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# Eigenvalues of the transversal Dirac operator on Kähler foliations

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## Abstract

In this paper, we prove Kirchberg-type inequalities for any Kähler spin foliation. Their limiting-cases are then characterized as being transversal minimal Einstein foliations. The key point is to introduce the transversal Kählerian twistor operators.

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## 1. Introduction

On a compact Riemannian spin manifold  $(M^n, g_M)$ , Th. Friedrich [1] showed that any eigenvalue  $\lambda$  of the Dirac operator satisfies

$$\lambda^2 \geq \frac{n}{4(n-1)} S_0, \quad (1.1)$$

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where  $S_0$  denotes the infimum of the scalar curvature of  $M$ . The limiting case in (1.1) is characterized by the existence of a *Killing spinor*. As a consequence  $M$  is Einstein. Kirchberg [4] established that, on such manifolds any eigenvalue  $\lambda$  satisfies the inequalities

$$\lambda^2 \geq \begin{cases} \frac{m+1}{4m} S_0 & \text{if } m \text{ is odd,} \\ \frac{m}{4(m-1)} S_0 & \text{if } m \text{ is even.} \end{cases}$$

On a compact Riemannian spin foliation  $(M, g_M, \mathcal{F})$  of codimension  $q$  with a bundle-like metric  $g_M$  such that the mean curvature  $\kappa$  is a basic coclosed 1-form, Jung [13] showed that any eigenvalue  $\lambda$  of the transversal Dirac operator satisfies

$$\lambda^2 \geq \frac{q}{4(q-1)} K_0^\nabla, \quad (1.2)$$

where  $K_0^\nabla = \inf_M (\sigma^\nabla + |\kappa|^2)$ , here  $\sigma^\nabla$  denotes the transversal scalar curvature with the transversal Levi–Civita connection  $\nabla$ . The limiting case in (1.2) is characterized by the fact that  $\mathcal{F}$  is minimal ( $\kappa = 0$ ) and transversally Einstein (see Theorem 3.1). The main result of this paper is the following.

**Theorem 1.1.** *Let  $(M, g_M, \mathcal{F})$  be a compact Riemannian manifold with a Kähler spin foliation  $\mathcal{F}$  of codimension  $q = 2m$  and a bundle-like metric  $g_M$ . Assume that  $\kappa$  is a basic coclosed 1-form, then any eigenvalue  $\lambda$  of the transversal Dirac operator satisfies:*

$$\lambda^2 \geq \frac{m+1}{4m} K_0^\nabla \quad \text{if } m \text{ is odd} \quad (1.3)$$

and

$$\lambda^2 \geq \frac{m}{4(m-1)} K_0^\nabla \quad \text{if } m \text{ is even.} \quad (1.4)$$

The limiting case in (1.3) is characterized by the fact that the foliation is minimal and by existence of a transversal Kählerian Killing spinor (see Theorem 4.3). We refer to Theorem 4.4 for the equality case in (1.4).

We point out that inequality (1.3) was proved by Jung [14] with the additional assumption that  $\kappa$  is *transversally holomorphic*. The author would like to thank Oussama Hijazi for his support.

## 2. Foliated manifolds

In this section, we summarize some standard facts about foliations. For more details, we refer to [8,13].

Let  $(M, g_M)$  be a  $(p+q)$ -dimensional Riemannian manifold and a foliation  $\mathcal{F}$  of codimension  $q$  and let  $\nabla^M$  be the Levi–Civita connection associated with  $g_M$ . We consider the

exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow L \xrightarrow{\iota} TM \xrightarrow{\pi} Q \longrightarrow 0,$$

where  $L$  is the tangent bundle of  $TM$  and  $Q = TM/L \simeq L^\perp$  the normal bundle. We assume  $g_M$  to be a *bundle-like metric* on  $Q$ , that means the induced metric  $g_Q$  verifies the holonomy invariance condition:

$$\mathcal{L}_X g_Q = 0 \quad \forall X \in \Gamma(L),$$

where  $\mathcal{L}_X$  is the Lie derivative with respect to  $X$ . Let  $\nabla$  be the connection on  $Q$  defined by:

$$\nabla_X s = \begin{cases} \pi[X, Y_s] & \forall X \in \Gamma(L), \\ \pi(\nabla_X^M Y_s) & \forall X \in \Gamma(L^\perp), \end{cases}$$

where  $s \in \Gamma(Q)$  and  $Y_s$  is the unique vector of  $\Gamma(L^\perp)$  such that  $\pi(Y_s) = s$ . The connection  $\nabla$  is metric and torsion-free. The curvature of  $\nabla$  acts on  $\Gamma(Q)$  by:

$$R^\nabla(X, Y)s = \nabla_X \nabla_Y s - \nabla_Y \nabla_X s - \nabla_{[X, Y]} s \quad \forall X, Y \in \chi(M).$$

The transversal Ricci curvature is defined by:

$$\rho^\nabla : \Gamma(Q) \rightarrow \Gamma(Q), \quad X \mapsto \rho^\nabla(X) = \sum_{j=1}^q R^\nabla(X, e_j)e_j.$$

Also, we define the transversal scalar curvature:

$$\sigma^\nabla = \sum_{i=1}^q g_Q(\rho^\nabla(e_i), e_i) = \sum_{i,j=1}^q R^\nabla(e_i, e_j, e_j, e_i),$$

where  $\{e_i\}_{i=1,\dots,q}$  is a local orthonormal frame of  $Q$  and  $R^\nabla(X, Y, Z, W) = g_Q(R^\nabla(X, Y)Z, W)$ , for all  $X, Y, Z, W \in \Gamma(Q)$ . The foliation  $\mathcal{F}$  is said to be transversally Einstein if and only if

$$\rho^\nabla = \frac{1}{q} \sigma^\nabla \text{Id}$$

with constant transversal scalar curvature. The mean curvature of  $Q$  is given by:

$$\kappa(X) = g_Q(\tau, X) \quad \forall X \in \Gamma(Q),$$

where  $\tau = \sum_{l=1}^p II(e_l, e_l)$ , with  $\{e_l\}_{l=1,\dots,p}$  is a local orthonormal frame of  $\Gamma(L)$  and  $II$  is the second fundamental form of  $\mathcal{F}$  defined by:

$$II : \Gamma(L) \times \Gamma(L) \rightarrow \Gamma(Q), \quad (X, Y) \mapsto II(X, Y) = \pi(\nabla_X^M Y).$$

We define basic  $r$ -forms by:

$$\Omega_B^r(\mathcal{F}) = \{\Phi \in \Lambda^r T^*M \mid X_{\perp} \Phi = 0 \text{ and } X_{\perp} d\Phi = 0, \forall X \in \Gamma(L)\},$$

where  $d$  is the exterior derivative and  $X_{\perp}$  is the interior product. Any  $\Phi \in \Omega_B^r(\mathcal{F})$  can be locally written as

$$\sum_{1 \leq j_1 < \dots < j_r \leq q} \beta_{j_1, \dots, j_r} dy_{j_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dy_{j_r},$$

where  $(\partial/\partial x_l)\beta_{j_1, \dots, j_r} = 0 \forall l = 1, \dots, p$ . With the local expression of basic  $r$ -forms, one can verify that  $\kappa$  is closed if  $\mathcal{F}$  is isoparametric ( $\kappa \in \Omega_B^1(\mathcal{F})$ ). For all  $r \geq 0$ :

$$d(\Omega_B^r(\mathcal{F})) \subset \Omega_B^{r+1}(\mathcal{F}).$$

We denote by  $d_B = d|_{\Omega_B(\mathcal{F})}$  where  $\Omega_B(\mathcal{F})$  is the tensor algebra of  $\Omega_B^r(\mathcal{F})$ . We have the following formulas:

$$d_B = \sum_{i=1}^q e_i^* \wedge \nabla_{e_i} \quad \text{and} \quad \delta_B = - \sum_{i=1}^q e_i \lrcorner \nabla_{e_i} + \kappa \lrcorner,$$

where  $\delta_B$  is the adjoint operator of  $d_B$  with respect to the induced scalar product and  $\{e_i\}_{i=1,\dots,q}$  is a local orthonormal frame of  $Q$ .

### 3. The transversal Dirac operator on Kähler Foliations

In this section, we start by recalling some facts on Riemannian foliations which could be found in [9–11,13]. For completeness, we also sketch a straightforward proof of inequality (1.2) established in [13] and end by recalling well-known facts (see [4,5,2,3,14]) on Kähler spin foliations.

On a foliated Riemannian manifold  $(M, g_M, \mathcal{F})$ , a transversal spin structure is a pair  $(\text{Spin}Q, \eta)$  where  $\text{Spin}Q$  is a  $\text{Spin}_q$ -principal fibre bundle over  $M$  and  $\eta$  a 2-fold cover such that the following diagram commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \text{Spin}Q \times \text{Spin}_q & \longrightarrow & \text{Spin}Q & \longrightarrow & M \\ \downarrow \eta \otimes Ad & & \downarrow \eta & \nearrow & \\ \text{SO}Q \times \text{SO}_q & \longrightarrow & \text{SO}Q & & \end{array}$$

The maps  $\text{Spin}Q \times \text{Spin}_q \rightarrow \text{Spin}Q$ , and  $\text{SO}Q \times \text{SO}_q \rightarrow \text{SO}Q$ , are, respectively, the actions of  $\text{Spin}_q$  and  $\text{SO}_q$  on the principal fibre bundles  $\text{Spin}Q$  and  $\text{SO}Q$ . In this case,  $\mathcal{F}$  is called a transversal spin foliation. We define the foliated spinor bundle by:  $S(\mathcal{F}) := \text{Spin}Q \times_{\rho} \Sigma_q$ , where  $\rho : \text{Spin}_q \rightarrow \text{Aut}(\Sigma_q)$ , is the complex spin representation and  $\Sigma_q$  is a  $\mathbb{C}$  vector space of dimension  $N$  with  $N = 2^{\lfloor q/2 \rfloor}$ , where  $\lfloor \cdot \rfloor$  stands for the integer part. Recall that the Clifford multiplication  $\mathcal{M}$  on  $S(\mathcal{F})$  is given by:

$$\mathcal{M} : \Gamma(Q) \times \Gamma(S(\mathcal{F})) \rightarrow \Gamma(S(\mathcal{F})), \quad (X, \Psi) \mapsto X \cdot \Psi$$

There is a natural Hermitian product on  $S(\mathcal{F})$  such that, for all  $X, Y \in \Gamma(Q)$ , the following relations are true:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle X \cdot \Psi, \Phi \rangle &= -\langle \Psi, X \cdot \Phi \rangle, & X(\langle \Psi, \Phi \rangle) &= \langle \nabla_X \Psi, \Phi \rangle + \langle \Psi, \nabla_X \Phi \rangle, \\ \nabla_Y (X \cdot \Psi) &= (\nabla_Y X) \cdot \Psi + X \cdot (\nabla_Y \Psi), \end{aligned}$$

where  $\nabla$  is the Levi-Civita connection on  $S(\mathcal{F})$  and  $\Psi, \Phi \in \Gamma(S(\mathcal{F}))$ .

The transversal Dirac operator [9,10] is locally given by:

$$D_{\text{tr}} \Psi = \sum_{i=1}^q e_i \cdot \nabla_{e_i} \Psi - \frac{1}{2} \kappa \cdot \Psi \tag{3.1}$$

for all  $\Psi \in \Gamma(S(\mathcal{F}))$ . We can easily prove using Green’s theorem [12] that this operator is formally self adjoint. Furthermore, in [10] it is proved that if  $\mathcal{F}$  is isoparametric and  $\delta_B \kappa = 0$ , then we have the Schrödinger–Lichnerowicz formula:

$$D_{\text{tr}}^2 \Psi = \nabla_{\text{tr}}^* \nabla_{\text{tr}} \Psi + \frac{1}{4} K_{\sigma}^{\nabla} \Psi,$$

where  $K_{\sigma}^{\nabla} = \sigma^{\nabla} + |\kappa|^2$  and

$$\nabla_{\text{tr}}^* \nabla_{\text{tr}} \Psi = - \sum_{i=1}^q \nabla_{e_i, e_i}^2 \Psi + \nabla_{\kappa} \Psi$$

with  $\nabla_{X, Y}^2 = \nabla_X \nabla_Y - \nabla_{\nabla_X Y}$ , for all  $X, Y \in \Gamma(TM)$ .

Denote by  $\mathcal{P}$  the transversal twistor operator defined by

$$\mathcal{P} : \Gamma(S(\mathcal{F})) \xrightarrow{\nabla^{\text{tr}}} \Gamma(Q^* \otimes S(\mathcal{F})) \xrightarrow{\pi} \Gamma(\ker \mathcal{M}),$$

where  $\pi$  is the orthogonal projection on the kernel of the Clifford multiplication  $\mathcal{M}$ . With respect to a local orthonormal frame  $\{e_1, \dots, e_q\}$ , for all  $\Psi \in \Gamma(S(\mathcal{F}))$ , one has

$$\mathcal{P} \Psi = \sum_{i=1}^q e_i^* \otimes \left( \nabla_{e_i} \Psi + \frac{1}{q} e_i \cdot D_{\text{tr}} \Psi + \frac{1}{2q} e_i \cdot \kappa \cdot \Psi \right). \tag{3.2}$$

For any spinor field  $\Psi$ , one can easily show that

$$\sum_{i=1}^q e_i \cdot \mathcal{P}_{e_i} \Psi = 0. \tag{3.3}$$

Now we give a simple proof of the following theorem.

**Theorem 3.1** (Jung [13]). *Let  $(M, g_M, \mathcal{F})$  be a compact Riemannian manifold with a spin foliation  $\mathcal{F}$  of codimension  $q$  and a bundle-like metric  $g_M$  with  $\kappa \in \Omega_B^1(\mathcal{F})$ . Assume that  $\delta_{BK} = 0$  and let  $\lambda$  be an eigenvalue of the transversal Dirac operator, then*

$$\lambda^2 \geq \frac{q}{4(q-1)} K_0^\nabla. \tag{3.4}$$

**Proof.** For all  $\Psi \in \Gamma(S(\mathcal{F}))$ , we have using identities (3.2), (3.3) and (3.1):

$$|\mathcal{P}\Psi|^2 = |\nabla^{\text{tr}}\Psi|^2 - \frac{1}{q}|D_{\text{tr}}\Psi|^2 - \frac{1}{q}\Re(D_{\text{tr}}\Psi, \kappa \cdot \Psi) - \frac{1}{4q}|\kappa|^2|\Psi|^2.$$

For any spinor field  $\Phi$ , we have that  $(\Phi, \kappa \cdot \Phi) = -(\kappa \cdot \Phi, \Phi) = -\overline{(\Phi, \kappa \cdot \Phi)}$ , so the scalar product  $(\Phi, \kappa \cdot \Phi)$  is a pure imaginary function. Hence for any eigenspinor  $\Psi$  of the transversal Dirac operator, we obtain

$$\int_M |\mathcal{P}\Psi|^2 + \frac{1}{4q} \int_M |\kappa|^2 |\Psi|^2 = \int_M |\nabla^{\text{tr}}\Psi|^2 - \frac{1}{q} \int_M \lambda^2 |\Psi|^2$$

from which we deduce (3.4) with the help of the Schrödinger–Lichnerowicz formula. Finally, we can easily prove in the limiting case that  $\mathcal{F}$  is minimal i.e.  $\kappa = 0$ , and transversally Einstein.  $\square$

A foliation  $\mathcal{F}$  is called Kähler if there exists a complex parallel orthogonal structure  $J : \Gamma(Q) \rightarrow \Gamma(Q)$  ( $\dim Q = q = 2m$ ). Let  $\Omega$  be the associated Kähler, i.e., for all  $X, Y \in \Gamma(Q)$ ,  $\Omega(X, Y) = g_Q(J(X), Y) = -g_Q(X, J(Y))$ . The Kähler form can be locally expressed as

$$\Omega = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^q e_i \cdot J(e_i) = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^q J(e_i) \cdot e_i$$

and for all  $X \in \Gamma(Q)$ , we have  $[\Omega, X] := \Omega \cdot X - X \cdot \Omega = 2J(X)$ . Under the action of the Kähler form, the spinor bundle splits into an orthogonal sum

$$S(\mathcal{F}) = \bigoplus_{r=0}^m S_r(\mathcal{F}),$$

where  $S_r(\mathcal{F})$  is an eigenbundle associated with the eigenvalue  $i\mu_r = i(2r - m)$  of the Kähler form  $\Omega$ . Moreover, the spinor bundle of a Kähler spin foliation carries a parallel anti-linear

map  $j$  satisfying the relations:

$$j^2 = (-1)^{m(m+1)/2} Id, \quad [X, j] = 0, \quad (j\Psi, j\Phi) = (\Phi, \Psi)$$

and we have  $j\Psi_r = (j\Psi)_{m-r}$ . For all  $X \in \Gamma(Q)$ , we have

$$p_+(X) \cdot S_r(\mathcal{F}) \subset S_{r+1}(\mathcal{F}) \quad \text{and} \quad p_-(X) \cdot S_r(\mathcal{F}) \subset S_{r-1}(\mathcal{F}),$$

where  $p_{\pm}(X) = (X \mp iJ(X))/2$ . We define the operator  $\tilde{D}_{tr}$  by

$$\tilde{D}_{tr}\Psi = \sum_{i=1}^q J(e_i) \cdot \nabla_{e_i}\Psi - \frac{1}{2}J(\kappa) \cdot \Psi.$$

The local expression of  $\tilde{D}_{tr}$  is independent of the choice of the local frame and by Green’s theorem [12], we prove that this operator is self-adjoint. On a Kähler spin foliation, the operators  $D_{tr}$  and  $\tilde{D}_{tr}$  satisfy:

$$[\Omega, D_{tr}] = 2\tilde{D}_{tr}, \tag{3.5}$$

$$[\Omega, \tilde{D}_{tr}] = -2D_{tr}, \tag{3.6}$$

$$[\Omega, D_{tr}^2] = 0, \tag{3.7}$$

$$D_{tr}\tilde{D}_{tr} + \tilde{D}_{tr}D_{tr} = 0, \tag{3.8}$$

$$\tilde{D}_{tr}^2 = D_{tr}^2. \tag{3.9}$$

We should point out that Eqs. (3.7)–(3.9) are true under the assumptions that  $\mathcal{F}$  is isoparametric and  $\delta_B\kappa = 0$ . Now we define the two operators  $D_+$  and  $D_-$  by

$$D_+ = \frac{1}{2}(D_{tr} - i\tilde{D}_{tr}) \quad \text{and} \quad D_- = \frac{1}{2}(D_{tr} + i\tilde{D}_{tr}). \tag{3.10}$$

Furthermore,  $D_{tr}$  splits into  $D_+$  and  $D_-$ , and we have the two exact sequences:

$$\Gamma(S_m(\mathcal{F})) \xrightarrow{D_-} \dots \Gamma(S_r(\mathcal{F})) \xrightarrow{D_-} \Gamma(S_{r-1}(\mathcal{F})) \xrightarrow{D_-} \dots \Gamma(S_0(\mathcal{F})), \tag{3.11}$$

$$\Gamma(S_0(\mathcal{F})) \xrightarrow{D_+} \dots \Gamma(S_r(\mathcal{F})) \xrightarrow{D_+} \Gamma(S_{r+1}(\mathcal{F})) \xrightarrow{D_+} \dots \Gamma(S_m(\mathcal{F})). \tag{3.12}$$

#### 4. Eigenvalues of the transversal Dirac operator

In this section, we prove Kirchberg-type inequalities by using the transversal Kählerian twistor operators on Kähler spin foliations. We refer to [7,6].

**Definition 4.1.** On a Kähler spin foliation, we define the transversal Kählerian twistor operators by

$$\mathcal{P}^{(r)} : \Gamma(S_r(\mathcal{F})) \xrightarrow{\nabla^{tr}} \Gamma(Q^* \otimes S_r(\mathcal{F})) \xrightarrow{\pi_r} \Gamma(\ker \mathcal{M}_r),$$

where  $\mathcal{M}_r$  is the transversal Clifford multiplication defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{M}_r &: \Gamma(Q^* \otimes S_r(\mathcal{F})) \rightarrow \Gamma(S_{r-1}(\mathcal{F})) \oplus \Gamma(S_{r+1}(\mathcal{F})), \\ X \otimes \Psi_r &\mapsto p_-(X) \cdot \Psi_r \oplus p_+(X) \cdot \Psi_r. \end{aligned}$$

For all  $r \in \{0, \dots, m\}$  and  $\Psi_r \in \Gamma(S_r(\mathcal{F}))$ , we have

$$\mathcal{P}^{(r)}\Psi_r = \sum_{i=1}^q e_i^* \otimes (\nabla_{e_i}\Psi_r + a_r p_-(e_i) \cdot \mathcal{D}_+\Psi_r + b_r p_+(e_i) \cdot \mathcal{D}_-\Psi_r), \tag{4.1}$$

where  $\mathcal{D}_\pm = D_\pm + (1/2)p_\pm(\kappa)$  with  $a_r = 1/(2(r + 1))$  and  $b_r = 1/(2(m - r + 1))$ . For any spinor field  $\Psi_r \in \Gamma(S_r(\mathcal{F}))$ , we can easily prove

$$\sum_{i=1}^q e_i \cdot \mathcal{P}_{e_i}^{(r)}\Psi_r = 0. \tag{4.2}$$

**Remark 4.2.** For any non-zero eigenvalue  $\lambda$  of  $D_{tr}$ , there exists a spinor field  $\Psi \in \Gamma(S(\mathcal{F}))$  called of type  $(r, r + 1)$ , such that  $D_{tr}\Psi = \lambda\Psi$  and  $\Psi = \Psi_r + \Psi_{r+1}$ , with  $r \in \{0, \dots, m - 1\}$ . By using (3.10)–(3.12) it follows that  $D_-\Psi_r = D_+\Psi_{r+1} = 0$ ,  $D_-\Psi_{r+1} = \lambda\Psi_r$ ,  $D_+\Psi_r = \lambda\Psi_{r+1}$  and  $\|\Psi_r\|_{L^2} = \|\Psi_{r+1}\|_{L^2}$ .

**Proof.** Let  $\varphi$  be an eigenspinor of  $D_{tr}$ . There exists an  $r$  such that  $\varphi_r$  does not vanish. Let  $\Psi = \frac{1}{\lambda}D_-\varphi + D_+\varphi$ , one can easily get that  $D_{tr}\Psi = \lambda\Psi$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 4.3.** Let  $(M, g_M, \mathcal{F})$  be a compact Riemannian manifold with a Kähler spin foliation  $\mathcal{F}$  of codimension  $q = 2m$  and a bundle-like metric  $g_M$  with  $\kappa \in \Omega_B^1(\mathcal{F})$  and  $\delta_B\kappa = 0$ . Then any eigenvalue  $\lambda$  of the transversal Dirac operator, satisfies

$$\lambda^2 \geq \frac{m + 1}{4m} K_0^\nabla. \tag{4.3}$$

If  $\Psi$  is an eigenspinor of type  $(r, r + 1)$  associated with an eigenvalue  $\lambda$  satisfying equality in (4.3), then  $r = (m - 1)/2$ , the foliation  $\mathcal{F}$  is minimal and for all  $X \in \Gamma(Q)$ , the spinor  $\Psi$  satisfies

$$\nabla_X\Psi + \frac{\lambda}{2(m + 1)}(X \cdot \Psi - i\varepsilon J(X) \cdot \bar{\Psi}) = 0, \tag{4.4}$$

where  $\varepsilon = (-1)^{(m-1)/2}$ , and  $\bar{\Psi} := (-1)^r(\Psi_r - \Psi_{r+1})$ . As a consequence  $m$  is odd and  $\mathcal{F}$  is transversally Einstein with non-negative constant transversal curvature  $\sigma^\nabla$ .

**Proof.** For all  $\Psi_r \in \Gamma(S_r(\mathcal{F}))$ , using identities (4.1) and (4.2), we have

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathcal{P}^{(r)}\Psi_r|^2 &= \sum_{i=1}^q |\mathcal{P}_{e_i}^{(r)}\Psi_r|^2 = \sum_{i=1}^q (\mathcal{P}_{e_i}^{(r)}\Psi_r, \nabla_{e_i}\Psi_r) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^q (\nabla_{e_i}\Psi_r + a_r p_-(e_i) \cdot \mathcal{D}_+\Psi_r + b_r p_+(e_i) \cdot \mathcal{D}_-\Psi_r, \nabla_{e_i}\Psi_r). \end{aligned}$$



Finally we obtain:

$$|\mathcal{P}^{(r)}\Psi_r|^2 = |\nabla^{\text{tr}}\Psi_r|^2 - a_r|\mathcal{D}_+\Psi_r|^2 - b_r|\mathcal{D}_-\Psi_r|^2. \tag{4.5}$$

Let  $\lambda$  be an eigenvalue of  $D_{\text{tr}}$  and let  $\Psi$  an eigenspinor of type  $(r, r + 1)$ . Applying equality (4.5) to  $\Psi_r$ , one gets

$$|\mathcal{P}^{(r)}\Psi_r|^2 = |\nabla^{\text{tr}}\Psi_r|^2 - a_r\lambda^2|\Psi_{r+1}|^2 - a_r\lambda\Re(\Psi_{r+1}, p_+(\kappa) \cdot \Psi_r) - \frac{a_r}{4}|p_+(\kappa) \cdot \Psi_r|^2 - \frac{b_r}{4}|p_-(\kappa) \cdot \Psi_r|^2.$$

By the Schrödinger–Lichnerowicz formula and by the fact that  $\Psi_r$  and  $\Psi_{r+1}$  have the same  $L^2$ -norms, we get

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_M |\mathcal{P}^{(r)}\Psi_r|^2 + \frac{a_r}{4} \int_M |p_+(\kappa) \cdot \Psi_r|^2 + \frac{b_r}{4} \int_M |p_-(\kappa) \cdot \Psi_r|^2 \\ &= \int_M \left( (1 - a_r)\lambda^2 - \frac{1}{4}K_\sigma^\nabla \right) |\Psi_r|^2 - a_r\lambda \int_M \Re(\Psi_{r+1}, p_+(\kappa) \cdot \Psi_r). \end{aligned} \tag{4.6}$$

Similarly applying (4.5) to  $\Psi_{r+1}$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_M |\mathcal{P}^{(r+1)}\Psi_{r+1}|^2 + \frac{a_{r+1}}{4} \int_M |p_+(\kappa) \cdot \Psi_{r+1}|^2 + \frac{b_{r+1}}{4} \int_M |p_-(\kappa) \cdot \Psi_{r+1}|^2 \\ &= \int_M \left( (1 - b_{r+1})\lambda^2 - \frac{1}{4}K_\sigma^\nabla \right) |\Psi_{r+1}|^2 + b_{r+1}\lambda \int_M \Re(\Psi_{r+1}, p_+(\kappa) \cdot \Psi_r), \end{aligned} \tag{4.7}$$

where  $K_\sigma^\nabla = \sigma^\nabla + |\kappa|^2$ . In order to get rid the term  $\lambda \int_M \Re(\Psi_{r+1}, p_+(\kappa) \cdot \Psi_r)$ , since the l.h.s. of (4.6) and (4.7) are non-negative, dividing (4.6) by  $a_r$  and (4.7) by  $b_{r+1}$  then summing up, we find by substituting the values of  $a_r$  and  $b_{r+1}$ :

$$\lambda^2 \geq \frac{m + 1}{4m} K_0^\nabla.$$

Now, we discuss the limiting case of inequality (4.3). Dividing (4.6) by  $a_r$  and (4.7) by  $b_{r+1}$  then summing up as before, and substituting  $a_r$ ,  $b_{r+1}$  and  $\lambda^2$  by their values, we easily deduce that  $\kappa = 0$ ,  $\mathcal{P}^{(r)}\Psi_r = 0$  and  $\mathcal{P}^{(r+1)}\Psi_{r+1} = 0$ . Hence by (4.6), we find that  $\lambda^2 = (1/4(1 - a_r))\sigma_0 = (m + 1/4m)\sigma_0$  where  $\sigma_0 = \inf_M \sigma^\nabla$ , then  $r = (m - 1)/2$  and  $m$  is odd. It remains to prove that  $\Psi$  satisfies (4.4). For  $r = (m - 1)/2$ , by definition of the Kählerian twistor operators, for all  $j \in \{1, \dots, q\}$ , we obtain

$$\nabla_{e_j}\Psi_r + \frac{\lambda}{m + 1} p_-(e_j) \cdot \Psi_{r+1} = 0$$

and

$$\nabla_{e_j}\Psi_{r+1} + \frac{\lambda}{m + 1} p_+(e_j) \cdot \Psi_r = 0.$$

Summing up the two equations, we get (4.4) for  $X = e_j$ . Using Ricci identity in (4.4), one easily proves that  $\mathcal{F}$  is transversally Einstein.  $\square$

**Theorem 4.4.** Under the same conditions as in Theorem 4.3 for  $m$  even, any eigenvalue  $\lambda$  of the transversal Dirac operator satisfies

$$\lambda^2 \geq \frac{m}{4(m-1)} K_0^\nabla. \tag{4.8}$$

If  $\Psi$  is an eigenspinor of type  $(r, r + 1)$  associated with an eigenvalue satisfying equality in (4.8), then  $r = m/2$ , the foliation  $\mathcal{F}$  is minimal and  $\Psi$  satisfies for all  $X \in \Gamma(Q)$ :

$$\nabla_X \Psi_{r+1} = -\frac{\lambda}{q}(X - iJX) \cdot \Psi_r. \tag{4.9}$$

**Proof.** Let  $\Psi$  an eigenspinor of type  $(r, r + 1)$  associated with any eigenvalue  $\lambda$  of the transversal Dirac operator  $D_{tr}$ . Recalling equalities (4.6) and (4.7), we have

$$0 \leq \int_M \left( (1 - a_r)\lambda^2 - \frac{1}{4} K_\sigma^\nabla \right) |\Psi_r|^2 - a_r \lambda \int_M \Re(\Psi_{r+1}, p_+(\kappa) \cdot \Psi_r) \tag{4.10}$$

and

$$0 \leq \int_M \left( (1 - b_{r+1})\lambda^2 - \frac{1}{4} K_\sigma^\nabla \right) |\Psi_{r+1}|^2 + b_{r+1} \lambda \int_M \Re(\Psi_{r+1}, p_+(\kappa) \cdot \Psi_r). \tag{4.11}$$

Hence if  $\lambda \int_M \Re(\Psi_{r+1}, p_+(\kappa) \cdot \Psi_r) \leq 0$ , then by (4.11)

$$\lambda^2 \geq \frac{1}{4(1 - b_{r+1})} K_0^\nabla,$$

The antilinear isomorphism  $j$  sends  $S_r(\mathcal{F})$  to  $S_{m-r}(\mathcal{F})$ . This allows the choice of  $\mu_r$  to be non-negative (i.e.  $r \geq m/2$ ) where  $\mu_r$  is the eigenvalue associated with  $\Psi_r$ . Then a careful study of the graph of the function  $1/(1 - b_{r+1})$ , yields (4.8).

On the other hand if  $\lambda \int_M \Re(\Psi_{r+1}, p_+(\kappa) \cdot \Psi_r) > 0$ . Applying Eq. (4.5) to the spinor  $j\Psi$ , which is a spinor of type  $(m - (r + 1), m - r)$ , we find the same inequalities as (4.10) and (4.11), then

$$\lambda^2 > \frac{1}{1 - a_r} \frac{K_0^\nabla}{4}.$$

As before we can choose  $\mu_{m-(r+1)} \geq 0$  (i.e.  $r \leq \frac{m}{2} - 1$ ). A careful study of the graph of the function  $1/(1 - a_r)$  gives inequality (4.8).

Now we discuss the limiting case of (4.8). As we have seen, it could not be achieved if  $\lambda \int_M \Re(\Psi_{r+1}, p_+(\kappa) \cdot \Psi_r) > 0$ , so only the other case should be considered. By (4.7), one has

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_M |\mathcal{P}^{(r+1)} \Psi_{r+1}|^2 + \frac{a_{r+1}}{4} \int_M |p_+(\kappa) \cdot \Psi_{r+1}|^2 + \frac{b_{r+1}}{4} \int_M |p_-(\kappa) \cdot \Psi_{r+1}|^2 - b_{r+1} \lambda \\ & \times \int_M \Re(\Psi_{r+1}, p_+(\kappa) \cdot \Psi_r) = (1 - b_{r+1}) \\ & \times \int_M \left( \frac{m}{4(m-1)} K_0^\nabla - \frac{1}{4(1 - b_{r+1})} K_\sigma^\nabla \right) |\Psi_{r+1}|^2. \end{aligned} \tag{4.12}$$

Since  $m/(m-1) = \inf_{r \geq m/2} (1/(1-b_{r+1}))$ , and the l.h.s. of (4.12) is non-negative, we deduce that  $\kappa = 0$ ,  $\mathcal{P}^{r+1}\Psi_{r+1} = 0$  and  $m/(m-1) = 1/(1-b_{r+1})$  so  $r = m/2$ . It remains to show that Eq. (4.9) holds. For this, take  $X = e_j$  where  $\{e_j\}_{j=1,\dots,q}$  is a local orthonormal frame. For  $r = m/2$ , and by definition of the Kählerian twistor operators, for all  $j \in \{1, \dots, q\}$ , we obtain

$$\nabla_{e_j}\Psi_{r+1} + \frac{\lambda}{q}(e_j - iJe_j) \cdot \Psi_r = 0. \quad \square$$

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