonic part of the variation of the complex structure.

1. The obstruction result

Despite the remarkable work of Podesta-Spiro, [9], not much is known on the existence of complex deformations of Kähler-Ricci solitons. In this paper, we provide an effective result on this topic. Namely, given any polarized family of complex deformations over a Kähler-Ricci soliton (polarized by the symplectic form of the initial Kähler-Ricci soliton), we can effectively establish a necessary condition for this family to exist.

Let (X, J, g, ω) be a Fano manifold with $\omega = \text{Ric}_J(\Omega)$, where $\Omega > 0$ is the unique volume form such that $\int_X \Omega = 1$. (We denote by $\text{Ric}_J(\Omega)$ the Chern-Ricci form associated to the volume form Ω). We introduce the Ω -divergence operator acting on vector fields ξ as

$$\text{div}^\Omega \xi := \frac{d(\xi \lrcorner \Omega)}{\Omega},$$

where \lrcorner denotes the natural contraction operation. (We invite the readers to see the identity (9) below for a link with the usual notion div_g^f , where $f := \log \frac{dV_g}{\Omega}$).

See also the remark 2 at the end of the paper for a mathematical explanation why the index Ω should be used instead of f in the related operators).

It is well known (see [3]), that the Lie algebra of J -holomorphic vector fields $H^0(X, T_{X,J}^{1,0})$ identifies with the space of complex valued functions

$$\Lambda_{g,J}^\Omega := \overline{-\text{div}^\Omega H^0(X, T_{X,J}^{1,0})} \subset C_\Omega^\infty(X, \mathbf{C})_0,$$

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where $C_\Omega^\infty(X, \mathbf{C})_0$ is the space of smooth complex valued functions with vanishing integral with respect to Ω . We denote by $\mathcal{H}_{g,\Omega}^{0,1}(T_{X,J})$ the space of T_X -valued $(0,1)$ -forms which are harmonic with respect to the Hodge-Witten Laplacian determined by the volume form Ω .

Assume now (X, J, g, ω) is a compact Kähler-Ricci soliton and we consider the functions $f := \log \frac{dV_g}{\Omega}$, $F := f - \int_X f \Omega$. The solution of the variational stability problem in [6], theorem 1 in section 1, shows that the vanishing harmonic cone

$$\mathcal{H}_{g,\Omega}^{0,1}(T_{X,J})_0 := \left\{ A \in \mathcal{H}_{g,\Omega}^{0,1}(T_{X,J}) \mid \int_X |A|_g^2 F \Omega = 0 \right\},$$

is relevant for the deformation theory of compact Kähler-Ricci solitons. In the Dancer-Wang Kähler-Ricci soliton case $\mathcal{H}_{g,\Omega}^{0,1}(T_{X,J})_0 \neq \{0\}$, thanks to a result in [4].

For any $A \in \mathcal{H}_{g,\Omega}^{0,1}(T_{X,J})$ we define the \mathbf{R} -linear functional

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi_A : \Lambda_{g,J}^\Omega &\rightarrow \mathbf{R}, \\ \Phi_A(u) &:= \int_X [2 \operatorname{Re} u \langle \nabla_g^2 f, A^2 \rangle_g - \langle J \nabla_g f \lrcorner \nabla_g A, i\bar{u} \times_J A \rangle_g] \Omega, \end{aligned}$$

where $(a + ib) \times_J A := aA + bJA$ for any $a, b \in \mathbf{R}$. With these notations we can state our obstruction result.

THEOREM 1. *Let (X, J, g, ω) be a compact Kähler-Ricci soliton, let $(J_t, \omega)_{t \in (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon)}$ be a smooth family of Kähler-Ricci solitons with $J_0 = J$ and let $A \in \mathcal{H}_{g,\Omega}^{0,1}(T_{X,J})$ be the harmonic part of the variation \dot{J}_0 . Then $A \in \mathcal{H}_{g,\Omega}^{0,1}(T_{X,J})_0$ and $\Phi_A = 0$.*

The fact that $A \in \mathcal{H}_{g,\Omega}^{0,1}(T_{X,J})_0$ is a statement in [6], Theorem 1, section 1. We will show also that for any $A \in \mathcal{H}_{g,\Omega}^{0,1}(T_{X,J})$ hold the identity

$$\int_X |A|_g^2 F \Omega = - \int_X [2 \langle \nabla_g^2 f, A^2 \rangle_g - \langle J \nabla_g f \lrcorner \nabla_g A, JA \rangle_g] \Omega,$$

whose right-hand side shows strong similarity with the integral $\Phi_A(u)$.

2. Properties of the first variation of Perelman's map H

We need to remind a few basic facts proved in [6]. We first remind some of the notations in [6]. We start with some algebraic operations on tensors over a smooth Riemannian manifold (X, g) .

In this paper, as in [6], we identify bilinear forms sections on T_X with morphisms $T_X \rightarrow T_X^*$, via the natural contraction operation. We notice in par-

ticular that the metric g determines an invertible element $g : T_X \rightarrow T_X^*$ given by $g\xi := g(\xi, \bullet)$, for any $\xi \in T_X$. Such element can be composed with an endomorphism section A of T_X . This yields an element $gA : T_X \rightarrow T_X^*$, which in its turn can be identified with a bilinear form section of T_X . In the same way the element $g^{-1} : T_X^* \rightarrow T_X$ can be composed with T_X^* -valued tensors. Indeed, given any $\theta \in (T_X^*)^{\otimes p}$ over X , we define the element $\theta_g^* \in (T_X^*)^{\otimes p-1} \otimes T_X$ as

$$\theta_g^*(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_{p-1}) := g^{-1}[\theta(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_{p-1}, \bullet)],$$

for all $\xi_1, \dots, \xi_{p-1} \in T_X$. We will use sometimes the notation $\theta_g^* := g^{-1}\theta$, to denote this operation.

On the other hand we notice that g^{-1} identifies in a natural way an element $g^{-1} \in C^\infty(X, S^2 T_X)$. In this paper the symbol \lrcorner denotes also the natural contraction operation on the first two entires of a tensor $\theta \in (T_X^*)^{\otimes p}$, $p \geq 2$. Then the usual trace operation $\text{Tr}_g \theta$ with respect to g satisfies the identity $\text{Tr}_g \theta = g^{-1}\lrcorner\theta$. This is useful when we will derive the trace operator.

For any endomorphism A of the tangent bundle and for any bilinear form B over it we define the contraction operation $A\lrcorner B := \text{Alt}(BA)$, where Alt is the alternating operator.

We define now some fundamental linear and non-linear differential operators. Let $\Omega > 0$ be a smooth volume form over an oriented compact and connected Riemannian manifold (X, g) . We equip the set of smooth Riemannian metrics \mathcal{M} over X with the scalar product

$$(1) \quad (u, v) \mapsto \int_X \langle u, v \rangle_g \Omega,$$

for all $u, v \in L^2(X, S_{\mathbf{R}}^2 T_X^*)$. Let P_g^* be the formal adjoint of some operator P with respect to the metric g . We observe that the operator $P_g^{*\Omega} := e^f P_g^*(e^{-f} \bullet)$, with $f := \log \frac{dV_g}{\Omega}$, is the formal adjoint of P with respect to the scalar product

(1). We define the real weighted Laplacian operator $\Delta_g^\Omega := \nabla_g^{*\Omega} \nabla_g$. We notice in particular the identity $\text{div}^\Omega \nabla_g u = -\Delta_g^\Omega u$, for all functions u .

Over a Fano manifold (X, J, g, ω) , with $\omega = \text{Ric}_J(\Omega)$, $\int_X \Omega = 1$. we define the linear operator $B_{g,J}^\Omega$ acting on smooth complex valued functions u as $B_{g,J}^\Omega u := \text{div}^\Omega(J\nabla_g u)$. This is a first order differential operator. Indeed

$$\begin{aligned} B_{g,J}^\Omega u &= \text{Tr}_{\mathbf{R}}(J\nabla_g^2 u) - df \cdot J\nabla_g u \\ &= g(\nabla_g u, J\nabla_g f), \end{aligned}$$

since J is g -anti-symmetric. We define the weighted complex Laplacian operator $\Delta_{g,J}^\Omega := \Delta_g^\Omega - iB_{g,J}^\Omega$, acting on smooth complex valued functions. We remind the identity $\Lambda_{g,J}^\Omega = \text{Ker}(\Delta_{g,J}^\Omega - 2\mathbf{I})$, (see [3]). We denote by

$$\Lambda_{g,J}^{\Omega,\perp} := [\text{Ker}(\Delta_{g,J}^\Omega - 2\mathbf{I})]^\perp \subset C_\Omega^\infty(X, \mathbf{C})_0,$$

the L_Ω^2 -orthogonal space to $\Lambda_{g,J}^\Omega$ inside $C_\Omega^\infty(X, \mathbf{C})_0$.

We remind now that the Ω -Bakry-Emery-Ricci tensor of the metric g is defined by the formula

$$\text{Ric}_g(\Omega) := \text{Ric}(g) + \nabla_g d \log \frac{dV_g}{\Omega}.$$

A Riemannian metric g is called a Ω -shrinking Ricci soliton if $g = \text{Ric}_g(\Omega)$. We define the following fundamental objects

$$\begin{aligned} h &\equiv h_{g,\Omega} := \text{Ric}_g(\Omega) - g, \\ 2H &\equiv 2H_{g,\Omega} := -\Delta_g^\Omega f + \text{Tr}_g h + 2f. \end{aligned}$$

(We remind $f := \log \frac{dV_g}{\Omega}$). We define also the integral normalized function $\underline{H} := H - \int_X H \Omega$. We denote by \mathcal{V}_1 the space of smooth positive volume forms with unit integral over X . For any $V \in T_{\mathcal{V}_1}$, we define

$$V_\Omega^* := V/\Omega.$$

We notice now that over a polarized Fano manifold (X, ω) , $\omega \in 2\pi c_1(X)$, the space of ω -compatible complex structures \mathcal{J}_ω embeds naturally inside $\mathcal{M} \times \mathcal{V}_1$ via the Chern-Ricci form. The image of this embedding is

$$\mathcal{S}_\omega := \{(g, \Omega) \in \mathcal{M}_\omega \times \mathcal{V}_1 \mid \omega = \text{Ric}_J(\Omega), J = -\omega^{-1}g\},$$

with $\mathcal{M}_\omega := -\omega \cdot \mathcal{J}_\omega \subset \mathcal{M}$. The fact that the space \mathcal{J}_ω may be singular in general implies that also the space \mathcal{S}_ω may be singular. We denote by $\text{TC}_{\mathcal{S}_\omega, (g, \Omega)}$ the tangent cone of \mathcal{S}_ω at an arbitrary point $(g, \Omega) \in \mathcal{S}_\omega$. This is by definition the union of all tangent vectors of \mathcal{S}_ω at the point (g, Ω) . We notice that, (see for example [5], lemma 7 section 5), the tangent cone $\text{TC}_{\mathcal{M}_\omega, g}$ of \mathcal{M}_ω at an arbitrary point $g \in \mathcal{M}_\omega$ satisfies the inclusion

$$(2) \quad \text{TC}_{\mathcal{M}_\omega, g} \subseteq \mathbf{D}_{g, [0]}^J,$$

with

$$\mathbf{D}_{g, [0]}^J := \{v \in C^\infty(X, S_{\mathbf{R}}^2 T_X^*) \mid v = -J^* v J, \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}} v_g^* = 0\},$$

It has been shown in [6], lemma 17 section 16, that for any $(g, \Omega) \in \mathcal{S}_\omega$ the inclusion holds

$$(3) \quad \text{TC}_{\mathcal{S}_\omega, (g, \Omega)} \subseteq \mathbf{T}_{g, \Omega}^J,$$

with

$$\mathbf{T}_{g, \Omega}^J := \{(v, V) \in \mathbf{D}_{g, [0]}^J \times T_{\mathcal{V}_1} \mid 2dd_J^c V_\Omega^* = -d(\nabla_g^{*\Omega} v_g^* \lrcorner \omega)\}.$$

(We will use the definition $2d_J^c := i(\bar{\partial}_J - \partial_J)$ in this paper). We remind (see [6], identity 1.2 in section 1) that a point $(g, \Omega) \in \mathcal{S}_\omega$ is a Kähler-Ricci soliton if and only if $\underline{H}_{g, \Omega} = 0$. Furthermore,

$$2\underline{H}_{g, \Omega} = -(\Delta_{g,J}^\Omega - 2\mathbf{I})F \in \Lambda_{g,J}^{\Omega, \perp} \cap C_\Omega^\infty(X, \mathbf{R})_0,$$

for all $(g, \Omega) \in \mathcal{S}_\omega$. The infinitesimal properties of the map $(g, \Omega) \in \mathcal{S}_\omega \mapsto \underline{H}_{g, \Omega}$ are explained in the next sub-section.

2.1. Triple splitting of the space $\mathbf{T}_{g, \Omega}^J$

In [6], section 1, we introduce a pseudo-Riemannian metric G over $\mathcal{M} \times \mathcal{V}_1$ which is positive defined over $\mathbf{T}_{g, \Omega}^J$ for any $(g, \Omega) \in \mathcal{S}_\omega$, with $J := -\omega^{-1}g$. By abuse of notations we will denote by $G_{g, \Omega}$ the scalar product over $\Lambda_{g, J}^{\Omega, \perp}$, induced by the isomorphism

$$\begin{aligned} \eta : \Lambda_{g, J}^{\Omega, \perp} \oplus \mathcal{H}_{g, \Omega}^{0,1}(T_{X, J}) &\rightarrow \mathbf{T}_{g, \Omega}^J \\ (\psi, A) &\mapsto \left(g(\bar{\partial}_{T_{X, J}} \nabla_{g, J} \bar{\psi} + A), -\frac{1}{2} \operatorname{Re}[(\Delta_{g, J}^{\Omega} - 2\mathbf{I})\psi]\Omega \right). \end{aligned}$$

Explicitly (see [6] sub-section 18.2),

$$\begin{aligned} G_{g, \Omega}(\varphi, \psi) &= \frac{1}{2} \int_X [(\Delta_{g, J}^{\Omega} - 2\mathbf{I})\varphi \cdot \bar{\psi} + (\Delta_{g, J}^{\Omega} - 2\mathbf{I})\psi \cdot \bar{\varphi}] \Omega \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \int_X \operatorname{Im}[(\Delta_{g, J}^{\Omega} - 2\mathbf{I})\varphi] \operatorname{Im}[(\Delta_{g, J}^{\Omega} - 2\mathbf{I})\psi] \Omega. \end{aligned}$$

For any $(g, \Omega) \in \mathcal{S}_\omega$, we introduce in [6], sub-section 18.2, the vector spaces

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{E}_{g, \Omega}^J &:= \{u \in \Lambda_{g, J}^{\Omega, \perp} \mid (\Delta_{g, J}^{\Omega} - 2\mathbf{I})u = \overline{(\Delta_{g, J}^{\Omega} - 2\mathbf{I})u}\}, \\ \mathbf{O}_{g, \Omega}^J &:= (\mathbf{E}_{g, \Omega}^J)^{\perp_G} \cap \Lambda_{g, J}^{\Omega, \perp}, \end{aligned}$$

and we denote by $[g, \Omega]_\omega := \operatorname{Symp}^0(X, \omega) \cdot (g, \Omega) \subset \mathcal{S}_\omega$ the orbit of the point (g, Ω) under the action of the identity component of the group of smooth symplectomorphisms $\operatorname{Symp}^0(X, \omega)$ of X . The map η restricts to a G -isometry

$$\eta : \mathbf{O}_{g, \Omega}^J \rightarrow T_{[g, \Omega]_\omega, (g, \Omega)}.$$

The positivity of the metric $G_{g, \Omega}$ over $\Lambda_{g, J}^{\Omega, \perp}$, combined with an elliptic argument (see [6], sub-section 18.2) implies the decomposition

$$\Lambda_{g, J}^{\Omega, \perp} = \mathbf{O}_{g, \Omega}^J \oplus_G \mathbf{E}_{g, \Omega}^J,$$

Over a compact Kähler-Ricci soliton (X, J, g, ω) , we introduce the operator

$$P_{g, J}^{\Omega} := (\Delta_{g, J}^{\Omega} - 2\mathbf{I}) \overline{(\Delta_{g, J}^{\Omega} - 2\mathbf{I})}.$$

This is a non-negative self-adjoint real elliptic operator with respect to the L_Ω^2 -hermitian product. The restriction of the differential of the map $(g, \Omega) \in \mathcal{S}_\omega \mapsto \underline{H}_{g, \Omega}$ over the space $\Lambda_{g, J}^{\Omega, \perp}$, identifies, via the isomorphism η , with the map

$$\begin{aligned} D_{g, \Omega} \underline{H} : \Lambda_{g, J}^{\Omega, \perp} &\rightarrow \Lambda_{g, J}^{\Omega, \perp} \cap C_\Omega^\infty(X, \mathbf{R})_0 \\ \psi &\mapsto \frac{1}{4} P_{g, J}^{\Omega} \operatorname{Re} \psi. \end{aligned}$$

This map restricts to an isomorphism

$$D_{g,\Omega}\underline{H} : \mathbf{E}_{g,\Omega}^J \rightarrow \Lambda_{g,J}^{\Omega,\perp} \cap C_{\Omega}^{\infty}(X, \mathbf{R})_0,$$

(see [6], lemma 24, section 19, for the technical details), and

$$\mathbf{O}_{g,\Omega}^J = \text{Ker } D_{g,\Omega}\underline{H} \cap \Lambda_{g,J}^{\Omega,\perp}.$$

Moreover, $\text{Ker } P_{g,J}^{\Omega} \cap C_{\Omega}^{\infty}(X, \mathbf{R})_0 = \{\text{Re } u \mid u \in \Lambda_{g,J}^{\Omega}\} =: \text{Re } \Lambda_{g,J}^{\Omega}$ and

$$P_{g,J}^{\Omega} C_{\Omega}^{\infty}(X, \mathbf{R})_0 = \Lambda_{g,J}^{\Omega,\perp} \cap C_{\Omega}^{\infty}(X, \mathbf{R})_0.$$

In general for any $(g, \Omega) \in \mathcal{L}_{\omega}$ Kähler-Ricci soliton the identity holds

$$\text{Ker } D_{g,\Omega}\underline{H} \cap \mathbf{T}_{g,\Omega}^J = T_{[g,\Omega]_{\omega},(g,\Omega)} \oplus_G \mathcal{H}_{g,\Omega}^{0,1}(T_{X,J}),$$

with $J := -\omega^{-1}g$. We finally notice that applying the finiteness theorem (see for example [2], proposition 6.6, page 26), to the real elliptic operator $P_{g,J}^{\Omega} : C_{\Omega}^{\infty}(X, \mathbf{R})_0 \rightarrow C_{\Omega}^{\infty}(X, \mathbf{R})_0$, we deduce the L_{Ω}^2 -orthogonal decomposition

$$(4) \quad C_{\Omega}^{\infty}(X, \mathbf{R})_0 = [\Lambda_{g,J}^{\Omega,\perp} \cap C_{\Omega}^{\infty}(X, \mathbf{R})_0] \oplus_{\Omega} \text{Re } \Lambda_{g,J}^{\Omega}.$$

Remark 1. We denote by $\Lambda_{g,\mathbf{R}}^{\Omega} := \text{Ker}_{\mathbf{R}}(\Delta_g^{\Omega} - 2\mathbf{I}) \subset C_{\Omega}^{\infty}(X, \mathbf{R})_0$, and by

$$\Lambda_{g,\mathbf{R}}^{\Omega,\perp} := [\text{Ker}_{\mathbf{R}}(\Delta_g^{\Omega} - 2\mathbf{I})]^{\perp\Omega} \subset C_{\Omega}^{\infty}(X, \mathbf{R})_0,$$

its L_{Ω}^2 -orthogonal inside $C_{\Omega}^{\infty}(X, \mathbf{R})_0$. It is easy to see that the map

$$\begin{aligned} \chi : \Lambda_{g,\mathbf{R}}^{\Omega,\perp} \cap C_{\Omega}^{\infty}(X, \mathbf{R})_0 &\rightarrow T_{[g,\Omega]_{\omega},(g,\Omega)}, \\ u &\mapsto (2\omega\bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}}\nabla_g u, (B_{g,J}^{\Omega}u)\Omega), \end{aligned}$$

is an isomorphism. Thus, there exists an isomorphism map

$$\begin{aligned} \tau : \mathbf{O}_{g,\Omega}^J &\rightarrow i\Lambda_{g,\mathbf{R}}^{\Omega,\perp} \\ \theta &\mapsto iu : \theta - iu \in \Lambda_{g,J}^{\Omega}. \end{aligned}$$

3. Variation formulas for the Ω -divergence operators

For any endomorphism section A of the tangent bundle we denote by A_g^T the transposed endomorphism section with respect to the metric g . For any $u, v \in C^{\infty}(X, S^2 T_X^*)$ we define in [6], section 10, the real valued 1-form

$$M_g(u, v)(\xi) := 2\nabla_g v(e_k, u_g^* e_k, \xi) + \nabla_g u(\xi, v_g^* e_k, e_k),$$

for all $\xi \in T_X$. (Here $(e_k)_k$ is a g -orthonormal local frame of the tangent bundle). We show now the following important lemma.

LEMMA 1. *The first variation of the operator valued map*

$$(g, \Omega) \mapsto \nabla_g^{*\Omega} : C^{\infty}(X, S^2 T_X) \rightarrow C^{\infty}(X, T_X^*),$$

in arbitrary directions (v, V) is given by the formula

$$(5) \quad 2[(D_{g,\Omega}\nabla_{\bullet}^*)(v, V)]u = M_g(v, u) - 2u \cdot (\nabla_g^* v_g^* + \nabla_g V_\Omega^*).$$

Proof. We first differentiate the identity defining the covariant derivative of a symmetric 2-tensor u in the direction v . We infer

$$\dot{\nabla}_g u(\xi, \eta, \mu) = -u(\dot{\nabla}_g(\xi, \eta), \mu) - u(\eta, \dot{\nabla}_g(\xi, \mu)),$$

where $\dot{\nabla}_g := (D_g \nabla_{\bullet})$. Using the variation formula for the Levi-Civita connection in [1], we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} 2\dot{\nabla}_g u(\xi, \eta, \mu) &= -u(\nabla_{g,\xi} v_g^* \eta + \nabla_{g,\eta} v_g^* \xi - (\nabla_g v_g^* \eta)_g^T \xi, \mu) \\ &\quad - u(\eta, \nabla_{g,\xi} v_g^* \mu + \nabla_{g,\mu} v_g^* \xi - (\nabla_g v_g^* \mu)_g^T \xi). \end{aligned}$$

We transform the term

$$\begin{aligned} u((\nabla_g v_g^* \eta)_g^T \xi, \mu) &= g(u_g^*(\nabla_g v_g^* \eta)_g^T \xi, \mu) \\ &= g((\nabla_g v_g^* \eta)_g^T \xi, u_g^* \mu) \\ &= g(\xi, \nabla_g v_g^*(u_g^* \mu, \eta)) \\ &= \nabla_g v(u_g^* \mu, \eta, \xi). \end{aligned}$$

We deduce the variation formula

$$\begin{aligned} 2\dot{\nabla}_g u(\xi, \eta, \mu) &= -u(\nabla_{g,\xi} v_g^* \eta + \nabla_{g,\eta} v_g^* \xi, \mu) + \nabla_g v(u_g^* \mu, \xi, \eta) \\ &\quad - u(\eta, \nabla_{g,\xi} v_g^* \mu + \nabla_{g,\mu} v_g^* \xi) + \nabla_g v(u_g^* \eta, \xi, \mu). \end{aligned}$$

Thus, using the fact that u is symmetric we infer

$$\begin{aligned} 2(g^{-1}\dot{\nabla}_g u)\mu &= 2u(\nabla_g^* v_g^*, \mu) + \nabla_g v(u_g^* \mu, e_k, e_k) \\ &\quad - u(\nabla_{g,e_k} v_g^* \mu + \nabla_{g,\mu} v_g^* e_k, e_k) + \nabla_g v(e_k, u_g^* e_k, \mu), \end{aligned}$$

where $(e_k)_k$ is a g -orthonormal basis of $T_{X,p}$ which diagonalizes u at the point p . We observe however that the right hand-side of the previous equality is independent of the choice of the g -orthonormal basis $(e_k)_k$ thanks to the intrinsic definition of trace. Simplifying, we deduce

$$(6) \quad 2(g^{-1}\dot{\nabla}_g u)\mu = 2u(\nabla_g^* v_g^*, \mu) + \nabla_g v(u_g^* \mu, e_k, e_k) - \nabla_g v(\mu, u_g^* e_k, e_k).$$

We can compute now the first variation of the expression

$$\nabla_g^* u = -g^{-1}\dot{\nabla}_g u + \nabla_g f \lrcorner u,$$

with $f \equiv f_{g,\Omega} := \log \frac{dV_g}{\Omega}$. We observe the identity

$$\begin{aligned} [(D_{g,\Omega}\nabla_{\bullet}^*)(v, V)]u &= (v_g^*g^{-1})\lrcorner\nabla_g u - g^{-1}\lrcorner\dot{\nabla}_g u \\ &\quad + [(D_{g,\Omega}\nabla_{\bullet}f_{\bullet,\bullet})(v, V)]\lrcorner u. \end{aligned}$$

Let $(e_k)_k$ be a g -orthonormal local frame of T_X such that $\nabla_g e_k(p) = 0$, for some arbitrary point p . Using (6) and the variation formulas

$$(7) \quad \frac{d}{dt}(\nabla_g f_t) = \nabla_g \dot{f}_t - \dot{g}_t^* \nabla_g f_t,$$

$$(8) \quad \dot{f}_t = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}_{g_t} \dot{g}_t - \dot{\Omega}_t^*,$$

we obtain the equalities at the point p ,

$$\begin{aligned} 2[(D_{g,\Omega}\nabla_{\bullet}^*)(v, V)]u(\mu) &= 2\nabla_g u(e_k, v_g^* e_k, \mu) - 2u(\nabla_g^* v_g^*, \mu) \\ &\quad - \nabla_g v(u_g^* \mu, e_k, e_k) + \nabla_g v(\mu, u_g^* e_k, e_k) \\ &\quad + u(\nabla_g(\text{Tr}_g v - 2V_{\Omega}^*) - 2v_g^* \nabla_g f, \mu) \\ &= 2\nabla_g u(e_k, v_g^* e_k, \mu) - 2u(\nabla_g^{*\Omega} v_g^*, \mu) \\ &\quad - \nabla_g v(u_g^* \mu, e_k, e_k) + \nabla_g v(\mu, u_g^* e_k, e_k) \\ &\quad + u(\nabla_g(\text{Tr}_g v - 2V_{\Omega}^*), \mu) \\ &= M_g(v, u)(\mu) - 2u(\nabla_g^{*\Omega} v_g^* + \nabla_g V_{\Omega}^*, \mu), \end{aligned}$$

thanks to the identity at the point p ,

$$\nabla_g v(u_g^* \mu, e_k, e_k) = u(\nabla_g \text{Tr}_g v, \mu).$$

In order to see this last fact, we observe the equalities

$$\begin{aligned} u(\nabla_g \text{Tr}_g v, \mu) &= g(u_g^* \nabla_g \text{Tr}_g v, \mu) \\ &= g(\nabla_g \text{Tr}_g v, u_g^* \mu) \\ &= (d \text{Tr}_g v)(u_g^* \mu) \\ &= (u_g^* \mu).v(e_k, e_k) \\ &= \nabla_g v(u_g^* \mu, e_k, e_k), \end{aligned}$$

at the point p . We obtain the required variation formula. \square

In a similar way we compute the first variation formula for the operator div_g^{Ω} acting on 1-forms α

$$(9) \quad \text{div}_g^{\Omega} \alpha := g^{-1}\lrcorner\nabla_g \alpha - \alpha \cdot \nabla_g f.$$

We notice the elementary identity $\text{div}_g^{\Omega} \alpha = \text{div}_g^{\Omega} \alpha_g^*$. With these notations hold the following lemma.

LEMMA 2. *The first variation of the operator valued map*

$$(g, \Omega) \mapsto \operatorname{div}_g^\Omega : C^\infty(X, T_X^*) \rightarrow C^\infty(X, \mathbf{R}),$$

in arbitrary directions (v, V) is given by the formula

$$[(D_{g, \Omega} \operatorname{div}_g^\bullet)(v, V)]\alpha = -\langle \nabla_g \alpha_g^*, v_g^* \rangle_g + 2\alpha \cdot (\nabla_g^* v_g^* + \nabla_g V_\Omega^*).$$

We include the proof for readers convenience.

Proof. Let α be a 1-form and let ζ, η be two smooth vector fields. Differentiating the identity

$$\zeta \cdot (\alpha \cdot \eta) = \nabla_{g, \zeta} \alpha \cdot \eta + \alpha \cdot \nabla_{g, \zeta} \eta,$$

with respect to the variable g we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} 2\dot{\nabla}_g \alpha(\zeta, \eta) &= -\alpha \cdot 2\dot{\nabla}_g(\zeta, \eta) \\ &= -\alpha \cdot (\nabla_{g, \zeta} v_g^* \cdot \eta + \nabla_{g, \eta} v_g^* \cdot \zeta) + \nabla_g v(\alpha_g^*, \zeta, \eta). \end{aligned}$$

We notice indeed the equalities

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha \cdot [(\nabla_{g, \bullet} v_g^* \cdot \eta)_g^T \cdot \zeta] &= g(\alpha_g^*, (\nabla_{g, \bullet} v_g^* \cdot \eta)_g^T \cdot \zeta) \\ &= g(\nabla_{g, \alpha_g^*} v_g^* \cdot \eta, \zeta) \\ &= \nabla_g v(\alpha_g^*, \zeta, \eta). \end{aligned}$$

We deduce

$$\begin{aligned} 2(g^{-1} \dashv \dot{\nabla}_g \alpha) &= 2\alpha \cdot \nabla_g^* v_g^* + \alpha_g^* \cdot \operatorname{Tr}_g v \\ &= \alpha \cdot (2\nabla_g^* v_g^* + \nabla_g \operatorname{Tr}_g v). \end{aligned}$$

We can compute now the first variation of the definition (9). We observe the identities

$$\begin{aligned} 2[(D_{g, \Omega} \operatorname{div}_g^\bullet)(v, V)]\alpha &= -2(v_g^* g^{-1}) \dashv \nabla_g \alpha + 2g^{-1} \dashv \dot{\nabla}_g \alpha \\ &\quad - 2\alpha \cdot [(D_{g, \Omega} \nabla_{\bullet} f_{\bullet})(v, V)] \\ &= -2\nabla_g \alpha(e_k, v_g^* e_k) + \alpha \cdot (2\nabla_g^* v_g^* + \nabla_g \operatorname{Tr}_g v) \\ &\quad - \alpha \cdot (\nabla_g(\operatorname{Tr}_g v - 2V_\Omega^*) - 2v_g^* \cdot \nabla_g f). \end{aligned}$$

We infer the required variation formula. \square

We can compute now a first variation formula for the double divergence operator $\operatorname{div}_g^\Omega \nabla_g^{*\Omega}$. We observe first the trivial identity

$$\begin{aligned} [D_{g, \Omega}(\operatorname{div}_g^\bullet \nabla_g^{*\bullet})(v, V)]v &= [(D_{g, \Omega} \operatorname{div}_g^\bullet)(v, V)]\nabla_g^{*\Omega} v \\ &\quad + \operatorname{div}_g^\Omega \{[(D_{g, \Omega} \nabla_g^{*\bullet})(v, V)]v\}, \end{aligned}$$

and we explicit the last term;

$$\begin{aligned} & 2 \operatorname{div}_g^\Omega \{[(D_{g,\Omega} \nabla_{\bullet}^*)](v, V)\} \\ &= e_l \cdot [2 \nabla_g v(e_k, v_g^* e_k, e_l) + \nabla_g v(e_l, v_g^* e_k, e_k) - 2v(\nabla_g^* v_g^* + V_\Omega^*, e_l)] \\ & \quad - 2 \nabla_g v(e_k, v_g^* e_k, \nabla_g f) - \nabla_g v(\nabla_g f, v_g^* e_k, e_k) + 2v(\nabla_g^* v_g^* + V_\Omega^*, \nabla_g f). \end{aligned}$$

Developing further we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & 2 \operatorname{div}_g^\Omega \{[(D_{g,\Omega} \nabla_{\bullet}^*)](v, V)\} \\ &= 2g(\nabla_{g,e_l} \nabla_{g,e_k} v_g^* \cdot v_g^* e_k, e_l) + 2g(\nabla_{g,e_k} v_g^* \cdot \nabla_{g,e_l} v_g^* e_k, e_l) \\ & \quad + \nabla_{g,e_l}^2 v(v_g^* e_k, e_k) + g(\nabla_{g,e_l} v_g^* \cdot \nabla_{g,e_l} v_g^* e_k, e_k) \\ & \quad - 2 \nabla_{g,e_l} v(e_l, \nabla_g^* v_g^* + V_\Omega^*) - 2v(\nabla_{g,e_l}(\nabla_g^* v_g^* + V_\Omega^*), e_l) \\ & \quad - 2g(\nabla_{g,e_k} v_g^* \cdot v_g^* e_k, \nabla_g f) - \nabla_g v(\nabla_g f, v_g^* e_k, e_k) + 2v(\nabla_g^* v_g^* + V_\Omega^*, \nabla_g f) \\ &= 2g(v_g^* e_k, \nabla_{g,e_l} \nabla_{g,e_k} v_g^* e_l) + 2g(\nabla_{g,e_l} v_g^* e_k, \nabla_{g,e_k} v_g^* e_l) \\ & \quad - \Delta_g^\Omega v(v_g^* e_k, e_k) + g(\nabla_{g,e_l} v_g^* e_k, \nabla_{g,e_l} v_g^* e_k) \\ & \quad + 2 \nabla_g^* v \cdot (\nabla_g^* v_g^* + V_\Omega^*) - 2g(\nabla_{g,e_l}(\nabla_g^* v_g^* + V_\Omega^*), v_g^* e_l) \\ & \quad - 2g(v_g^* e_k, \nabla_{g,e_k} v_g^* \cdot \nabla_g f). \end{aligned}$$

If we set

$$\widehat{\nabla_g v_g^*}(\xi, \eta) := \nabla_g v_g^*(\eta, \xi),$$

then the last expression writes as

$$\begin{aligned} & 2 \operatorname{div}_g^\Omega \{[(D_{g,\Omega} \nabla_{\bullet}^*)](v, V)\} \\ &= 2g(v_g^* e_k, \nabla_{g,e_l} \widehat{\nabla_g v_g^*}(e_l, e_k)) + 2g(\nabla_{g,e_l} v_g^*(e_l, e_k), \widehat{\nabla_g v_g^*}(e_l, e_k)) \\ & \quad - g(\Delta_g^\Omega v_g^* \cdot v_g^* e_k, e_k) + |\nabla_g v_g^*|_g^2 \\ & \quad + 2 \nabla_g^* v \cdot (\nabla_g^* v_g^* + V_\Omega^*) - 2 \langle \nabla_g(\nabla_g^* v_g^* + V_\Omega^*), v_g^* \rangle_g \\ & \quad - 2g(v_g^* e_k, \widehat{\nabla_g v_g^*}(\nabla_g f, e_k)). \end{aligned}$$

We infer the formula

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{div}_g^\Omega \{[(D_{g,\Omega} \nabla_{\bullet}^*)](v, V)\} &= -\frac{1}{4} \Delta_g^\Omega |v|_g^2 \\ & \quad - \langle \nabla_g^* \widehat{\nabla_g v_g^*}, v_g^* \rangle_g + \langle \widehat{\nabla_g v_g^*}, \nabla_g v_g^* \rangle_g \\ & \quad + \nabla_g^* v \cdot (\nabla_g^* v_g^* + \nabla_g V_\Omega^*) \\ & \quad - \langle \nabla_g(\nabla_g^* v_g^* + \nabla_g V_\Omega^*), v_g^* \rangle_g. \end{aligned}$$

We obtain in conclusion the variation identity

$$(10) \quad [D_{g,\Omega}(\operatorname{div}_{\bullet}^* \nabla_{\bullet}^*)(v, V)]v = -\frac{1}{4}\Delta_g^\Omega |v|_g^2 \\ - \langle \nabla_g^{*\Omega} \widehat{\nabla}_g v_g^*, v_g^* \rangle_g + \langle \widehat{\nabla}_g v_g^*, \nabla_g v_g^* \rangle_g \\ + 2\nabla_g^{*\Omega} v \cdot (\nabla_g^{*\Omega} v_g^* + \nabla_g V_\Omega^*) \\ - \langle \nabla_g (2\nabla_g^{*\Omega} v_g^* + \nabla_g V_\Omega^*), v_g^* \rangle_g.$$

4. The second variation of Perelman's map H

LEMMA 3. *The Hessian form $\nabla_G DH(g, \Omega)$ of Perelman's map $(g, \Omega) \in \mathcal{M} \times \mathcal{V}_1 \mapsto H_{g,\Omega}$, with respect to the pseudo-Riemannian structure G at the point $(g, \Omega) \in \mathcal{M} \times \mathcal{V}_1$ in arbitrary directions (v, V) is given by the expression*

$$2\nabla_G DH(g, \Omega)(v, V; v, V) = -\frac{1}{2} \langle \mathcal{L}_g^\Omega v, v \rangle_g - \Delta_g^\Omega \left[\frac{1}{4} |v|_g^2 + (V_\Omega^*)^2 \right] \\ + \frac{1}{2} |v|_g^2 + (V_\Omega^*)^2 - \frac{1}{2} G_{g,\Omega}(v, V; v, V) \\ - 2|\nabla_g^{*\Omega} v_g^* + \nabla_g V_\Omega^*|_g^2 \\ + \langle \nabla_g (2\nabla_g^{*\Omega} v_g^* + 3\nabla_g V_\Omega^*), v_g^* \rangle_g \\ + \langle \nabla_g^{*\Omega} v_g^*, \nabla_g^{*\Omega} v_g^* + 2\nabla_g V_\Omega^* \rangle_g \\ + V_\Omega^* (\operatorname{div}^\Omega \nabla_g^{*\Omega} v_g^* + \langle v, h_{g,\Omega} \rangle_g).$$

Proof. We consider a smooth curve $(g_t, \Omega_t)_{t \in \mathbf{R}} \subset \mathcal{M} \times \mathcal{V}_1$ with $(g_0, \Omega_0) = (g, \Omega)$ and with arbitrary speed $(\dot{g}_0, \dot{\Omega}_0) = (v, V)$. We show in [6], section 6 that the G -covariant derivative ∇_G of its speed, in the speed direction, is given by the expressions

$$(\theta_t, \Theta_t) \equiv \nabla_G(\dot{g}_t, \dot{\Omega}_t)(\dot{g}_t, \dot{\Omega}_t), \\ \theta_t := \ddot{g}_t + \dot{g}_t(\dot{\Omega}_t^* - \dot{g}_t^*), \\ \Theta_t := \ddot{\Omega}_t + \frac{1}{4} [|\dot{g}_t|_t^2 - 2(\dot{\Omega}_t^*)^2 - G_{g_t, \Omega_t}(\dot{g}_t, \dot{\Omega}_t; \dot{g}_t, \dot{\Omega}_t)] \Omega_t.$$

Then

$$\nabla_G DH(g_t, \Omega_t)(\dot{g}_t, \dot{\Omega}_t; \dot{g}_t, \dot{\Omega}_t) = \frac{d^2}{dt^2} H(g_t, \Omega_t) - D_{g_t, \Omega_t} H(\theta_t, \Theta_t).$$

Using the first variation formula (1.5), section 1 in [6] for the map H we obtain the equalities

$$\begin{aligned}
& 2\nabla_G DH(g_t, \Omega_t)(\dot{g}_t, \dot{\Omega}_t; \dot{g}_t, \dot{\Omega}_t) \\
&= \frac{d}{dt} [(\Delta_{g_t}^{\Omega_t} - 2\mathbf{I})\dot{\Omega}_t^* - \operatorname{div}_{g_t}^{\Omega_t}(\nabla_{g_t}^{\Omega_t} \dot{g}_t + d\dot{\Omega}_t^*) - \langle \dot{g}_t, h_t \rangle_{g_t}] \\
&\quad - (\Delta_{g_t}^{\Omega_t} - 2\mathbf{I})\Theta_t^* + \operatorname{div}_{g_t}^{\Omega_t}(\nabla_{g_t}^{\Omega_t} \theta_t + d\Theta_t^*) + \langle \theta_t, h_t \rangle_{g_t}.
\end{aligned}$$

Using the identity (10) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
& 2\nabla_G DH(g_t, \Omega_t)(\dot{g}_t, \dot{\Omega}_t; \dot{g}_t, \dot{\Omega}_t) \\
&= 2(\Delta_{g_t}^{\Omega_t} - \mathbf{I}) \left(\frac{d}{dt} \dot{\Omega}_t^* - \Theta_t^* \right) \\
&\quad + 2\langle \nabla_{g_t} d\dot{\Omega}_t^*, \dot{g}_t \rangle_{g_t} - 2\langle \nabla_{g_t}^{\Omega_t} \dot{g}_t^* + \nabla_{g_t} \dot{\Omega}_t^*, \nabla_{g_t} \dot{\Omega}_t^* \rangle_{g_t} \\
&\quad + \operatorname{div}_{g_t}^{\Omega_t} \nabla_{g_t}^{\Omega_t} (\theta_t - \dot{g}_t) \\
&\quad + \frac{1}{4} \Delta_{g_t}^{\Omega_t} |\dot{g}_t|_{g_t}^2 + \langle \nabla_{g_t}^{\Omega_t} \widehat{\nabla_{g_t} \dot{g}_t^*}, \dot{g}_t^* \rangle_{g_t} - \langle \widehat{\nabla_{g_t} \dot{g}_t^*}, \nabla_{g_t} \dot{g}_t^* \rangle_{g_t} \\
&\quad - 2\nabla_{g_t}^{\Omega_t} \dot{g}_t \cdot (\nabla_{g_t}^{\Omega_t} \dot{g}_t^* + \nabla_{g_t} \dot{\Omega}_t^*) + \langle \nabla_{g_t} (2\nabla_{g_t}^{\Omega_t} \dot{g}_t^* + \nabla_{g_t} \dot{\Omega}_t^*), \dot{g}_t^* \rangle_{g_t} \\
&\quad + \operatorname{Tr}_{\mathbf{R}} \left[\left(\theta_t^* - \frac{d}{dt} \dot{g}_t^* \right) h_t^* - \dot{g}_t^* (\dot{h}_t^* - \dot{g}_t^* h_t^*) \right].
\end{aligned}$$

Rearranging the previous expression, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
& 2\nabla_G DH(g_t, \Omega_t)(\dot{g}_t, \dot{\Omega}_t; \dot{g}_t, \dot{\Omega}_t) \\
&= 2(\Delta_{g_t}^{\Omega_t} - \mathbf{I}) \left(\frac{d}{dt} \dot{\Omega}_t^* - \Theta_t^* \right) + \frac{1}{4} \Delta_{g_t}^{\Omega_t} |\dot{g}_t|_{g_t}^2 \\
&\quad + \langle \nabla_{g_t} d\dot{\Omega}_t^*, \dot{g}_t \rangle_{g_t} - 2|\nabla_{g_t}^{\Omega_t} \dot{g}_t^* + \nabla_{g_t} \dot{\Omega}_t^*|_{g_t}^2 \\
&\quad + \operatorname{div}_{g_t}^{\Omega_t} \nabla_{g_t}^{\Omega_t} (\theta_t - \dot{g}_t) \\
&\quad + \langle \nabla_{g_t}^{\Omega_t} \widehat{\nabla_{g_t} \dot{g}_t^*}, \dot{g}_t^* \rangle_{g_t} - \langle \widehat{\nabla_{g_t} \dot{g}_t^*}, \nabla_{g_t} \dot{g}_t^* \rangle_{g_t} \\
&\quad + 2\langle \nabla_{g_t} (\nabla_{g_t}^{\Omega_t} \dot{g}_t^* + \nabla_{g_t} \dot{\Omega}_t^*), \dot{g}_t^* \rangle_{g_t} \\
&\quad + \operatorname{Tr}_{\mathbf{R}} \left[\left(\theta_t^* - \frac{d}{dt} \dot{g}_t^* \right) h_t^* - \dot{g}_t^* (\dot{h}_t^* - \dot{g}_t^* h_t^*) \right].
\end{aligned}$$

Using the expression of θ_t , we develop the term

$$\operatorname{div}_{g_t}^{\Omega_t} \nabla_{g_t}^{\Omega_t} (\theta_t - \dot{g}_t) = \operatorname{div}_{g_t}^{\Omega_t} \nabla_{g_t}^{\Omega_t} [\dot{\Omega}_t^* \dot{g}_t^* - (\dot{g}_t^*)^2].$$

For this purpose we remind a few elementary divergence type identities. For any smooth function u , vector field ζ and endomorphism section A of T_X , the following identities hold

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla_g^{*\Omega}(uA) &= -A \cdot \nabla_g u + u \nabla_g^{*\Omega} A, \\ \operatorname{div}^\Omega(u\xi) &= \langle \nabla_g u, \xi \rangle_g + u \operatorname{div}^\Omega \xi, \\ \nabla_g^{*\Omega} A^2 &= -\operatorname{Tr}_g(\nabla_g A \cdot A) + A \nabla_g^{*\Omega} A.\end{aligned}$$

Furthermore if A is g -symmetric then also the formulas hold

$$(11) \quad \operatorname{div}^\Omega(A \cdot \xi) = -\langle \nabla_g^{*\Omega} A, \xi \rangle_g + \langle A, \nabla_g \xi \rangle_g,$$

$$(12) \quad \operatorname{div}^\Omega \operatorname{Tr}_g(\nabla_g A \cdot A) = -\langle \nabla_g^{*\Omega} \widehat{\nabla_g A}, A \rangle_g + \langle \widehat{\nabla_g A}, \nabla_g A \rangle_g.$$

For readers convenience we show (11) and (12) in the appendix. Using the previous formulas we obtain the equalities

$$\begin{aligned}\operatorname{div}^{\Omega_t} \nabla_{g_t}^{*\Omega_t} [\dot{\Omega}_t^* \dot{g}_t^* - (\dot{g}_t^*)^2] &= \operatorname{div}^{\Omega_t} [-\dot{g}_t^* \nabla_{g_t} \dot{\Omega}_t^* + \dot{\Omega}_t^* \nabla_{g_t}^{*\Omega_t} \dot{g}_t^*] \\ &\quad + \operatorname{div}^{\Omega_t} [\operatorname{Tr}_{g_t}(\nabla_{g_t} \dot{g}_t^* \cdot \dot{g}_t^*) - \dot{g}_t^* \nabla_{g_t}^{*\Omega_t} \dot{g}_t^*] \\ &= -\langle \nabla_{g_t} d\dot{\Omega}_t^*, \dot{g}_t^* \rangle_{g_t} + 2\langle \nabla_{g_t}^{*\Omega_t} \dot{g}_t^*, \nabla_{g_t} \dot{\Omega}_t^* \rangle_{g_t} \\ &\quad + \dot{\Omega}_t^* \operatorname{div}^{\Omega_t} \nabla_{g_t}^{*\Omega_t} \dot{g}_t^* \\ &\quad - \langle \nabla_{g_t}^{*\Omega_t} \widehat{\nabla_{g_t} \dot{g}_t^*}, \dot{g}_t^* \rangle_{g_t} + \langle \widehat{\nabla_{g_t} \dot{g}_t^*}, \nabla_{g_t} \dot{g}_t^* \rangle_{g_t} \\ &\quad + |\nabla_{g_t}^{*\Omega_t} \dot{g}_t^*|_{g_t}^2 - \langle \dot{g}_t^*, \nabla_{g_t} \nabla_{g_t}^{*\Omega_t} \dot{g}_t^* \rangle_{g_t} \\ &= -\langle \nabla_{g_t}(\nabla_{g_t}^{*\Omega_t} \dot{g}_t^* + \nabla_{g_t} \dot{\Omega}_t^*), \dot{g}_t^* \rangle_{g_t} \\ &\quad + \langle \nabla_{g_t}^{*\Omega_t} \dot{g}_t^*, \nabla_{g_t}^{*\Omega_t} \dot{g}_t^* + 2\nabla_{g_t} \dot{\Omega}_t^* \rangle_{g_t} \\ &\quad + \dot{\Omega}_t^* \operatorname{div}^{\Omega_t} \nabla_{g_t}^{*\Omega_t} \dot{g}_t^* \\ &\quad - \langle \nabla_{g_t}^{*\Omega_t} \widehat{\nabla_{g_t} \dot{g}_t^*}, \dot{g}_t^* \rangle_{g_t} + \langle \widehat{\nabla_{g_t} \dot{g}_t^*}, \nabla_{g_t} \dot{g}_t^* \rangle_{g_t}.\end{aligned}$$

Plunging this identity in the last expression of the Hessian of the map H we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}2\nabla_G DH(g_t, \Omega_t)(\dot{g}_t, \dot{\Omega}_t; \dot{g}_t, \dot{\Omega}_t) &= 2(\Delta_{g_t}^{\Omega_t} - \mathbf{I}) \left(\frac{d}{dt} \dot{\Omega}_t^* - \Theta_t^* \right) + \frac{1}{4} \Delta_{g_t}^{\Omega_t} |\dot{g}_t^*|_{g_t}^2 \\ &\quad + \langle \nabla_{g_t} d\dot{\Omega}_t^*, \dot{g}_t^* \rangle_{g_t} - 2|\nabla_{g_t}^{*\Omega_t} \dot{g}_t^* + \nabla_{g_t} \dot{\Omega}_t^*|_{g_t}^2 \\ &\quad + \langle \nabla_{g_t}(\nabla_{g_t}^{*\Omega_t} \dot{g}_t^* + \nabla_{g_t} \dot{\Omega}_t^*), \dot{g}_t^* \rangle_{g_t} \\ &\quad + \langle \nabla_{g_t}^{*\Omega_t} \dot{g}_t^*, \nabla_{g_t}^{*\Omega_t} \dot{g}_t^* + 2\nabla_{g_t} \dot{\Omega}_t^* \rangle_{g_t} + \dot{\Omega}_t^* \operatorname{div}^{\Omega_t} \nabla_{g_t}^{*\Omega_t} \dot{g}_t^* \\ &\quad + \dot{\Omega}_t^* \langle \dot{g}_t^*, h_t \rangle_{g_t} - \frac{1}{2} \langle \mathcal{L}_{\dot{g}_t^*} \dot{\Omega}_t^* - L_{\nabla_{g_t}^{*\Omega_t} \dot{g}_t^* + \nabla_{g_t} \dot{\Omega}_t^*} g_t, \dot{g}_t^* \rangle_{g_t},\end{aligned}$$

thanks to the variation formula (1.4), section 1 in [6] for the map h . Rearranging the previous expression, we infer

$$\begin{aligned}
& 2\nabla_G DH(g_t, \Omega_t)(\dot{g}_t, \dot{\Omega}_t; \dot{g}_t, \dot{\Omega}_t) \\
&= 2(\Delta_{g_t}^{\Omega_t} - \mathbf{I}) \left(\frac{d}{dt} \dot{\Omega}_t^* - \Theta_t^* \right) + \frac{1}{4} \Delta_{g_t}^{\Omega_t} |\dot{g}_t|_{g_t}^2 \\
&\quad - 2|\nabla_{g_t}^* \dot{g}_t + \nabla_{g_t} \dot{\Omega}_t^*|_{g_t}^2 \\
&\quad + \langle \nabla_{g_t} (2\nabla_{g_t}^* \dot{g}_t + 3\nabla_{g_t} \dot{\Omega}_t^*), \dot{g}_t \rangle_{g_t} \\
&\quad + \langle \nabla_{g_t}^* \dot{g}_t, \nabla_{g_t}^* \dot{g}_t + 2\nabla_{g_t} \dot{\Omega}_t^* \rangle_{g_t} \\
&\quad + \dot{\Omega}_t^* (\operatorname{div}^{\Omega_t} \nabla_{g_t}^* \dot{g}_t + \langle \dot{g}_t, h_t \rangle_{g_t}) - \frac{1}{2} \langle \mathcal{L}_{g_t}^{\Omega_t} \dot{g}_t, \dot{g}_t \rangle_{g_t}.
\end{aligned}$$

Then the conclusion follows from the expression of Θ_t . \square

In [6], section 7, we show that the space G -orthogonal to the tangent to the orbit of a point $(g, \Omega) \in \mathcal{M} \times \mathcal{V}_1$, under the action of the identity component of the diffeomorphism group, is

$$\mathbf{F}_{g, \Omega} := \{(v, V) \in T_{\mathcal{M} \times \mathcal{V}_1} \mid \nabla_g^* v_g^* + \nabla_g V_\Omega^* = 0\}.$$

COROLLARY 1. *The Hessian form $\nabla_G DH(g, \Omega)$ of Perelman's map $(g, \Omega) \in \mathcal{M} \times \mathcal{V}_1 \mapsto H_{g, \Omega}$, with respect to the pseudo-Riemannian structure G at the point $(g, \Omega) \in \mathcal{M} \times \mathcal{V}_1$ in arbitrary directions $(v, V) \in \mathbf{F}_{g, \Omega}$, is given by the expression*

$$\begin{aligned}
& 2\nabla_G DH(g, \Omega)(v, V; v, V) \\
&= -\frac{1}{2} \langle (\mathcal{L}_g^\Omega + 2\nabla_g \nabla_g^*) v, v \rangle_g \\
&\quad - \frac{1}{2} (\Delta_g^\Omega - 2\mathbf{I}) \left[\frac{1}{2} |v|_g^2 + (V_\Omega^*)^2 - \frac{1}{2} G_{g, \Omega}(v, V; v, V) \right] \\
&\quad + V_\Omega^* \langle v, h_{g, \Omega} \rangle_g.
\end{aligned}$$

5. Application of the weighted Bochner identity

We observe that the formal adjoint of the $\bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}}$ operator with respect to the hermitian product

$$(13) \quad \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\omega, \Omega} := \int_X \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\omega} \Omega,$$

is the operator

$$\bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}}^{*g, \Omega} := e^f \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}}^{*g} (e^{-f} \bullet).$$

With this notation, we define the anti-holomorphic Ω -Hodge-Witten Laplacian operator acting on T_X -valued q -forms as

$$\Delta_{T_{X,g}}^{\Omega, -J} := \frac{1}{q} \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}} \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}}^{*g, \Omega} + \frac{1}{q+1} \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}}^{*g, \Omega} \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}},$$

with the usual convention $\infty \cdot 0 = 0$, and the functorial convention on the scalar product in the subsection 7.1 of the appendix in [5]. We will omit the symbol Ω in the Hodge-Witten Laplacian operator, when $\Omega = \text{Cst } dV_g$. We define the vector space

$$\mathcal{H}_{g,\Omega}^{0,1}(T_{X,J}) := \text{Ker } \Delta_{T_{X,g}}^{\Omega,-J} \cap C^\infty(X, T_{X,-J}^* \otimes T_{X,J}).$$

It has been shown in [6], lemma 14, section 14, that for any smooth J -anti-linear endomorphism section A of the tangent bundle hold the fundamental Bochner type formula

$$(14) \quad \mathcal{L}_g^\Omega A = 2\Delta_{T_{X,g}}^{-J} A + [\text{Ric}^*(g), A] + \nabla_g f \lrcorner \nabla_g A.$$

We observe that for bi-degree reasons we have the equalities

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}}^{*g,\Omega} A &= \nabla_g^{*\Omega} A \\ &= \nabla_g^* A + A \nabla_g f \\ &= \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}}^{*g} A + A \nabla_g f. \end{aligned}$$

Using the last equality we obtain the expression

$$\bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}} \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}}^{*g,\Omega} A = \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}} \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}}^{*g} A + \nabla_{g,J}^{0,1} A \nabla_g f + A \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}}^g \nabla_g f.$$

We observe indeed

$$\begin{aligned} 2\bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}}(A \nabla_g f) &= \nabla_g(A \nabla_g f) + J \nabla_{g,J}(A \nabla_g f) \\ &= \nabla_g A \nabla_g f + A \nabla_g^2 f + J \nabla_{g,J} A \nabla_g f + J A \nabla_{g,J} \nabla_g f \\ &= 2\nabla_{g,J}^{0,1} A \nabla_g f + A(\nabla_g^2 f - J \nabla_{g,J} \nabla_g f) \\ &= 2\nabla_{g,J}^{0,1} A \nabla_g f + 2A \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}}^g \nabla_g f. \end{aligned}$$

Still for bi-degree reasons, the identities hold

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}}^{*g,\Omega} \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}} A &= \frac{1}{2} \nabla_{T_{X,g}}^{*\Omega} \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}} A \\ &= \nabla_g^{*\Omega} \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}} A \\ &= \nabla_g^* \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}} A + \nabla_g f \lrcorner \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}} A. \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}}^{*g,\Omega} \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}} A &= \frac{1}{2} \nabla_{T_{X,g}}^* \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}} A + \nabla_g f \lrcorner \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}} A \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}}^{*g} \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}} A + \nabla_g f \lrcorner \nabla_{g,J}^{0,1} A - \nabla_{g,J}^{0,1} A \nabla_g f. \end{aligned}$$

Combining the identities obtained so far we deduce the expression

$$(15) \quad \Delta_{T_{X,g}}^{\Omega,-J} A = \Delta_{T_{X,g}}^{-J} A + \nabla_g f \lrcorner \nabla_{g,J}^{0,1} A + A \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}}^g \nabla_g f.$$

Plugging this in the fundamental identity (14) we obtain the equalities

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_g^\Omega A &= 2\Delta_{T_{X,g}}^{\Omega,-J} A + [\text{Ric}^*(g), A] - 2A\partial_{T_{X,J}}^g \nabla_g f \\ &\quad - \nabla_g f \lrcorner (\nabla_{g,J}^{0,1} - \nabla_{g,J}^{1,0}) A \\ &= 2\Delta_{T_{X,g}}^{\Omega,-J} A + [\text{Ric}^*(g), A] - 2A\partial_{T_{X,J}}^g \nabla_g f \\ &\quad - (J\nabla_g f) \lrcorner J\nabla_g A.\end{aligned}$$

Thus, if $A \in \mathcal{H}_{g,\Omega}^{0,1}(T_{X,J})$, then the stability identity holds

$$(16) \quad \langle \mathcal{L}_g^\Omega A, A \rangle_g = -2\langle \nabla_g^2 f, A^2 \rangle_g + \langle J\nabla_g f \lrcorner \nabla_g A, JA \rangle_g.$$

6. Variations of ω -compatible complex structures

Let (X, J, g, ω) be a Fano manifold such that $\omega = \text{Ric}_J(\Omega)$, with $\Omega \in \mathcal{V}_1$ and let $(J_t)_t \subset \mathcal{I}_\omega$ be a smooth curve such that $J_0 = J$. We differentiate the definition $g_t := -\omega J_t$. We obtain $\dot{g}_t^* := g_t^{-1} \dot{g}_t = -J_t \dot{J}_t$ and $\ddot{g}_t^* := g_t^{-1} \ddot{g}_t = -J_t \ddot{J}_t$. On the other hand, deriving twice the condition $J_t^2 = -\mathbf{I}$, we obtain $-(J_t \dot{J}_t)_{J_t}^{1,0} = \dot{J}_t^2$ and thus $(\ddot{g}_t^*)_{J_t}^{1,0} = (\dot{g}_t^*)^2$. The latter gives

$$(\ddot{g}_t^*)_{J_t}^{0,1} = \ddot{g}_t^* - (\dot{g}_t^*)^2 = \frac{d}{dt} \dot{g}_t^*.$$

Let N_J be the Nijenhuis tensor of an arbitrary almost complex structure J . Then the general formula

$$2 \frac{d}{dt} N_{J_t} = \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J_t}}(J_t \dot{J}_t) + J_t \dot{J}_t N_{J_t} - (J_t \dot{J}_t) \lrcorner N_{J_t},$$

(see the proof of lemma 7, section 5 in [5]), implies $\bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J_t}} \dot{g}_t^* \equiv 0$, in our case. Thus time deriving the identity

$$\frac{d}{dt} \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J_t}} \dot{g}_t^* \equiv 0,$$

we obtain the property

$$(17) \quad \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J_t}} \frac{d}{dt} \dot{g}_t^* = \dot{g}_t^* \lrcorner \nabla_{g_t, J_t}^{1,0} \dot{g}_t^*.$$

Indeed we prove the variation formula

$$\left(\frac{d}{dt} \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J_t}} \right) \dot{g}_t^* = -\dot{g}_t^* \lrcorner \nabla_{g_t, J_t}^{1,0} \dot{g}_t^*.$$

For this purpose we expand the derivative of $\bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J_t}}$ acting on a smooth endomorphism section A of T_X . We obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
2 \left[\left(\frac{d}{dt} \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J_t}} \right) A \right] (\xi, \eta) &= 2 \frac{d}{dt} \text{Alt}[\nabla_{g_t, J_t}^{0,1} A(\xi, \eta)] \\
&= \text{Alt} \frac{d}{dt} [\nabla_{g_t} A(\xi, \eta) + J_t \nabla_{g_t} A(J_t \xi, \eta)] \\
&= \text{Alt}[\dot{\nabla}_{g_t} A(\xi, \eta) + \dot{J}_t \nabla_{g_t} A(J_t \xi, \eta)] \\
&\quad + \text{Alt}[J_t \dot{\nabla}_{g_t} A(J_t \xi, \eta) + J_t \nabla_{g_t} A(\dot{J}_t \xi, \eta)].
\end{aligned}$$

Using the variation formula

$$\dot{\nabla}_{g_t} A(\xi, \eta) = \dot{\nabla}_{g_t}(\xi, A\eta) - A\dot{\nabla}_{g_t}(\xi, \eta),$$

and the fact that the bilinear form $\dot{\nabla}_{g_t}$ is symmetric we deduce the formula

$$\begin{aligned}
2 \left[\left(\frac{d}{dt} \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J_t}} \right) A \right] (\xi, \eta) &= \text{Alt}[\dot{\nabla}_{g_t}(\xi, A\eta) + \dot{J}_t \nabla_{g_t} A(J_t \xi, \eta)] \\
&\quad + \text{Alt}[J_t \dot{\nabla}_{g_t}(J_t \xi, A\eta) - J_t A \dot{\nabla}_{g_t}(J_t \xi, \eta) + J_t \nabla_{g_t} A(\dot{J}_t \xi, \eta)].
\end{aligned}$$

We remind now (see the proof of lemma 1 in [7]), that time deriving the Kähler condition $\nabla_{g_t} J_t \equiv 0$, we obtain the identity

$$\dot{\nabla}_{g_t}(\eta, \xi) + J_t \dot{\nabla}_{g_t}(J_t \eta, \xi) + J_t \nabla_{g_t} \dot{J}_t(\xi, \eta) = 0,$$

Using this in the previous formula with $A = \dot{g}_t^* = -J_t \dot{J}_t$ we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
2 \left[\left(\frac{d}{dt} \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J_t}} \right) \dot{g}_t^* \right] (\xi, \eta) &= \text{Alt}[-J_t \nabla_{g_t} \dot{J}_t(\dot{g}_t^* \eta, \xi) - \dot{g}_t^* J_t \nabla_{g_t} \dot{J}_t(\eta, \xi)] \\
&\quad + \text{Alt}[\dot{J}_t \nabla_{g_t} \dot{g}_t^*(J_t \xi, \eta) + J_t \nabla_{g_t} \dot{g}_t^*(\dot{J}_t \xi, \eta)] \\
&= \text{Alt}[\nabla_{g_t} \dot{g}_t^*(\dot{g}_t^* \eta, \xi) + \dot{J}_t \nabla_{g_t} \dot{g}_t^*(J_t \xi, \eta) + J_t \nabla_{g_t} \dot{g}_t^*(\dot{J}_t \xi, \eta)] \\
&\quad - \dot{g}_t^* \partial_{T_{X,J_t}}^{\dot{g}_t^*} \dot{g}_t^*(\xi, \eta) \\
&= \text{Alt}[\nabla_{g_t, J_t}^{1,0} \dot{g}_t^*(\dot{g}_t^* \eta, \xi) - \nabla_{g_t}^{1,0} \dot{g}_t^*(\dot{g}_t^* \xi, \eta)] \\
&= -2[\dot{g}_t^* \lrcorner \nabla_{g_t, J_t}^{1,0} \dot{g}_t^*](\xi, \eta),
\end{aligned}$$

and thus the required formula. The latter can also be obtained deriving the Maurer-Cartan equation, which writes in the Kähler case (see the appendix) as

$$\bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}} \mu_t + \mu_t \lrcorner \nabla_{g, J}^{1,0} \mu_t = 0,$$

with μ_t the Caley transform of J_t with respect to J .

We remind now (see [6], identity (14.7), section 14), that for any smooth family $(g_t, \Omega_t)_t \subset \mathcal{S}_\omega$, hold the identity

$$\Delta_{T_{X, g_t}}^{\Omega_t, -J_t} \dot{g}_t^* = (\Delta_{T_{X, g_t}}^{\Omega_t, -J_t} \dot{g}_t^*)_{g_t}^T,$$

with $J_t := -\omega^{-1}g_t$. The latter rewrites as

$$(18) \quad \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J_t}} \nabla_{g_t}^{*\Omega_t} \dot{g}_t^* = (\bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J_t}} \nabla_{g_t}^{*\Omega_t} \dot{g}_t^*)_{g_t}^T.$$

LEMMA 4. *For any smooth family $(g_t, \Omega_t)_t \subset \mathcal{S}_\omega$, with $(g, \Omega) = (g_0, \Omega_0)$ and $(\dot{g}_0, \dot{\Omega}_0) \in \mathbf{F}_{g, \Omega}^J$, we have the symmetry property*

$$(19) \quad \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J_t}} \nabla_{g_t}^{*\Omega_t} \frac{d}{dt} \Big|_{t=0} \dot{g}_t^* = \left(\bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J_t}} \nabla_{g_t}^{*\Omega_t} \frac{d}{dt} \Big|_{t=0} \dot{g}_t^* \right)^T + [\partial_{T_{X,J}}^g \nabla_g^{*\Omega} \dot{g}_0^*, \dot{g}_0^*].$$

Proof. Let A be a smooth g -symmetric endomorphism section of T_X . Differentiating in the variables (g, Ω) the trivial identity $\nabla_g^{*\Omega} A = g^{-1} \nabla_g^{*\Omega}(gA)$, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} [(D_{g, \Omega} \nabla_{\bullet}^*)](v, V)A &= -v_g^* \nabla_g^{*\Omega} A + g^{-1} [(D_{g, \Omega} \nabla_{\bullet}^*)(v, V)](gA) \\ &\quad + \nabla_g^{*\Omega}(v_g^* A). \end{aligned}$$

We observe now the identities

$$\begin{aligned} M_g(v, v) &= 2g \operatorname{Tr}_g(\nabla_g v_g^* \cdot v_g^*) + \frac{1}{2} d|v|_g^2 \\ &= 2v \nabla_g^{*\Omega} v_g^* - 2g \nabla_g^{*\Omega}(v_g^*)^2 + \frac{1}{2} d|v|_g^2. \end{aligned}$$

Then using the variation formula (5) we infer the fundamental identity

$$(20) \quad 2[(D_{g, \Omega} \nabla_{\bullet}^*)(v, V)]v_g^* = \frac{1}{2} \nabla_g |v|_g^2 - 2v_g^* \cdot (\nabla_g^{*\Omega} v_g^* + \nabla_g V_{\dot{\Omega}}^*).$$

The variation formula for the $\bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J_t}}$ -operator acting on vector fields in lemma 1 of [7] writes as

$$2 \frac{d}{dt} (\bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J_t}} \zeta) = \zeta \lrcorner \nabla_g \dot{g}_t^* - [\partial_{T_{X,J_t}}^{g_t} \zeta, \dot{g}_t^*] + [\bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J_t}} \zeta, \dot{g}_t^*].$$

Using this, the variation formula (20) and the assumption on the initial speed of the curve (g_t, Ω_t) , we infer

$$\begin{aligned} 2 \frac{d}{dt} \Big|_{t=0} (\bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J_t}} \nabla_{g_t}^{*\Omega_t} \dot{g}_t^*) &= \nabla_g^{*\Omega} \dot{g}_0^* \lrcorner \nabla_g \dot{g}_0^* \\ &\quad - [\partial_{T_{X,J}}^g \nabla_g^{*\Omega} \dot{g}_0^*, \dot{g}_0^*] + [\bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}} \nabla_g^{*\Omega} \dot{g}_0^*, \dot{g}_0^*] \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}} \nabla_g |\dot{g}_0|_g^2 + 2 \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}} \nabla_g^{*\Omega} \frac{d}{dt} \Big|_{t=0} \dot{g}_t^*. \end{aligned}$$

Using this equality, the elementary identity

$$\frac{d}{dt} A_{g_t}^T = [A_{g_t}^T, \dot{g}_t^*],$$

for arbitrary endomorphism section A of T_X and time deriving the identity (18), we obtain the required conclusion. (Notice that the endomorphism section $\bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}}^g \nabla_g^{*\Omega} \dot{g}_0^*$ is g -symmetric thanks to the assumption $\nabla_g^{*\Omega} \dot{g}_0^* = -\nabla_g \dot{\Omega}_0^*$). \square

COROLLARY 2. *Let $(J_t)_t \subset \mathcal{J}_\omega$ be a smooth curve such that $\dot{J}_0 \in \mathcal{H}_{g,\Omega}^{0,1}(T_{X,J})$ then*

$$\nabla_g^{*\Omega}(\dot{J}_0 \lrcorner \nabla_{g,J}^{1,0} \dot{J}_0) = [\nabla_g^{*\Omega}(\dot{J}_0 \lrcorner \nabla_{g,J}^{1,0} \dot{J}_0)]_g^T.$$

Proof. The identity (17) implies

$$\bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}} \nabla_g^{*\Omega} \frac{d}{dt}_{t=0} \dot{g}_t^* = \Delta_{T_{X,g}}^{\Omega, -J} \frac{d}{dt}_{t=0} \dot{g}_t^* - \nabla_g^{*\Omega}(\dot{g}_0^* \lrcorner \nabla_{g,J}^{1,0} \dot{g}_0^*).$$

Plunging this in the equality (19) and using the fact that the Laplacian term is g -symmetric (see [6], identity (14.7), section 14), we infer the required conclusion. \square

LEMMA 5. *Let (X, J, g, ω) be a Fano manifold such that $\omega = \text{Ric}_J(\Omega)$, with $\Omega \in \mathcal{V}_1$ and let $(J_t)_t \subset \mathcal{J}_\omega$ be a smooth curve such that $J_0 = J$ and $\nabla_g^{*\Omega} \dot{J}_0 = 0$. Then there exists unique $(\psi, A_1) \in \Lambda_{g,J}^{\Omega, \perp} \oplus \mathcal{H}_{g,\Omega}^{0,1}(T_{X,J})$ such that*

$$\frac{d}{dt}_{t=0} \dot{g}_t^* + \nabla_g^{*\Omega}(\Delta_{T_{X,g}}^{\Omega, -J})^{-1}(\dot{J}_0 \lrcorner \nabla_{g,J}^{1,0} \dot{J}_0) = \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}} \nabla_{g,J} \bar{\psi} + A_1.$$

Proof. The identity (17) implies

$$\bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}} \left[\frac{d}{dt}_{t=0} \dot{g}_t^* + \nabla_g^{*\Omega}(\Delta_{T_{X,g}}^{\Omega, -J})^{-1}(\dot{J}_0 \lrcorner \nabla_{g,J}^{1,0} \dot{J}_0) \right] = 0.$$

Moreover the endomorphism

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{d}{dt}_{t=0} \dot{g}_t^* + \nabla_g^{*\Omega}(\Delta_{T_{X,g}}^{\Omega, -J})^{-1}(\dot{J}_0 \lrcorner \nabla_{g,J}^{1,0} \dot{J}_0) \\ &= \frac{d}{dt}_{t=0} \dot{g}_t^* + (\Delta_{T_{X,g}}^{\Omega, -J})^{-1} \nabla_g^{*\Omega}(\dot{J}_0 \lrcorner \nabla_{g,J}^{1,0} \dot{J}_0), \end{aligned}$$

is g -symmetric thanks to corollary 2, lemma 13 in [6] and identity (14.7) in section 14 of [6]. By corollary 3 in section 14 of [6], we infer the required conclusion. Notice that (ψ, A_1) is uniquely determined by \dot{J}_0 and \dot{J}_0 . \square

7. Proof of theorem 1

For any smooth family $(g_t, \Omega_t)_t \subset \mathcal{S}_\omega$, with $(g_0, \Omega_0) = (g, \Omega)$, we consider the smooth curve $t \mapsto \gamma_t := \underline{H}_{g_t, \Omega_t} \Omega_t / \Omega \in C^\infty(X, \mathbf{R})_0$. Then $(g_t, \Omega_t)_t \equiv (J_t, \omega)_t$ is a family of Kähler-Ricci solitons if and only if $\gamma_t \equiv 0$. We assume this identity and we notice that $0 = \dot{\gamma}_0 = D_{g,\Omega} \underline{H}(\dot{g}_0, \dot{\Omega}_0)$. We write

$$\dot{g}_0^* = -J\dot{J}_0 = \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}} \nabla_{g,J} \bar{\theta} + 2A,$$

with $(\theta, A) \in \Lambda_{g,J}^{\Omega, \perp} \oplus \mathcal{H}_{g,\Omega}^{0,1}(T_{X,J})$. The properties of the first variation of \underline{H} imply $\theta \in \mathbf{O}_{g,\Omega}^J$. According to the isomorphism τ in remark 1, we pick the unique $u \in \Lambda_{g,\mathbf{R}}^{\Omega, \perp}$ such that $\theta - iu \in \Lambda_{g,J}^{\Omega}$ and we consider the one parameter subgroup of ω -symplectomorphisms $(\Psi_t)_t$, $\Psi_0 = \text{id}_X$, given by $2\Psi_t = -(\omega^{-1}du) \circ \Psi_t$. Then $(\Psi_t^* J_t, \omega)_t$ is still a family of Kähler-Ricci solitons and

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt}\Big|_{t=0} \Psi_t^* J_t &= \dot{J}_0 - \frac{1}{2} L_{\omega^{-1}du} J \\ &= J \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}} \nabla_{g,J} \overline{(\theta - iu)} + 2JA \\ &= 2JA. \end{aligned}$$

Thus we can assume, without loss of generality in the statement of the theorem 1, that the family of Kähler-Ricci solitons $(J_t, \omega)_t$ satisfies $\dot{J}_0 \in \mathcal{H}_{g,\Omega}^{0,1}(T_{X,J})$. Using this assumption, we explicit the second variation of the map $(g, \Omega) \mapsto \underline{H}_{g,\Omega}$. The fact that $\dot{g}_0^* = 2A$, implies $\dot{\Omega}_0 = 0$, thanks to the equations defining the space $\mathbf{T}_{g,\Omega}^J$. Thus

$$2 \frac{d^2}{dt^2}\Big|_{t=0} \underline{H}_{g_t, \Omega_t} = 2\nabla_G D\underline{H}(g, \Omega)(\dot{g}_0, 0; \dot{g}_0, 0) + 2D_{g,\Omega} \underline{H}(\xi, \Xi),$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} \xi_g^* &:= \frac{d}{dt}\Big|_{t=0} \dot{g}_t^*, \\ \Xi_\Omega^* &:= \frac{d}{dt}\Big|_{t=0} \dot{\Omega}_t^* + \frac{1}{4} |\dot{g}_0|_g^2 - \frac{1}{4} G_{g,\Omega}(\dot{g}_0, 0; \dot{g}_0, 0). \end{aligned}$$

Using the fact that (g, Ω) is a soliton and the first and second variation formulas for Perelman's functions H (see [8], the identity (1.5) in section 1 of [6] and corollary 1), and \mathcal{W} (see the end of the proof of lemma 7 in section 7 of [6]), we infer

$$\begin{aligned} 2 \frac{d^2}{dt^2}\Big|_{t=0} \underline{H}_{g_t, \Omega_t} &= \nabla_G D(2H - \mathcal{W})(g, \Omega)(\dot{g}_0, 0; \dot{g}_0, 0) + 2D_{g,\Omega} H(\xi, \Xi) \\ &= -2\langle \mathcal{L}_g^\Omega A, A \rangle_g - (\Delta_g^\Omega - 2\mathbf{I})|A|_g^2 - 2 \int_X |A|_g^2 \Omega \\ &\quad + 2 \int_X |A|_g^2 F \Omega + 2(\Delta_g^\Omega - \mathbf{I})\Xi_\Omega^* - \text{div}^\Omega \nabla_g^{*\Omega} \xi_g^* \\ &= 2 \int_X |A|_g^2 F \Omega - 2\langle \mathcal{L}_g^\Omega A, A \rangle_g + \Delta_g^\Omega |A|_g^2 \\ &\quad + 2(\Delta_g^\Omega - \mathbf{I}) \frac{d}{dt}\Big|_{t=0} \dot{\Omega}_t^* - \text{div}^\Omega \nabla_g^{*\Omega} \frac{d}{dt}\Big|_{t=0} \dot{g}_t^*. \end{aligned}$$

Using lemma 5 and the weighted complex Bochner formula (13.9) in section 13 of [6], we obtain

$$(21) \quad \nabla_g^{*\Omega} \frac{d}{dt}|_{t=0} \dot{g}_t^* = \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}}^{*\Omega} \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}} \nabla_{g,J} \bar{\psi} = \frac{1}{2} \nabla_{g,J} \overline{(\Delta_{g,J}^\Omega - 2\mathbf{I})\psi},$$

and thus

$$\begin{aligned} -\operatorname{div}^\Omega \nabla_g^{*\Omega} \frac{d}{dt}|_{t=0} \dot{g}_t^* &= \frac{1}{2} \Delta_g^\Omega R_\psi + \frac{1}{2} B_{g,J}^\Omega I_\psi, \\ R_\psi &:= \operatorname{Re}[(\Delta_{g,J}^\Omega - 2\mathbf{I})\psi], \\ I_\psi &:= \operatorname{Im}[(\Delta_{g,J}^\Omega - 2\mathbf{I})\psi]. \end{aligned}$$

(Here we use the notation $z = \operatorname{Re} z + i \operatorname{Im} z$, for any $z \in \mathbf{C}$). Differentiating the tangential identity $2dd_J^c \dot{\Omega}_t^* = -d[\nabla_{g_t}^{*\Omega_t} \dot{g}_t^* \lrcorner \omega]$, we obtain,

$$2dd_J^c \frac{d}{dt}|_{t=0} \dot{\Omega}_t^* = -d \left[\frac{d}{dt}|_{t=0} (\nabla_{g_t}^{*\Omega_t} \dot{g}_t^*) \lrcorner \omega \right].$$

Using the variation formula (20), and the identity (21) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt}|_{t=0} (\nabla_{g_t}^{*\Omega_t} \dot{g}_t^*) &= \frac{1}{4} \nabla_g |\dot{g}_0|^2 + \nabla_g^{*\Omega} \frac{d}{dt}|_{t=0} \dot{g}_t^* \\ &= \nabla_g |A|_g^2 + \frac{1}{2} \nabla_{g,J} \overline{(\Delta_{g,J}^\Omega - 2\mathbf{I})\psi}, \end{aligned}$$

and thus

$$\frac{d}{dt}|_{t=0} \dot{\Omega}_t^* = -\frac{1}{2} R_\psi - |A|_g^2 + \int_X |A|_g^2 \Omega.$$

We obtain in conclusion the variation formula

$$\begin{aligned} 2 \frac{d^2}{dt^2}|_{t=0} \underline{H}_{g_t, \Omega_t} &= 2 \int_X |A|_g^2 F \Omega - 2 \langle \mathcal{L}_g^\Omega A, A \rangle_g \\ &\quad - (\Delta_g^\Omega - 2\mathbf{I}) |A|_g^2 - 2 \int_X |A|_g^2 \Omega \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{2} (\Delta_g^\Omega - 2\mathbf{I}) R_\psi + \frac{1}{2} B_{g,J}^\Omega I_\psi \\ &= -2 \langle J \nabla_g f \lrcorner \nabla_g A, JA \rangle_g + 4 \langle \nabla_g^2 f, A^2 \rangle_g + 2 \int_X |A|_g^2 F \Omega \\ &\quad - (\Delta_g^\Omega - 2\mathbf{I}) |A|_g^2 - 2 \int_X |A|_g^2 \Omega - \frac{1}{2} P_{g,J}^\Omega \operatorname{Re} \psi, \end{aligned}$$

thanks to identity (16) and a computation in the proof of lemma 25 in section 19 of [6]. We denote respectively by π_1 and π_2 the projection to the first and second

factor of the decomposition (4). Then the identity

$$0 = \pi_2 \ddot{\gamma}_0 = \pi_2 \frac{d^2}{dt^2} \Big|_{t=0} \underline{H}_{g_t, \Omega_t},$$

is equivalent to the identity

$$(22) \quad \int_X u_1 [4 \langle \nabla_g^2 f, A^2 \rangle_g - 2 \langle J \nabla_g f \lrcorner \nabla_g A, JA \rangle_g - (\Delta_g^\Omega - 2\mathbf{I}) |A|_g^2] \Omega = 0,$$

for any $u = u_1 + iu_2 \in \Lambda_{g,J}^\Omega$, with u_1, u_2 , real valued. We observe now the equalities

$$\begin{aligned} \int_X u_1 (\Delta_g^\Omega - 2\mathbf{I}) |A|_g^2 \Omega &= - \int_X B_{g,J}^\Omega u_2 |A|_g^2 \Omega \\ &= \int_X u_2 B_{g,J}^\Omega |A|_g^2 \Omega \\ &= \int_X u_2 (J \nabla_g f) \cdot |A|_g^2 \Omega \\ &= 2 \int_X u_2 \langle J \nabla_g f \lrcorner \nabla_g A, A \rangle_g \Omega. \end{aligned}$$

We conclude that the identity (22) is equivalent to

$$2 \int_X u_1 \langle \nabla_g^2 f, A^2 \rangle_g \Omega = \int_X \langle J \nabla_g f \lrcorner \nabla_g A, i\bar{u} \times_J A \rangle_g \Omega,$$

which shows the required conclusion.

8. Appendix

8.1. Proof of the identities (11) and (12)

By definition of the Ω -divergence operator and using the symmetry of A we infer

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{div}^\Omega(A \cdot \xi) &= g(\nabla_{g, e_k}(A \cdot \xi), e_k) - g(A \cdot \xi, \nabla_g f) \\ &= g(\nabla_{g, e_k} A \cdot \xi + A \cdot \nabla_{g, e_k} \xi, e_k) - g(\xi, A \cdot \nabla_g f) \\ &= g(\xi, \nabla_{g, e_k} A \cdot e_k - A \cdot \nabla_g f) + g(\nabla_{g, e_k} \xi, Ae_k), \end{aligned}$$

and thus the identity (11). We expand now the term

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{div}^\Omega \operatorname{Tr}_g(\nabla_g A \cdot A) &= \operatorname{div}^\Omega(\nabla_{g, e_k} A \cdot Ae_k) \\ &= g(\nabla_{g, e_l}(\nabla_{g, e_k} A \cdot Ae_k), e_l) - g(\nabla_{g, e_k} A \cdot Ae_k, \nabla_g f) \\ &= g(\nabla_{g, e_l} \nabla_{g, e_k} A \cdot Ae_k + \nabla_{g, e_k} A \cdot \nabla_{g, e_l} A \cdot e_k, e_l) \\ &\quad - g(Ae_k, \nabla_{g, e_k} A \cdot \nabla_g f). \end{aligned}$$

Expanding further we infer

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{div}^{\Omega} \operatorname{Tr}_g(\nabla_g A \cdot A) &= g(Ae_k, \nabla_{g, e_l} \nabla_{g, e_k} A \cdot e_l) + g(\nabla_{g, e_l} A \cdot e_k, \nabla_{g, e_k} A \cdot e_l) \\ &\quad - g(Ae_k, \nabla_{g, e_k} A \cdot \nabla_g f) \\ &= g(Ae_k, \nabla_{g, e_l} \widehat{\nabla_g A}(e_l, e_k) - \widehat{\nabla_g A}(\nabla_g f, e_k)) \\ &\quad + \langle \widehat{\nabla_g A}, \nabla_g A \rangle_g, \end{aligned}$$

and thus the identity (12).

8.2. The Maurer-Cartan equation in the Kähler case

We observe that for any vector spaces V and E , we can define a contraction operation

$$\begin{aligned} \lrcorner : (\Lambda^p V^* \otimes V) \times (\Lambda^q V^* \otimes E) &\rightarrow \Lambda^{p+q-1} V^* \otimes E \\ (\alpha, \beta) &\mapsto \alpha \lrcorner \beta, \end{aligned}$$

by the expression

$$(\alpha \lrcorner \beta)(\zeta) := \sum_{|I|=\deg \alpha} \varepsilon_I \beta(\alpha(\zeta_I), \zeta_{\mathbb{C}I}).$$

This map restricts to

$$\lrcorner : \mathcal{E}^{0,p}(T_X^{1,0}) \times \mathcal{E}^{r,q} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}^{r-1,p+q}.$$

We notice indeed the identity $\alpha \lrcorner \beta = \bar{\zeta}_I^* \wedge (\alpha_I \lrcorner \beta)$, where $\alpha = \alpha_I \otimes \bar{\zeta}_I^*$, with $(\zeta_k)_k \subset C^\infty(U, T_{X,J}^{1,0})$ a local frame. (We use from now on the Einstein convention for sums). Obviously, the contraction operation \lrcorner , generalizes the one used in the previous sections.

LEMMA 6 (Expression of the exterior Lie product). *Let (X, J, ω) be a Kähler manifold and let $\alpha, \beta \in C^\infty(X, \Lambda_J^{0,\bullet} T_X^* \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} T_{X,J}^{1,0})$. Then hold the identity*

$$[\alpha, \beta] = \alpha \lrcorner \partial_{T_{X,J}^{1,0}}^\omega \beta - (-1)^{|\alpha|} |\beta| \beta \lrcorner \partial_{T_{X,J}^{1,0}}^\omega \alpha.$$

Proof. In the case $|\alpha| = |\beta| = 0$, the identity follows from an elementary computation in geodesic holomorphic coordinates. In order to show the general case, let $(\zeta_k)_k \subset \mathcal{O}(U, T_{X,J}^{1,0})$ be a local frame. We consider the local expressions $\alpha = \alpha_K \otimes \bar{\zeta}_K^*$, $\beta = \beta_L \otimes \bar{\zeta}_L^*$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} [\alpha, \beta] &= [\alpha_K, \beta_L] \otimes (\bar{\zeta}_K^* \wedge \bar{\zeta}_L^*) \\ &= (\alpha_K \lrcorner \partial_{T_{X,J}^{1,0}}^\omega \beta_L - \beta_L \lrcorner \partial_{T_{X,J}^{1,0}}^\omega \alpha_K) \otimes (\bar{\zeta}_K^* \wedge \bar{\zeta}_L^*). \end{aligned}$$

The identity $\bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}^{1,0}} \zeta_k = 0$ implies $\partial_J \bar{\zeta}_K^* = 0$. We infer

$$\partial_{T_{X,J}^{1,0}}^\omega \alpha = \partial_{T_{X,J}^{1,0}}^\omega \alpha_K \wedge \bar{\zeta}_K^*,$$

and a similar local expression for β . Thus using the identity

$$\alpha \lrcorner \gamma = \bar{\zeta}_K^* \wedge (\alpha_K \lrcorner \gamma),$$

with γ arbitrary, we deduce

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha \lrcorner \partial_{T_{X,J}^{1,0}}^\omega \beta &= (\alpha_K \lrcorner \partial_{T_{X,J}^{1,0}}^\omega \beta_L) \otimes (\bar{\zeta}_K^* \wedge \bar{\zeta}_L^*), \\ \beta \lrcorner \partial_{T_{X,J}^{1,0}}^\omega \alpha &= (\beta_L \lrcorner \partial_{T_{X,J}^{1,0}}^\omega \alpha_K) \otimes (\bar{\zeta}_L^* \wedge \bar{\zeta}_K^*) \\ &= (-1)^{|\alpha||\beta|} (\beta_L \lrcorner \partial_{T_{X,J}^{1,0}}^\omega \alpha_K) \otimes (\bar{\zeta}_K^* \wedge \bar{\zeta}_L^*), \end{aligned}$$

and thus the required conclusion. \square

We deduce that over a Kähler manifold the Maurer-Cartan equation

$$\bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J_0}^{1,0}} \theta + \frac{1}{2} [\theta, \theta] = 0,$$

writes as

$$(23) \quad \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}^{1,0}} \theta + \theta \lrcorner \partial_{T_{X,J}^{1,0}}^\omega \theta = 0.$$

We show below that we can rewrite the Maurer-Cartan equation in equivalent real terms as

$$(24) \quad \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}} \mu + \mu \lrcorner \nabla_{g,J}^{1,0} \mu = 0,$$

or in more explicit terms

$$(\mathbf{I} + \mu) \lrcorner J \nabla_g \mu = (\mathbf{I} + \mu) J \lrcorner \nabla_g \mu.$$

In order to show (24) we expand, for any $u, v \in T_X$, the term

$$\begin{aligned} (\theta \lrcorner \partial_{T_{X,J}^{1,0}}^\omega \theta)(u, v) &= \partial_{T_{X,J}^{1,0}}^\omega \theta(\theta u, v) + \partial_{T_{X,J}^{1,0}}^\omega \theta(u, \theta v) \\ &= \nabla_{g,J}^{1,0} \theta(\theta u, v) - \nabla_{g,J}^{1,0} \theta(v, \theta u) \\ &\quad + \nabla_{g,J}^{1,0} \theta(u, \theta v) - \nabla_{g,J}^{1,0} \theta(\theta v, u). \end{aligned}$$

Expanding further we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} 2(\theta \lrcorner \partial_{T_{X,J}^{1,0}}^\omega \theta)(u, v) &= \nabla_g \theta(\theta u, v) - i \nabla_g \theta(J \theta u, v) \\ &\quad - \nabla_g \theta(v, \theta u) + i \nabla_g \theta(J v, \theta u) \\ &\quad + \nabla_g \theta(u, \theta v) - i \nabla_g \theta(J u, \theta v) \\ &\quad - \nabla_g \theta(\theta v, u) + i \nabla_g \theta(J \theta v, u). \end{aligned}$$

Using the fact that θ takes values in $T_{X,J}^{1,0}$ we obtain

$$2(\theta \lrcorner \partial_{T_{X,J}^{1,0}}^\omega \theta)(u, v) = 2\nabla_g \theta(\theta u, v) - \nabla_g \theta(v, \theta u) + i\nabla_g \theta(Jv, \theta u) \\ - 2\nabla_g \theta(\theta v, u) + \nabla_g \theta(u, \theta v) - i\nabla_g \theta(Ju, \theta v).$$

Replacing on the right hand side of this equality the identity $2\theta = \mu - iJ\mu$ and adding the conjugate of both sides we infer

$$8(\theta \lrcorner \partial_{T_{X,J}^{1,0}}^\omega \theta)(u, v) + \overline{8(\theta \lrcorner \partial_{T_{X,J}^{1,0}}^\omega \theta)(u, v)} \\ = 4\nabla_g \mu(\mu u, v) - 4J\nabla_g \mu(J\mu u, v) \\ - 2\nabla_g \mu(v, \mu u) + 2J\nabla_g \mu(v, J\mu u) \\ + 2\nabla_g \mu(Jv, J\mu u) + 2J\nabla_g \mu(Jv, \mu u) \\ + 2\nabla_g \mu(u, \mu v) - 2J\nabla_g \mu(u, J\mu v) \\ - 2\nabla_g \mu(Ju, J\mu v) - 2J\nabla_g \mu(Ju, \mu v) \\ - 4\nabla_g \mu(\mu v, u) + 4J\nabla_g \mu(J\mu v, u).$$

Using the anti J -linearity of $\nabla_{g,\xi}\mu$ we deduce

$$8(\theta \lrcorner \partial_{T_{X,J}^{1,0}}^\omega \theta)(u, v) + \overline{8(\theta \lrcorner \partial_{T_{X,J}^{1,0}}^\omega \theta)(u, v)} \\ = 4\nabla_g \mu(\mu u, v) - 4J\nabla_g \mu(J\mu u, v) \\ - 4\nabla_g \mu(\mu v, u) + 4J\nabla_g \mu(J\mu v, u) \\ = 8\nabla_{g,J}^{1,0} \mu(\mu u, v) - 8\nabla_{g,J}^{1,0} \mu(\mu v, u) \\ = 8(\mu \lrcorner \nabla_{g,J}^{1,0} \mu)(u, v).$$

The latter combined with

$$\bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}^{1,0}} \theta(u, v) + \overline{\bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}^{1,0}} \theta(u, v)} = \bar{\partial}_{T_{X,J}} \mu(u, v),$$

and (23) implies the required identity (24).

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