# Finsler metrics of scalar flag curvature and projective invariants

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**Abstract.** In this paper, we define a new projective invariant and call it  $\widetilde{W}$ -curvature. We prove that a Finsler manifold with dimension  $n \geq 3$  is of constant flag curvature if and only if its  $\widetilde{W}$ -curvature vanishes. Various kinds of projectively flatness of Finsler metrics and their equivalency on Riemannian metrics are also studied.

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**Key words**: Projective transformation; scalar flag curvature.

### 1 Introduction

One of the fundamental problems in Finsler geometry is to study and characterize Finsler metrics of constant flag curvature. The best well-known result towards this question is due to Akbar-Zadeh, which classified compact Finsler manifolds with non-positive constant flag curvature [3]. In a 25 year research, initiated by famous Yasuda-Shimada's theorem [16] and finished by Bao-Robless-Shen's theorem [7], Randers metrics of constant flag curvature have been classified.

On the other hand, there are some well-known projective invariants of Finsler metrics namely, Douglas curvature [5][6][10], Weyl curvature, generalized Douglas - Weyl curvature [4][13] and another projective invariant which is due to Akbar-Zadeh [1]. In [21], Weyl introduces a projective invariant for Riemannian metrics. Then Douglas extendes Weyl's projective invariant to Finsler metrics [10]. Finsler metrics with vanishing projective Weyl curvature are called Weyl metrics. In [18], Z. Szabó proves that Weyl metrics are exactly Finsler metrics of scalar flag curvature.

In [3], Akbar-Zadeh introduces the non-Riemannian quantity  ${\bf H}$  which is obtained from the mean Berwald curvature by the covariant horizontal differentiation along geodesics. This is a positively homogeneous scalar function of degree zero on the slit tangent bundle, and recently has been studied [11][12]. Akbar-Zadeh proves that for a Weyl manifold of dimension  $n \geq 3$ , the flag curvature is constant if and only if  ${\bf H}=0$ . The natural question is: Is there any projectively invariant quantity which characterizes Finsler metrics of constant flag curvature?

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In this paper, using Akbar-Zadeh's method in [1], we define a new projective invariant and call it  $\widetilde{W}$ -curvature (see the equation (3.14)). We show that the  $\widetilde{W}$ -curvature is another candidate for characterizing Finsler metrics of constant flag curvature. More precisely, we prove the following

**Theorem 1.1.** Let (M, F) be a Finsler manifold with dimension  $n \geq 3$ . Then F is of constant flag curvature if and only if  $\widetilde{W} = 0$ .

By Akbar-Zadeh's theorem and Theorem 1.1, we have the following

**Corollary 1.1.** Let (M, F) be a Finsler manifold with dimension  $n \geq 3$ . Suppose that F is of scalar flag curvature. Then  $\mathbf{H} = 0$  if and only if  $\widetilde{W} = 0$ .

Throughout this paper, we use the Berwald connection on Finsler manifolds [19][20]. The h- and v- covariant derivatives of a Finsler tensor field are denoted by " | " and ", " respectively.

#### 2 Preliminaries

Let M be an n-dimensional  $C^{\infty}$  manifold. Denote by  $T_xM$  the tangent space at  $x \in M$ , and by  $TM = \bigcup_{x \in M} T_xM$  the tangent space of M. A Finsler metric on M is a function  $F: TM \to [0, \infty)$  which has the following properties: (i) F is  $C^{\infty}$  on  $TM_0$ ; (ii) F is positively 1-homogeneous on the fibers of tangent bundle TM, and (iii) for each  $y \in T_xM$ , the following quadratic form  $g_y$  on  $T_xM$  is positive definite,

$$g_y(u,v) := \frac{1}{2} \left[ F^2(y + su + tv) \right] |_{s,t=0}, \quad u,v \in T_x M.$$

Given a Finsler manifold (M, F), then a global vector field **G** is induced by F on  $TM_0$ , which in a standard coordinate  $(x^i, y^i)$  for  $TM_0$  is given by

$$\mathbf{G} = y^{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^{i}} - 2G^{i}(x, y) \frac{\partial}{\partial y^{i}},$$

where  $G^i(x,y)$  are local functions on  $TM_0$  satisfying  $G^i(x,\lambda y) = \lambda^2 G^i(x,y)$ , for all  $\lambda > 0$ . Functions  $G^i$  are given by

(2.1) 
$$G^{i} := \frac{1}{4} g^{il} \left\{ 2 \frac{\partial g_{jl}}{\partial x^{k}} - \frac{\partial g_{jk}}{\partial x^{l}} \right\} y^{j} y^{k},$$

where  $g_{ij}$  is the vertical Hessian of  $F^2/2$  and  $g^{ij}$  denotes its inverse. **G** is called the associated *spray* to (M, F). The projection of an integral curve of **G** is called a *geodesic* in M. In local coordinates, a curve c(t) is a geodesic if and only if its coordinates  $(c^i(t))$  satisfy  $\ddot{c}^i + 2G^i(\dot{c}) = 0$  [14].

For a vector  $v^i$  vertical and horizontal covariant derivative with respect to Berwald connection are given by

$$v_{,k}^{i} = \dot{\partial}_{k} v^{i}, \quad v_{|k}^{i} = d_{k} v^{i} + G_{jk}^{i} v^{j},$$

where  $d_k = \partial_k - G_k^m \dot{\partial}_m$ ,  $\partial_k = \frac{\partial}{\partial x^k}$ ,  $\dot{\partial}_k = \frac{\partial}{\partial y^k}$ ,  $G_k^i = \dot{\partial}_k G^i$  and  $G_{jk}^i = \dot{\partial}_j G_k^i$ .

In [1], Akbar-Zadeh cosideres a non-Riemannian quantity  $\mathbf{H}$  which is obtained from the mean Berwald curvature by the covariant horizontal differentiation along geodesics. This is a positively homogeneous scalar function of degree zero on the slit tangent bundle. The quantity  $\mathbf{H} = H_{ij}dx^i \otimes dx^j$  is defined as the covariant derivative of  $\mathbf{E}$  along geodesics, where  $E_{ij} = \frac{1}{2} \partial_m G_{ij}^m$  [12]. More precisely  $H_{ij} := E_{ij|m}y^m$ . In local coordinates, we have

$$2H_{ij} = y^{m} \frac{\partial^{4} G^{k}}{\partial y^{i} \partial y^{j} \partial y^{k} \partial x^{m}} - 2G^{m} \frac{\partial^{4} G^{k}}{\partial y^{i} \partial y^{j} \partial y^{k} \partial y^{m}} - \frac{\partial G^{m}}{\partial y^{i}} \frac{\partial^{3} G^{k}}{\partial y^{j} \partial y^{k} \partial y^{m}} - \frac{\partial G^{m}}{\partial y^{j}} \frac{\partial^{4} G^{k}}{\partial y^{i} \partial y^{k} \partial y^{m}}.$$

The Riemannian curvature tensor of Berwald connection are given by

$$K^{i}_{hik} = d_{i}G^{i}_{hk} + G^{m}_{hk}G^{i}_{mi} - d_{k}G^{i}_{hi} + G^{m}_{hi}G^{i}_{mk}.$$

Let  $K_{ik}^i = K_{0ik}^i$  and  $K_k^i = K_{0k}^i$ . Then we have

$$K_{jk}^{i} = \frac{1}{3} \{ \dot{\partial}_{j} K_{k}^{i} - \dot{\partial}_{k} K_{j}^{i} \}.$$

Then, the Riemann curvature operator of Berwald connection at  $y \in T_x M$  is defined by  $\mathbf{K}_y = K^i{}_k dx^k \otimes \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i}|_x : T_x M \to T_x M$ , which is a family of linear maps on tangent spaces. The flag curvature in Finsler geometry is a natural extension of the sectional curvature in Riemannian geometry, which is first introduced by L. Berwald [8]. For a flag  $P = \operatorname{span}\{y,u\} \subset T_x M$  with flagpole y, the flag curvature  $\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{K}(P,y)$  is defined by

$$\mathbf{K}(P,y) := \frac{\mathbf{g}_y(u, \mathbf{K}_y(u))}{\mathbf{g}_y(y, y)\mathbf{g}_y(u, u) - \mathbf{g}_y(y, u)^2}.$$

When F is Riemannian,  $\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{K}(P)$  is independent of  $y \in P$ , which is just the sectional curvature of P in Riemannian geometry. We say that a Finsler metric F is of scalar curvature if for any  $y \in T_xM$ , the flag curvature  $\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{K}(x,y)$  is a scalar function on the slit tangent space  $TM_0$ . If  $\mathbf{K} = constant$ , then F is said to be of constant flag curvature.

The projective Weyl curvature is defined as follows

$$W_{jkl}^{i} := K_{jkl}^{i} - \frac{1}{1 - n^{2}} \left\{ -\delta_{j}^{i} (\tilde{K}_{kl} - \tilde{K}_{lk}) - \delta_{k}^{i} \tilde{K}_{jl} + \delta_{l}^{i} \tilde{K}_{jk} - y^{i} \dot{\partial}_{j} (\tilde{K}_{kl} - \tilde{K}_{lk}) \right\}$$

where  $\tilde{K}_{jk} := nK_{jk} + K_{kj} + y^r \dot{\partial}_j K_{kr}$ . As it is well known, a Finsler metric is of scalar flag curvature if and only if  $W^i_{jkl} = 0$ .

## 3 C-projective Weyl curvature

Let  $\phi: F^n \to \bar{F}^n$  be a diffeomorphism. We call  $\phi$  a projective mapping if there exists a positive homogeneous scalar function P(x,y) of degree one satisfying

$$\bar{G}^i = G^i + Pu^i$$
.

In this case, P is called the projective factor ([17]). Under a projective transformation with projective factor P, the Riemannian curvature tensor of Berwald connection change as follows

(3.1) 
$$\bar{K}^{i}_{hjk} = K^{i}_{hjk} + y^{i}\dot{\partial}_{h}Q_{jk} + \delta^{i}_{h}Q_{jk} + \delta^{i}_{j}\dot{\partial}_{h}Q_{k} - \delta^{i}_{k}\dot{\partial}_{h}Q_{j},$$

where  $Q_i = d_i P - P P_i$  and  $Q_{ij} = \dot{\partial}_i Q_j - \dot{\partial}_j Q_i$ . A projective transformation with projective factor P is said to be C-projective if  $Q_{ij} = 0$ .

Let X be a projective vector field on a Finsler manifold (M,F). Let the vector field X in a local coordinate  $(x^i)$  on M be written in the form  $X = X^i(x)\partial_i$ . Then the complete lift of X is denoted by  $\hat{X}$  and locally defined by  $\hat{X} = X^i\partial_i + y^j\partial_j X^i\partial_i$ . Suppose that  $\pounds_{\hat{X}}$  stands for Lie derivative with respect to the complete lift of X. Then we have

$$\pounds_{\hat{X}}G^i = Py^i,$$

$$\pounds_{\hat{X}}G^i_k = \delta^i_k P + y^i P_k,$$

$$\pounds_{\hat{X}}G^i_{jk} = \delta^i_j P_k + \delta^i_k P_j + y^i P_{jk},$$

(3.2) 
$$\pounds_{\hat{X}} G^i_{jkl} = \delta^i_j P_{kl} + \delta^i_k P_{jl} + \delta^i_l P_{kj} + y^i P_{jkl},$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\hat{X}} K_{ikl}^{i} = \delta_{i}^{i} (P_{l|k} - P_{k|l}) + \delta_{l}^{i} P_{j|k} - \delta_{k}^{i} P_{j|l} + y^{i} \dot{\partial}_{i} (P_{l|k} - P_{k|l}).$$

Since  $Q_{ij} = P_{i|j} - P_{j|i}$ , we have

$$\mathcal{L}_{\hat{X}} K_{ikl}^i = \delta_i^i Q_{lk} + \delta_l^i P_{i|k} - \delta_k^i P_{i|l} + y^i \dot{\partial}_i Q_{lk}.$$

We have

$$\dot{\partial}_j P_{k|l} = P_{jk|l} - P_r G_{jkl}^r.$$

Contracting i and k in (3.4), we get

$$\mathcal{L}_{\hat{X}}K_{il} = P_{l|i} - nP_{i|l} + P_{il|s}y^{s}.$$

Consequently

(3.7) 
$$\pounds_{\hat{\mathbf{v}}}(y^r \dot{\partial}_l K_{ir}) = -(n+1) P_{il|s} y^s.$$

Hence

(3.8) 
$$P_{jl|s}y^{s} = -\frac{1}{n+1}L(\hat{X})(y^{r}\dot{\partial}_{l}K_{jr}),$$

and

(3.9) 
$$\mathcal{L}_{\hat{X}}(K_{jl} + \frac{1}{n+1}y^r \dot{\partial}_l K_{jr}) = P_{l|j} - nP_{j|l},$$

(3.10) 
$$\mathcal{L}_{\hat{X}}(K_{lj} + \frac{1}{n+1}y^r \dot{\partial}_j K_{lr}) = P_{j|l} - nP_{l|j}.$$

Using (3.9) and (3.10), one can obtain

$$(3.11) P_{j|l} = \frac{1}{1 - n^2} \mathcal{L}_{\hat{X}} \Big\{ K_{lj} + \frac{1}{n+1} y^r \dot{\partial}_j K_{lr} + nK_{jl} + \frac{n}{n+1} y^r \dot{\partial}_l K_{jr} \Big\}.$$

If  $Q_{ij} = 0$ , then (3.4) reduces to the following

(3.12) 
$$\mathcal{L}_{\hat{X}} K_{ikl}^i = \delta_l^i P_{i|k} - \delta_k^i P_{i|l}.$$

Using (3.11) and eliminating  $P_{i|l}$  from (3.12), we are led to the following tensor

$$\widetilde{W}_{jkl}^{i} := K_{jkl}^{i} - \frac{1}{1 - n^{2}} \delta_{l}^{i} \left\{ \tilde{K}_{jk} + \frac{n}{n + 1} y^{r} (\dot{\partial}_{k} K_{jr} - \dot{\partial}_{j} K_{kr}) \right\} + \frac{1}{1 - n^{2}} \delta_{k}^{i} \left\{ \tilde{K}_{jl} + \frac{n}{n + 1} y^{r} (\dot{\partial}_{l} K_{jr} - \dot{\partial}_{j} K_{lr}) \right\}.$$
(3.13)

Since  $y^j y^r \dot{\partial}_k K_{jr} = 0$ , if we put  $\widetilde{W}_k^i := \widetilde{W}_{jkl}^i y^j y^l$ , then we have

$$\widetilde{W}_{k}^{i} = K_{k}^{i} - \frac{1}{1 - n^{2}} \left\{ y^{i} \widetilde{K}_{0k} - \delta_{k}^{i} \widetilde{K}_{00} \right\}.$$

The tensor  $\widetilde{W}_k^i$  is said to be C-projective Weyl curvature or  $\widetilde{W}$ -curvature. According to the way we construct  $\widetilde{W}$ , it is easy to see that  $\widetilde{W}$  is C-projective invariant tensor. A Finsler metric F is called C-projective Weyl metric if its C-projective Weyl-curvature vanishes. First, we prove that the class of Weyl metrics contains the class of C-projective Weyl metrics.

**Theorem 3.1.** Let F be a C-projective Weyl metric. Then F is a Weyl metric.

*Proof.* By assumption, we have the following

(3.15) 
$$K_k^i - \frac{1}{1 - n^2} \left\{ y^i \tilde{K}_{0k} - \delta_k^i \tilde{K}_{00} \right\} = 0.$$

Contracting (3.15) with  $y_i$  implies that

$$(3.16) F^2 \tilde{K}_{0k} - y_k \tilde{K}_{00} = 0.$$

Hence

$$\tilde{K}_{0k} = F^{-2} y_k \tilde{K}_{00}.$$

Plugging (3.17) into (3.15), we get

(3.18) 
$$K_k^i = \frac{1}{1 - n^2} \tilde{K}_{00} h_k^i,$$

which means that F is of scalar flag curvature. Hence, F is a Weyl metric.  $\Box$ 

### 4 Proof of Theorem 1.1

To prove Theorem 1.1, we need to find the  $\widetilde{W}$ -curvature of Weyl metrics.

**Proposition 4.1.** Let F be a Finsler metric of scalar flag curvature  $\lambda$ . Then  $\widetilde{W}$ -curvature is given by

$$(4.1) \widetilde{W}_k^i = \frac{1}{3} F^2 y^i \lambda_k,$$

where  $\lambda_k := \dot{\partial}_k \lambda$ .

*Proof.* By assumption, the Riemannian curvature of Berwald connection is in the following form.

$$K_{jkl}^{i} = \lambda(\delta_{k}^{i}g_{jl} - \delta_{l}^{i}g_{jk}) + \lambda_{j}F(\delta_{k}^{i}F_{l} - \delta_{l}^{i}F_{k}) + \frac{1}{3}F^{2}(h_{k}^{i}\lambda_{jl} - h_{l}^{i}\lambda_{jk})$$

$$+ \frac{1}{3}\lambda_{l}F(2\delta_{k}^{i}F_{j} - 2\delta_{j}^{i}F_{k} - g_{jk}\ell^{i})$$

$$- \frac{1}{3}F\lambda_{k}(2\delta_{l}^{i}F_{j} - 2\delta_{j}^{i}F_{l} - g_{jl}\ell^{i}).$$

$$(4.2)$$

where  $\lambda_{ij} = \dot{\partial}_j \lambda_i$ . Hence, we have

Then, we get the following relations.

$$K_{jl} = (n-1)(\lambda g_{jl} + FF_l \lambda_j) + \frac{n-2}{3} (F^2 \lambda_{jl} + 2FF_j \lambda_l),$$

$$K_{00} = \lambda (n-1)F^2, \quad \tilde{K}_{00} = \lambda (n^2 - 1)F^2,$$

$$K_{k0} = \lambda (n-1)FF_k + \frac{2n-1}{3}F^2 \lambda_k,$$

$$K_{0k} = \lambda (n-1)FF_k + \frac{n-2}{3}F^2 \lambda_k,$$

$$(4.4) \qquad \tilde{K}_{0k} = (n^2 - 1)(\lambda FF_k + \frac{1}{3}F^2 \lambda_k).$$

Plugging (4.3) and (4.4) into (3.14), we get the result.

**Lemma 4.1.** Let (M, F) be a C-projective Weyl manifold with dimension  $n \geq 3$ . Then F is of constant flag curvature.

*Proof.* By Theorem 3.1 and Proposition 4.1, we have

$$\widetilde{W}_k^i = \frac{1}{3} F^2 y^i \lambda_k.$$

From assumption, we get  $\lambda_k = 0$ . It means that F is of isotropic flag curvature. The result follows by Schur's Lemma.

Now, let us consider the case  ${\cal F}$  being of constant flag curvature.

**Lemma 4.2.** Let F be a Finsler metric of constant flag curvature  $\mathbf{K} = \lambda$ . Then F is C-projective Weyl metric.

*Proof.* If F is of constant flag curvature  $\lambda$ , then (4.2) reduces to the following

$$(4.5) K_{ikl}^i = \lambda (g_{il}\delta_k^i - g_{jk}\delta_l^i).$$

Hence

(4.6) 
$$K_{jl} = \lambda (1 - n)g_{jl}, \quad \tilde{K}_{jk} = \lambda (1 - n^2)g_{jl}.$$

Plugging (4.6) into (3.13), we obtain  $\widetilde{W}_{ikl}^i = 0$  and consequently  $\widetilde{W}_k^i = 0$ .

### 5 Reduction in Riemannian manifolds

As mentioned before, in Finsler metrics  $F^n$  of scalar flag curvature with  $(n \ge 3)$ , we have this equivalence  $\widetilde{W} = 0$  if and only if  $\mathbf{H} = 0$ . Observing C-projective invariancy of  $\widetilde{W}$ -curvature, one can conjecture that  $\mathbf{H}$ -curvature must be C-projective invariant too. Here, we prove that this is true. By definition,  $H_{ij} = E_{ij|s}y^s$ . Under a projective transformation with the projective factor P, we have the following relations:

$$\begin{split} \bar{E}_{ij} &= E_{ij} + \frac{n+1}{2} P_{ij}, \\ y^l \bar{d}_l &= y^l d_l - 2 P y^m \dot{\partial}_m, \\ \bar{E}_{mj} \bar{G}_i^m &= E_{mj} G_i^m + P E_{ij} + \frac{n+1}{2} (P_{mj} G_i^m + P P_{ij}). \end{split}$$

Now, we can prove the following

Proposition 5.1. H-curvature is C-projective invariant.

*Proof.* Under a projective transformation, we have

$$\bar{H}_{ij} = \bar{E}_{ij|l}y^{l} 
= y^{l}\bar{d}_{l}\bar{E}_{ij} - \bar{E}_{mj}\bar{G}_{i}^{m} - \bar{E}_{im}\bar{G}_{j}^{m} 
= (y^{l}d_{l}\bar{E}_{ij} - 2Py^{m}\dot{\partial}_{m}\bar{E}_{ij}) - \bar{E}_{mj}\bar{G}_{i}^{m} - \bar{E}_{im}\bar{G}_{j}^{m} 
= y^{l}d_{l}E_{ij} + \frac{n+1}{2}y^{l}d_{l}P_{ij} + 2PE_{ij} + (n+1)PP_{ij} - \bar{E}_{mj}\bar{G}_{i}^{m} - \bar{E}_{im}\bar{G}_{j}^{m} 
= y^{l}d_{l}E_{ij} - E_{mj}G_{i}^{m} - E_{im}G_{j}^{m} + \frac{n+1}{2}(y^{l}d_{l}P_{ij} - P_{mj}G_{i}^{m} - P_{im}G_{j}^{m}) 
(5.1) = H_{ij} + \frac{n+1}{2}(y^{l}d_{l}P_{ij} - P_{mj}G_{i}^{m} - P_{im}G_{j}^{m}).$$

On the other hand, we have

(5.2) 
$$y^{l}\dot{\partial}_{i}Q_{jl} = y^{l}d_{l}P_{ij} - P_{mj}G_{i}^{m} - y^{l}d_{j}P_{il}$$
$$= y^{l}d_{l}P_{ij} - P_{mj}G_{i}^{m} - P_{mi}G_{j}^{m}$$

Plugging (5.2) into (5.1) yields

(5.3) 
$$\bar{H}_{ij} = H_{ij} + \frac{n+1}{2} y^l \dot{\partial}_i Q_{jl}.$$

We deal with C-projective mapping, i.e.,  $Q_{ij} = 0$ . Hence  $\bar{H}_{ij} = H_{ij}$ . This completes the proof.

A locally projectively flat Finsler manifold (M, F) with the projective factor P is said to be locally C-projectively flat if P satisfies  $Q_{ij} = 0$ , this means F is locally C-projectively related to a locally Minkowskian metric.

**Example.** Let  $\Theta$  be the Funk metric on the Euclidean unit ball  $B^n(1)$ , i.e.,

$$\Theta(x,y) := \frac{\sqrt{|y|^2 - (|x|^2|y|^2 - \langle x,y \rangle^2)} + \langle x,y \rangle}{1 - |x|^2}, \quad y \in T_x B^n(1) \simeq \mathbb{R}^n,$$

where <,> and |.| denotes the Euclidean inner product and norm on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , respectively. For a constant vector  $a \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , let F be the Finsler metric given by

(5.4) 
$$F := \{1 + \langle a, x \rangle + \frac{\langle a, y \rangle}{\Theta} \} \{\Theta + \Theta_{x^k} x^k \}.$$

In [15], Shen proves that F is projectively flat with projective factor  $P = \Theta$ . A direct computation shows that  $Q_{ij} = 0$ . Hence, F is locally C-projectively flat. Moreover, Shen proves that F is of constant flag curvature  $\mathbf{K} = 0$ .

Every locally Minkowskian metric has vanishing  $\mathbf{H}$ -curvature. It is well known that every locally projectively flat Finsler metric is of scalar flag curvature. In the case of locally C-projectively flat Finsler metrics we have the following

Corollary 5.1. Let F be a locally C-projectively flat Finsler metric. Then F is of constant flag curvature.

In studying the subgroups of the group of projective transformations, Akbar-Zadeh considers projective vector fields satisfying  $P_{ij} = 0$  and calls this kind of vector fields, restricted projective vector field [1]. The condition  $P_{ij} = 0$  means that the projective factor P is linear, which is always true in Riemannian manifolds. Hence, in Riemannian manifolds, every projective transformation is restricted.

Let us define locally restricted projectively flatness similar to C-projectively flatness. Note that Finsler metric given in Example 1 is not locally restricted projectively flat. In fact, a restricted projective vector field with  $P = a_i(x)y^i$  is C-projective vector field, if  $a_i(x)$  is gradient, that is  $P = d\sigma$  for some scalar function on the underlying manifold.

Using (3.11) and eliminating  $P_{j|l}$  from (3.4), Akbar-Zadeh introduces the following tensor

$$*W_{jkl}^{i} := K_{jkl}^{i} - \frac{1}{n^{2} - 1} \left\{ \delta_{k}^{i} (nK_{jl} + K_{lj}) - \delta_{l}^{i} (nK_{jk} + K_{kj}) \right\}$$

$$- \frac{1}{n+1} \delta_{j}^{i} (K_{kl} - K_{lk}).$$
(5.5)

Under a C-projective mapping, we have

$$(5.6) *\overline{W}^{i}_{jkl} = *W^{i}_{jkl} + 2\delta^{i}_{k}\dot{\partial}_{l}Q_{j} - 2\delta^{i}_{l}\dot{\partial}_{j}Q_{k}.$$

This means that  ${}^*W^i_{jkl}$  is not a C-projective invariant. In fact,  ${}^*W^i_{jkl}$  is a restricted projective invariant. We call  ${}^*W^i_{jkl}$  restricted projective Weyl-curvature. The geometric importance of the restricted projective Weyl-curvature is to characterize Finsler metrics of constant flag curvature, i.e., a Finsler metric  $F^n$  with  $(n \geq 3)$  is of constant flag curvature if and only if F has vanishing restricted projective Weyl-curvature ([2] page 209).

Now let F be a Riemannian metric. By Beltrami's well-known theorem, locally projectively flat Riemannian manifolds are exactly Riemannian manifolds of constant sectional curvature. Summarizing up, we get the following reduction theorem in Riemannian manifolds.

**Theorem 5.1.** Let (M, F) be Riemannian manifold with dimension  $n \geq 3$ . Then the following are equivalent.

- 1. F is locally projectively flat.
- 2. F is locally restricted projectively flat.
- 3. F is locally C-projectively flat.

This is not true in generic Finslerian manifolds. The non-equivalence between these kind of projective mappings in Finsler manifolds reveals the complexity of Finsler spaces.

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