

## ON THE COMASS OF FORMS-PRODUCTS

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### 1. INTRODUCTION

The calibration method was studied systematically by Dao Trong Thi in [3, 4] and R. Harvey, B. Lawson in [7]. Various concrete calibrations were used by many authors to find minimal surfaces, see Federer [5] Berger [1], Dao Trong Thi [3, 4], Harvey-Lawson [7], Dadok-Harvey-Morgan [2], Le Hong Van [9] Hoang Xuan Huan [8] etc... For applying this method, determining the comass and the maximal directions of a  $p$ -covector is the main obstacle. In the field mentioned above, it is still open the question whether the equality  $\|\varphi \wedge \psi\|^* = \|\varphi\|^* \cdot \|\psi\|^*$  holds where  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$  are forms on orthogonal subspaces of  $R^n$ . Let  $\varphi \in \Lambda^k R^m$ ,  $\psi \in \Lambda^l R^n$ , then  $\varphi \wedge \psi \in \Lambda^{k+l} R^{m+n}$ . We note that although the inequality  $\|\varphi \wedge \psi\|^* \geq \|\varphi\|^* \cdot \|\psi\|^*$  is obvious the equality  $\|\varphi \wedge \psi\|^* = \|\varphi\|^* \cdot \|\psi\|^*$  had been proved only for some concrete cases. Morgan [11] has showed that the equality holds if  $k \leq 2$ , or  $m - k \leq 2$ , or  $k = l = 3$ , or  $m - k = n - l = 3$ . Recently, Hoang Xuan Huan [8] has proved it for an arbitrary  $E$ -separable form  $\varphi$ . In this paper we prove the equality when  $\varphi$  is either a torus form, or a certain averaged form by a group.

### 2. THE COMASS OF A PRODUCT WITH A FACTOR BEING A TORUS FORM

First we recall some notions and facts of exterior algebra.

Let  $R^n$  be the  $n$ -dimensional Euclidean space,  $\Lambda_k R^n$  and  $\Lambda^k R^n$  the dual spaces of the  $k$ -vectors and the  $k$ -covectors respectively. The inner product and the norm on  $R^n$  induce the inner product and the norm on  $\Lambda_k R^n$  and  $\Lambda^k R^n$ . Consider an orthonormal basis  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  of  $R^n$  and the dual basis  $e_1^*, \dots, e_n^*$  of  $\Lambda^1 R^n$  (from now on, the symbol  $e^*$  means the dual covector of  $e$ ), then an arbitrary  $p$ -covector in  $R^n$  has an unique expression  $\varphi = \sum a_I e_I^*$ , where  $I = (i_1, \dots, i_p)$ ,  $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_p \leq n$  and  $e_I^* = e_{i_1}^* \wedge \dots \wedge e_{i_p}^*$ . The comass of a  $p$ -covector  $\varphi$  is defined by

$$\|\varphi\|^* = \sup\{\varphi(\xi) : \xi \in G(p, R^n)\},$$

where the Grassmannian  $G(p, R^n)$  consists of all oriented  $p$ -planes in  $R^n$  and it may be identified with the collection of unit simple  $p$ -vectors in  $R^n$ .

For any  $p$ -covector  $\varphi$  in  $R^n$  the set of maximal directions of  $\varphi$  is defined by

$$G(\varphi) = \{\xi \in G(p, R^n) : \varphi(\xi) = \|\varphi\|^*\}.$$

Let  $\varphi$  be a  $p$ -covector in a subspace  $V \subset R^n$  then  $\varphi$  can be considered as a  $p$ -covector in  $R^n$  identifying with  $\Pi^* \varphi$  where  $\Pi$  is the orthogonal projection of  $R^n$  on  $V$ .

Because every  $p$ -covector in  $R^n$  can be considered as a parallel differential  $p$ -form in  $R^n$ , from now on, we shall call every  $p$ -covector in  $R^n$  to be a  $p$ -form in  $R^n$  unless otherwise stated.

Now we recall the notion of torus form which was introduced and its comass was computed in several papers, for example, see [2]. Here we consider it only in the relation with the problem mentioned above.

**Definition 1.** Identify  $R^{2n} \cong C^n$  with real orthonormal basis  $e_1, Je_1, \dots, e_n, Je_n$ . Any  $n$ -form is called a torus form on  $R^{2n}$  if it belongs to  $\bigotimes_{k=1}^n \Lambda^1 \text{span}(e_k, Je_k) \subset \Lambda^n R^{2n}$ .

Note that the Lagrangian forms  $\text{Re} e^{i\theta} dz_1 \wedge \dots \wedge dz_n$  are torus forms.

The torus forms belong to the class of  $V$ -torus forms defined below:

**Definition 2.** Let  $V$  be a 2-dimensional subspace of  $R^n$  ( $n \geq 2$ ). Any form  $\varphi \in \Lambda^1 V \oplus \Lambda^2 V$  ( $\ell \geq 0$ ) is called a  $V$ -torus form.

We note that if  $e_1, e_2$  is an orthonormal basis of  $V$  then each  $V$ -torus form can be expressed as

$$\varphi = e_1^* \wedge \varphi_1 + e_2^* \wedge \varphi_2,$$

where  $\varphi_1$  and  $\varphi_2$  are forms on  $V^\perp$ .

Obviously, for any  $p$ -form  $\Omega$  on  $R^n$ ,  $\|\Omega\|^* = \max_{v \in R^n, |v|=1} \|v \lrcorner \Omega\|^*$ . Moreover, for  $V$ -torus forms we have the following

**Lemma 1.** Let  $\Omega$  be a  $V$ -torus form on  $R^n$ . Then  $\|\Omega\|^* = \max_{v \in V, |v|=1} \|v \lrcorner \Omega\|^*$ .

*Proof.* The inequality  $\max_{v \in V, |v|=1} \|v \lrcorner \Omega\|^* \leq \|\Omega\|^*$  is evident.

Conversely, take  $\xi \in G(\Omega)$  and put  $\xi$  in canonical form with respect to  $V$  (see [7, Lemma 7.5]), that is

$$\xi = (\cos \theta_1 e_1 + \sin \theta_1 f_1) \wedge (\cos \theta_2 e_2 + \sin \theta_2 f_2) \wedge f_3 \wedge \dots \wedge f_p,$$

where  $e_1, e_2$  is an orthonormal basis of  $V$ ,  $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_p$  are orthonormal vectors in  $V^\perp$  and  $\theta_i, 0 \leq \theta_i \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$ , for  $i = 1, 2$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega(\xi) &= \cos \theta_1 \sin \theta_2 \Omega(e_1 \wedge f_2 \wedge \dots \wedge f_p) + \sin \theta_1 \cos \theta_2 \Omega(f_1 \wedge e_2 \wedge \dots \wedge f_p) \\ &= a \cos \theta_1 \sin \theta_2 + b \sin \theta_1 \cos \theta_2 \leq \max\{|a|, |b|\} (\cos \theta_1 \sin \theta_2 + \sin \theta_1 \cos \theta_2) \\ &= \max\{|a|, |b|\} \sin(\theta_1 + \theta_2) \leq \max\{|a|, |b|\} \leq \|\Omega\|^*, \end{aligned}$$

where  $a = \Omega(e_1 \wedge f_2 \wedge \dots \wedge f_p)$ ,  $b = \Omega(f_1 \wedge e_2 \wedge \dots \wedge f_p)$ .

Hence the inequalities become equality, in particular,  $\max\{|a|, |b|\} = \|\Omega\|^*$ .

Therefore,  $|a| = \|\Omega\|^*$  or  $|b| = \|\Omega\|^*$ .

But  $|a| = |\Omega(e_1 \wedge f_2 \wedge \dots \wedge f_p)| = |e_1 \lrcorner \Omega(f_2 \wedge \dots \wedge f_p)| \leq \|e_1 \lrcorner \Omega\|^*$

and  $|b| = |\Omega(f_1 \wedge e_2 \wedge \dots \wedge f_p)| = |-e_2 \lrcorner \Omega(f_1 \wedge \dots \wedge f_p)| \leq \|-e_2 \lrcorner \Omega\|^*$ ,

therefore  $\|\Omega\|^* \leq \|e_1 \lrcorner \Omega\|^*$  or  $\|\Omega\|^* \leq \|-e_2 \lrcorner \Omega\|^*$ .

Thus, we have  $\|\Omega\|^* = \max_{v \in V, |v|=1} \|v \lrcorner \Omega\|^*$ .

The lemma is proved.

**Lemma 2.** Let  $R^{n+m} = R^n \oplus R^m$  be an orthogonal decomposition of  $R^{n+m}$ . Let  $\varphi \in \Lambda^\ell R^n$ ,  $\psi \in \Lambda^q R^m$ , and  $v \in R^{n+m}$  such that  $v \lrcorner \psi = 0$ . Then  $v \lrcorner (\varphi \wedge \psi) = (v \lrcorner \varphi) \wedge \psi$ .

Suppose  $v_2, \dots, v_{p+q} \in R^{n+m}$  and  $v_1 = v$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} v \lrcorner (\varphi \wedge \psi)(v_2, \dots, v_{p+q}) &= (\varphi \wedge \psi)(v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{p+q}) \\ &= \sum_{\sigma \in \text{Sh}(p,q)} \text{index}(\sigma) \varphi(v_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, v_{\sigma(p)}) \psi(v_{\sigma(p+1)}, \dots, v_{\sigma(p+q)}), \end{aligned}$$

$\text{Sh}(p, q)$  consists of all permutations  $\sigma$  of  $\{1, \dots, p+q\}$  such that  $\sigma$  increases on the set of  $p$  and the set of  $\{p+1, \dots, p+q\}$ .

Since  $v_1 \lrcorner \psi = 0$  the above sum equals to

$$\begin{aligned} &\sum_{\sigma \in \text{Sh}(p-1,q)} \text{index}(\sigma) \varphi(v_1, v_{\sigma(2)}, \dots, v_{\sigma(p)}) \psi(v_{\sigma(p+1)}, \dots, v_{\sigma(p+q)}) \\ &= \sum_{\sigma \in \text{Sh}(p-1,q)} \text{index}(\sigma) (v_1 \lrcorner \varphi)(v_{\sigma(2)}, \dots, v_{\sigma(p)}) \psi(v_{\sigma(p+1)}, \dots, v_{\sigma(p+q)}) \\ &= (v_1 \lrcorner \varphi) \wedge \psi(v_2, \dots, v_p, \dots, v_{p+q}), \end{aligned}$$

where  $\sigma$  is a permutation of  $\{2, 3, \dots, p+q\}$ .

Consequently  $v_1 \lrcorner (\varphi \wedge \psi) = (v_1 \lrcorner \varphi) \wedge \psi$ . The lemma is proved.

**Lemma 1.** Let  $\varphi$  be a torus form on  $R^{2n} \cong C^n$  and  $\psi$  be a  $p$ -form on  $R^m$ . Consider  $\Omega = \varphi \wedge \psi$  a  $(n+p)$ -form on  $R^{2n} \oplus R^m$ . Then  $\|\Omega\|^* = \|\varphi\|^* \cdot \|\psi\|^*$  and  $G(\Omega) \supset G(\varphi) \wedge G(\psi)$ .

**Proof.** The second conclusion holds for every case when the first one holds.

Let  $e_1, Je_1, \dots, e_n, Je_n$  is an orthonormal basis of  $R^{2n}$  and  $\varphi \in \bigotimes_{k=1}^n \Lambda^1 \text{span}(e_k, Je_k) \subset \Lambda^n R^{2n}$ . Then  $\varphi$  and  $\varphi \wedge \psi$  are  $V$ -torus forms, where  $V = \text{span}(e_1, Je_1)$ . We note that  $v \lrcorner \varphi$  where  $v$  is a torus form on  $R^{2(n-1)} = V^\perp$ . Using Lemma 1, Lemma 2 by induction on  $n$  we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \|\varphi \wedge \psi\|^* &= \max_{v \in V, |v|=1} \|v \lrcorner (\varphi \wedge \psi)\|^* = \max_{v \in V, |v|=1} \|(v \lrcorner \varphi) \wedge \psi\|^* \\ &= \max_{v \in V, |v|=1} \|v \lrcorner \varphi\|^* \|\psi\|^* = \|\varphi\|^* \|\psi\|^*. \end{aligned}$$

take  $\eta \in G(\varphi)$  and  $\lambda \in G(\psi)$ , we have

$$\Omega(\eta \wedge \lambda) = \varphi(\eta) \cdot \psi(\lambda) = \|\varphi\|^* \|\psi\|^* = \|\Omega\|^*$$

$\eta \wedge \lambda \in G(\Omega)$ , this implies that  $G(\Omega) \supset G(\varphi) \wedge G(\psi)$ .

Every parallel differential form having comass one is a calibration (the notion of calibration is given later in section 4). The following corollary follows directly from Theorem 1.

**Corollary 1.** Let  $\text{Red}z = \text{Red}z_1 \wedge \dots \wedge dz_n$  be the special Lagrangian calibration on  $R^{2n} \cong C^n$  (7) and  $\varphi$  be a calibration on  $R^m$ . Then  $\omega = \text{Red}z \wedge \varphi$  is a calibration on  $R^{2n+m}$  and  $G(\omega) \supset S(\text{Lag}) \wedge G(\varphi)$  where  $S(\text{Lag})$  consists of all special Lagrangian subspaces of  $R^{2n} \cong C^n$ .

Because for an arbitrary 3-form on  $R^6$  there is a convenient basis so that this 3-form is a torus (see [11], from Theorem 5.1 in [11] and Theorem 1 we have the following

**Corollary 2.** Let  $\varphi$  be a calibration on  $R^6$  and  $\psi$  be a calibration on  $R^m$ . Then  $\varphi$  calibration on  $R^{6+m}$  and  $G(\varphi \wedge \psi) \supset G(\varphi) \wedge G(\psi)$ .

### 3. THE COMASS OF A PRODUCT WITH A FACTOR BEING AN AVERAGED F

Let  $\mathcal{G} \subset O(n)$  be a compact Lie group, each  $k$ -form  $\varphi = \int_{\mathcal{G}} g^* \omega dg$  for any  $\omega \in \Lambda^k R^n$  an averaged form by group  $\mathcal{G}$ . Some known averaged forms are the normalized powers of Kähler forms, the Euler forms and their "adjusted powers". Using them as calibration one showed certain submanifolds are homologically minimal in quaternionic Kähler manifold in Grassmannian manifold (see [6, 12]).

In this section we prove that the equality on the comass of a product holds when  $\omega$  is a certain averaged form.

Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be a compact Lie group. Consider the Haar measure on  $\mathcal{G}$  such that the measure of the whole group  $\mathcal{G}$  equals to 1. We have the following

**Theorem 2.** Let  $\mathcal{G} \subset O(n)$  be a compact Lie subgroup and  $\omega \in \Lambda^k R^n$ , suppose that  $\xi \in \text{span} \xi$  is  $\mathcal{G}$ -invariant. Then

$$\left\| \int_{\mathcal{G}} \det(g|_{\text{span} \xi}) g^* \omega dg \right\|^* = \|\omega\|^*$$

and  $\xi$  is a maximal direction of the form on the left side.

*Proof.* Note that since  $\text{span} \xi$  is  $\mathcal{G}$ -invariant and  $\mathcal{G} \subset O(n)$ ,  $\det(g|_{\text{span} \xi}) = +1$  or  $-1$  we have

$$\left\| \int_{\mathcal{G}} \det(g|_{\text{span} \xi}) g^* \omega dg \right\|^* \leq \|\omega\|^*.$$

Indeed, take  $\eta \in G(k, R^n)$ , then

$$\left| \int_{\mathcal{G}} \det(g|_{\text{span} \xi}) g^* \omega(\eta) dg \right| \leq \int_{\mathcal{G}} |\omega(g \cdot \eta)| dg \leq \int_{\mathcal{G}} \|\omega\|^* dg = \|\omega\|^*$$

for any  $\eta \in G(k, R^n)$ , therefore

$$\left\| \int_{\mathcal{G}} \det(g|_{\text{span} \xi}) g^* \omega dg \right\|^* \leq \|\omega\|^*.$$

Conversely, we have  $g \cdot \xi = \det(g|_{\text{span} \xi}) \cdot \xi$ .

Therefore

$$\left\| \int_{\mathcal{G}} \det(g|_{\text{span} \xi}) g^* \omega dg \right\|^* \geq \int_{\mathcal{G}} \det(g|_{\text{span} \xi}) g^* \omega(\xi) dg = \int_{\mathcal{G}} \det^2(g|_{\text{span} \xi}) \omega(\xi) dg.$$

Since  $\xi \in G(\omega)$  and  $\det(g|_{\text{span} \xi}) = 1$  or  $-1$  we have

$$\left\| \int_{\mathcal{G}} \det(g|_{\text{span} \xi}) g^* \omega dg \right\|^* \geq \int_{\mathcal{G}} \|\omega\|^* dg = \|\omega\|^*.$$

Hence,

$$\left\| \int_{\mathcal{G}} \det(g|_{\text{span} \xi}) g^* \omega dg \right\|^* = \|\omega\|^*$$

is a maximal direction of the form on the left side. The theorem is proved.

**em 3.** Let  $\varphi \in \Lambda^k R^n$ ,  $\psi \in \Lambda^l R^m$ ,  $\varphi \wedge \psi \in \Lambda^{k+l} R^{n+m}$  such that  $\|\varphi \wedge \psi\|^* = \|\varphi\|^* \|\psi\|^*$ .  $\mathcal{G} \subset O(n)$  be a compact Lie subgroup such that  $\|\int_{\mathcal{G}} \chi(g) g^* \varphi dg\|^* = \|\varphi\|^*$ , where  $\chi(g)$  is a function of value 1 or -1 on  $\mathcal{G}$ . Then

$$\|(\int_{\mathcal{G}} \chi(g) g^* \varphi dg) \wedge \psi\|^* = \|\int_{\mathcal{G}} \chi(g) g^* \varphi dg\|^* \cdot \|\psi\|^*.$$

It is sufficient to prove the inequality

$$\|(\int_{\mathcal{G}} \chi(g) g^* \varphi dg) \wedge \psi\|^* \leq \|\int_{\mathcal{G}} \chi(g) g^* \varphi dg\|^* \cdot \|\psi\|^*.$$

we

$$\|(\int_{\mathcal{G}} \chi(g) g^* \varphi dg) \wedge \psi\|^* = \|\int_{\mathcal{G}} (\chi(g) g^* \varphi \wedge \psi) dg\|^* = \|\int_{\mathcal{G}} \chi(g) g^* (\varphi \wedge \psi) dg\|^*, \quad (*)$$

here  $\mathcal{G}$  is considered as a subgroup of  $O(n+m)$  such that  $g|_{R^m} = i d_{R^m}$ , for any  $g \in \mathcal{G}$ . From (\*) it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \|(\int_{\mathcal{G}} \chi(g) g^* \varphi dg) \wedge \psi\|^* &\leq \int_{\mathcal{G}} \|(\chi(g) g^* \varphi \wedge \psi)\|^* dg \\ &= \int_{\mathcal{G}} \|\varphi \wedge \psi\|^* dg = \|\varphi \wedge \psi\|^*. \quad (**) \end{aligned}$$

$\|\varphi \wedge \psi\|^* = \|\varphi\|^* \cdot \|\psi\|^*$  from (\*\*) we have

$$\|(\int_{\mathcal{G}} \chi(g) g^* \varphi dg) \wedge \psi\|^* \leq \|\varphi\|^* \cdot \|\psi\|^* = \|\int_{\mathcal{G}} \chi(g) g^* \varphi dg\|^* \cdot \|\psi\|^*.$$

Theorem is proved.

Now we apply the above results for the powers of quaternionic Kahler forms, the Euler forms and their "adjusted powers".

We showed that submanifolds  $G_k R^{k+p}$  is homologically minimal in Grassmannian manifold  $G_k R^{k+n}$  for  $k$ -even and they are calibrated by forms  $\lambda_p$  given below (see [6]).

Let us consider an orthogonal complex structure  $J$  on  $R^k$  then  $J$  defines a complex structure same name on  $R^k \otimes R^n$  by  $J(u \otimes v) = J(u) \otimes v$ . Let  $\omega_J$  denote the corresponding Kahler form on  $R^k \otimes R^n$ . Consider  $kp$ -form  $\Omega = \frac{\omega_J^{rp}}{(rp)!}$  ( $k = 2r$ ). A twisted average of these powers of Kahler form by the space of all possible complex structure  $J$  on  $R^k$ , equivalently, by the group  $O(k)$  as follows. Fix the complex structure  $J$  on  $R^k$ . Then for each  $g \in O(k)$  consider the corresponding complex structure  $g^{-1} J g$  on  $R^k$  and by our convention, also on  $R^k \otimes R^n$ , we have  $g^* \omega_J = \omega_{g^{-1} J g}$ . Consider the form

$$\lambda_p = \int_{O(k)} (\det)^p g^* \Omega dg.$$

$\lambda_p$  is a  $SO(k) \times SO(n)$ -invariant form, hence it induces a  $SO(k+n)$ -invariant differential form on  $G_k R^{k+n}$ . When  $p = 1$  it is called the Euler form and when  $p > 1$  it is an "adjusted

power" of the Euler form (the term of "adjusted power" was used by Le Hong Van in [10], by the above construction, see [6].

Let  $e_1, \dots, e_k$  is an oriented orthonormal basis in  $R^k$  such that this orientation agrees canonical orientation of complex structure  $J$ . Let  $f_1, \dots, f_n$  is an orthonormal basis of  $R^n$ .

$$\xi = (e_1 \otimes f_1) \wedge \dots \wedge (e_k \otimes f_1) \wedge \dots \wedge (e_1 \otimes f_p) \wedge \dots \wedge (e_k \otimes f_p), \text{ for } p \leq n$$

is a canonically oriented complex  $rp$ -plane for complex structure  $J$  in  $R^k \otimes R^n$ , i.e.  $\xi \in \text{span} \xi$  and  $\text{span} \xi$  is  $O(k)$ -invariant. Each  $g \in O(k)$  is extended on  $R^k \otimes R^n$  by  $g(u \otimes v) = g(u) \otimes v$  and  $\det(g|_{\text{span} \xi}) = (\det g)^p$  (on the right side, we consider the determinant of transformation  $g$  on  $R^k$ ). Applying Theorem 2, Theorem 3 and Theorem 6.1 in [8] for powers of the Kahler forms we get the following.

**Corollary 3.** Let  $\lambda_p = \int_{O(k)} (\det g)^p g^* \Omega dg$  be the form mentioned above. Then

$$\|\lambda_p\|^* = \|\Omega\|^* = 1$$

and

$$\|\lambda_p \wedge \psi\|^* = \|\lambda_p\|^* \cdot \|\psi\|^*,$$

where  $\psi$  is any form on a space orthogonal to  $R^k \otimes R^n$ .

In fact, the first conclusion of Corollary 3 had been proved in [6].

Now we consider the quaternionic Kahler form on a quaternionic Kahler manifold it is defined as follows: on a quaternionic Kahler manifold  $M$  and parallel differential form determined by  $Sp(n) \times Sp(1)$ -invariant form  $\Omega = \frac{1}{6}(\Omega_I^2 + \Omega_J^2 + \Omega_K^2)$  on  $H^n$  is called the quaternionic Kahler form and it is also denoted by  $\Omega$ , where  $\omega_I, \omega_J, \omega_K$  are Kahler form corresponding to complex structures  $I, J, K$  on  $H^n$  and where  $H^n$  is identified with a tangent space  $T_x M$  for some  $x$  (see [12]).

Tasaki [12] has proved that

$$\frac{\Omega^m}{m!} = \int_{z \in Sp(1)} z^* \frac{\Omega_I^{2m}}{(2m)!} dz$$

( $Sp(1) \equiv \{z \in H, |z| = 1\}$  and  $Sp(1)$  acts on  $H^n$  by the left handed multiplication).

We note that  $\xi = v_1 \wedge v_1 i \wedge v_1 j \wedge v_1 k \wedge \dots \wedge v_m \wedge v_m i \wedge v_m j \wedge v_m k$ , where  $v_1, \dots, v_m$  is a system of  $H$ -linearly independent orthonormal vectors in  $H^n$ , satisfies the conditions in Theorem 2 for  $\omega = \frac{\Omega_I^{2m}}{(2m)!}$  and  $\mathcal{G} = Sp(1)$ . Further since  $Sp(1)$  acts on  $\text{span} \{v_p, v_p i, v_p j, v_p k\}$  for  $p = 1, 2, \dots, m$  with the determinants of transformations equal to 1, therefore  $\det(g|_{\text{span} \xi}) = 1$  for any  $g \in Sp(1)$ . Because of the same reason as for corollary 3 we obtain the following

**Corollary 4.** Let  $\Omega$  be the form on  $H^n$  defined as above. Then

$$\left\| \frac{\Omega^m}{m!} \right\|^* = \left\| \frac{\Omega_I^{2m}}{(2m)!} \right\|^* = 1$$

and

$$\|\Omega^m \wedge \psi\|^* = \|\Omega^m\|^* \cdot \|\psi\|^*$$

where  $\psi$  is any form on a space orthogonal to  $H^n$ .

In fact, the first conclusion of Corollary 4 had been proved in [12].

#### 4. PRODUCT OF MINIMAL CURRENTS

We consider the product  $M \times N$  of Riemannian manifolds  $M$  and  $N$ . Let  $S$  and  $T$  be minimal currents on  $M$  and  $N$  respectively. In general, one does not know whether the Cartesian product  $S \times T$  is also minimal on  $M \times N$ . Applying the calibration method with using results on the comass products, we can give some new examples of minimal currents as Cartesian products of minimal currents in the class of normal currents.

First we recall some necessary notions and facts (for details see [4]).

Let  $\varphi$  and  $S$  be a differential  $p$ -form and a  $p$ -current in a Riemannian manifold  $M$  respectively. The comass of  $\varphi$  is defined by  $\|\varphi\|^* = \sup\{\|\varphi_x\|^*, x \in M\}$  and the set of maximal directions of  $\varphi$  is defined by

$$G(\varphi) = \bigcup\{G(\varphi_x), \|\varphi_x\|^* = \|\varphi\|^*\}.$$

If  $\varphi$  is closed and has comass one then it is called a calibration. The mass of  $S$  is defined by

$$M(S) = \sup\{S(\varphi), \|\varphi\|^* = 1\}$$

if  $S$  is a surface in  $M$  then  $M(S) = \text{volume}(S)$ . A current  $S$  in a Riemannian manifold is called homologically minimal with respect to the mass if  $M(S) \leq M(S')$  for any current  $S'$  homologous to  $S$ , and the  $S$  is called homologically mass-minimizing current, or simply, homologically minimal current. A fundamental theorem of the calibration method [4, Theorem 3.6] says that a current  $S$  in a Riemannian manifold  $M$  is homologically minimal if and only if there exists a closed form  $\Omega$  such that the tangent  $\vec{S}_x$  of  $S$  belongs to  $G(\Omega)$  almost every where (in the sense of the measure  $\mu$ ). In this case, we say that  $S$  is calibrated by  $\Omega$ .

We have the following

**theorem 4.** *Let  $S$  and  $T$  be two homologically minimal currents in Riemannian manifolds  $M$  and  $N$  respectively. If  $S$  is calibrated by  $\varphi$  and  $T$  is calibrated by  $\psi$  such that  $\|\varphi_x \wedge \psi_y\|^* = \|\varphi_x\|^* \|\psi_y\|^*$  for any  $x \in M, y \in N$ . Then  $S \times T$  is homologically minimal in  $M \times N$ .*

*mark.*  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$  can be considered as differential forms on  $M \times N$  by identifying with  $\pi_1^* \varphi$  and  $\pi_2^* \psi$  respectively where  $\pi_1 : M \times N \rightarrow M, \pi_2 : M \times N \rightarrow N$  are canonical projections.

*pf.* We have  $\varphi \wedge \psi$  be closed and

$$\begin{aligned} \|\varphi \wedge \psi\|^* &= \sup\{\|(\varphi \wedge \psi)_{(x,y)}\|^*, (x,y) \in M \times N\} \\ &= \sup\{\|(\varphi_x \wedge \psi_y)\|^*, x \in M, y \in N\} \\ &= \sup\{\|\varphi_x\|^* \|\psi_y\|^*, x \in M, y \in N\} \\ &= \sup_{x \in M} \|\varphi_x\|^* \cdot \sup_{y \in N} \|\psi_y\|^* \\ &= \|\varphi\|^* \cdot \|\psi\|^* = 1. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $\varphi \wedge \psi$  is calibration on  $M \times N$ .

On the other hand, since  $\overline{S \times T}_{(x,y)} = \vec{S}_x \wedge \vec{T}_y$  and  $\varphi(\vec{S}_x) = 1, \psi(\vec{T}_y) = 1$  almost every where we have

$$(\varphi \times \psi)(\overline{S \times T}_{(x,y)}) = \varphi(\vec{S}_x) \cdot \psi(\vec{T}_y) = 1 \text{ almost every where.}$$

It is shown that  $S \times T$  is calibrated by  $\varphi \wedge \psi$ .

## Examples

**Example 1.** Let  $S$  be a special Lagrangian submanifold of  $R^{2n}$  and  $T$  be a homologically minimal current in a Riemannian manifold  $N$ . Then  $S \times T$  is homologically minimal current in  $R^{2n} \times N$ . This follows from Corollary (3) and Theorem 4.

**Example 2.** Let  $S$  be a homologically minimal current in a 6-dimensional Riemannian manifold  $M$  and  $T$  a homologically minimal current in a Riemannian manifold  $N$ . Then from Corollary 3 and Theorem 4 it follows that  $S \times T$  is homologically minimal in  $M \times N$ .

**Example 3.** Let  $M$  be a  $4n$ -dimensional quaternionic Kahler manifold and  $S$  be a quaternionic Kahler submanifold of  $M$ . Let  $T$  be a homologically minimal current in a Riemannian manifold  $N$ . Since  $S$  calibrated by differential form  $\frac{\Omega^m}{m!}$  ( $m < n$ ) where  $\Omega$  is quaternionic Kahler form ( [12]) from Corollary 4 and Theorem 4 it follows that  $S \times T$  is homologically minimal current in  $M \times N$ .

**Example 4.** For  $k$  even integer, by Proposition 3.1 in [6] the submanifold  $G_k R^{k+p}$  of  $G_k R^l$  is homologically minimal and it calibrated by form  $\lambda_p$  mentioned in section 3. Let  $S$  be a homologically minimal current in a Riemannian manifold  $N$ , then from Corollary 3 and Theorem 4 it follows that  $G_k R^{k+p} \times S$  is homologically minimal current in  $G_k R^{k+n} \times N$ .

**Remark.** The above results hold, in particular, when currents are replaced by surfaces.

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## VỀ ĐỐI KHỐI LƯỢNG CỦA TÍCH CÁC DẠNG

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Theo phương pháp dạng cơ, vấn đề xác định khối lượng và các hướng cực đại của tích các dạng trên các không gian trực giao có ý nghĩa quan trọng trong việc tìm các mặt cực tiểu thể tích của hàm tích các mặt cực tiểu thể tích. Trong bài này chúng tôi chứng minh một đẳng thức về khối lượng của tích các dạng khi một nhân tử là một dạng xuyên hoặc là một dạng trung bình bởi một nhóm. Áp dụng kết quả này, chúng tôi nhận thấy được một số ví dụ về các mặt cực tiểu thể tích.