

# IMPROVED CHEN'S INEQUALITIES FOR LAGRANGIAN SUBMANIFOLDS IN QUATERNIONIC SPACE FORMS

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ABSTRACT. Riemannian invariants (in particular Chen invariants) play an important role in the theory of submanifolds. They are very useful in providing relationships between the extrinsic and intrinsic invariants of a submanifold. On the other hand, Lagrangian submanifolds are one of the most studied, with important roles in other fields. In this paper, an improved inequality for the Chen invariant  $\delta_M$  and an inequality for the invariant  $\delta(n_1, \dots, n_k)$ , both in the case of a Lagrangian submanifold in a quaternionic space form, by using an optimization method, are obtained.

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## 1. PRELIMINARIES

Let  $\tilde{M}$  be a differentiable manifold and we assume that there is a rank 3-subbundle  $\sigma$  of  $\text{End}(T\tilde{M})$  such that a local basis  $\{J_1, J_2, J_3\}$  exists on sections of  $\sigma$  satisfying for all  $\alpha \in \{1, 2, 3\}$

$$(1.1) \quad J_\alpha^2 = -\text{Id}, \quad J_\alpha J_{\alpha+1} = -J_{\alpha+1} J_\alpha = J_{\alpha+2},$$

where  $\text{Id}$  denotes the identity field of type  $(1, 1)$  on  $M$  and the indices are taken from  $\{1, 2, 3\}$  modulo 3. The bundle  $\sigma$  is called an *almost quaternionic structure* on  $M$  and  $\{J_1, J_2, J_3\}$  is called a canonical basis of  $\sigma$ .  $(\tilde{M}, \sigma)$  is said to be an *almost quaternionic manifold*. It's easy to see that any almost quaternionic manifold is of dimension  $4m$ ,  $m \geq 1$ .

A Riemannian metric  $\tilde{g}$  on  $\tilde{M}$  is said to be *adapted to the almost quaternionic structure*  $\sigma$  if it satisfies

$$(1.2) \quad \tilde{g}(J_\alpha X, J_\alpha Y) = \tilde{g}(X, Y), \quad \forall \alpha \in \{1, 2, 3\},$$

for all vector fields  $X, Y$  on  $\tilde{M}$  and any canonical basis  $\{J_1, J_2, J_3\}$  on  $\sigma$ .  $(\tilde{M}, \sigma, \tilde{g})$  is said to be an *almost quaternionic Hermitian manifold*.

$(\tilde{M}, \sigma, \tilde{g})$  is said to be a *quaternionic Kaehler manifold* [9] if the bundle  $\sigma$  is parallel with respect to the Levi-Civita connection  $\tilde{\nabla}$  of  $\tilde{g}$ , i.e., locally defined 1-forms  $\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_3$  exist such that we have

$$(1.3) \quad \tilde{\nabla}_X J_\alpha = \omega_{\alpha+2}(X) J_{\alpha+1} - \omega_{\alpha+1}(X) J_{\alpha+2},$$

for all  $\alpha \in \{1, 2, 3\}$  and for any vector field  $X$  on  $\tilde{M}$ , where the indices are taken from  $\{1, 2, 3\}$  modulo 3.

Let  $(\tilde{M}, \sigma, \tilde{g})$  be a quaternionic Kaehler manifold and let  $X$  be a non-null vector on  $\tilde{M}$ . The 4-plane spanned by  $\{X, J_1 X, J_2 X, J_3 X\}$  is called a *quaternionic plane* and is denoted by  $Q(X)$ . Any 2-plane in  $Q(X)$  is called a *quaternionic plane*. The sectional curvature of a quaternionic plane is called a *quaternionic sectional curvature*. A quaternionic Kaehler manifold is a *quaternionic space form* if its

quaternionic sectional curvature are equal to a constant, say  $c$ , i.e., its curvature tensor is given by (1.4)

$$\tilde{R}(X, Y)Z = \frac{c}{4} \left\{ \tilde{g}(Z, Y)X - \tilde{g}(X, Z)Y + \sum_{\alpha=1}^3 [\tilde{g}(Z, J_\alpha Y)J_\alpha X - \tilde{g}(Z, J_\alpha X)J_\alpha Y + 2\tilde{g}(X, J_\alpha Y)J_\alpha Z] \right\},$$

for all vector fields  $X, Y, Z$  on  $\tilde{M}$  and any local basis  $\{J_1, J_2, J_3\}$  on  $\sigma$ .

For a submanifold  $M$  of a quaternionic Kaehler manifold  $(\tilde{M}, \sigma, \tilde{g})$  we denote by  $g$  the metric tensor induced on  $M$ . If  $\nabla$  is the covariant differentiation induced on  $M$ , the Gauss and Weingarten formulae are given by

$$(1.5) \quad \tilde{\nabla}_X Y = \nabla_X Y + h(X, Y),$$

$$(1.6) \quad \tilde{\nabla}_X N = -A_N X + \nabla_X^\perp N,$$

for  $X, Y \in \Gamma(TM)$ ,  $N \in \Gamma(TM^\perp)$ , where  $h$  is the second fundamental form of  $M$ ,  $\nabla^\perp$  is the connection on the normal bundle and  $A_N$  is the shape operator of  $M$  with respect to  $N$ . The relation between the second fundamental form  $h$  and shape operator  $A_N$  is

$$(1.7) \quad \tilde{g}(h(X, Y), N) = g(A_N X, Y),$$

for all  $X, Y \in \Gamma(TM)$  and  $N \in \Gamma(TM^\perp)$ .

For  $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$  an orthonormal basis of  $T_p M$  and  $\{e_{n+1}, \dots, e_{4m}\}$  an orthonormal basis of  $T_p^\perp M$ , where  $p \in M$ , we denote by  $H$  the mean curvature vector, i.e.,

$$H(p) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n h(e_i, e_i).$$

Also,

$$h_{ij}^r = g(h(e_i, e_j), e_r), \quad i, j \in \overline{1, n}, \quad r \in \overline{n+1, 4m}$$

and

$$\|h\|^2(p) = \sum_{i, j=1}^n g(h(e_i, e_j), h(e_i, e_j)).$$

Let  $f : M \rightarrow \tilde{M}(c)$  an isometric immersion of the  $n$  dimensional Riemannian manifold  $M$  in the  $4n$  dimensional quaternionic space form  $\tilde{M}(c)$ .  $M$  is said to be a *Lagrangian submanifold* if

$$J_\alpha(T_p M) \subset T_p^\perp M, \quad \forall p \in M, \quad \forall \alpha \in \{1, 2, 3\}.$$

We choose an orthonormal frame field in  $\tilde{M}(c)$

$$\{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n; \quad e_{\phi_1(1)} = J_1(e_1), \dots, e_{\phi_1(n)} = J_1(e_n); \\ e_{\phi_2(1)} = J_2(e_1), \dots, e_{\phi_2(n)} = J_2(e_n); \quad e_{\phi_3(1)} = J_3(e_1), \dots, e_{\phi_3(n)} = J_3(e_n)\},$$

such that, restricted to  $M$ ,  $e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n$  are tangent to  $M$ .

We set

$$h_{ij}^\alpha = g(h(e_i, e_j), e_\alpha), \quad \alpha \in \{\phi_1(1), \dots, \phi_1(n), \phi_2(1), \dots, \phi_2(n), \phi_3(1), \dots, \phi_3(n)\}$$

and then, for any  $r = 1, 2, 3$ , we have (see (2.9.) in [7])

$$(1.8) \quad h_{ij}^{\phi_r(k)} = h_{ki}^{\phi_r(j)} = h_{jk}^{\phi_r(i)}.$$

Let  $(M, g)$  be a Riemannian submanifold of a Riemannian manifold  $(\tilde{M}, \tilde{g})$  and  $f \in C^\infty(\tilde{M})$ . We attach the following optimum problem

$$(1.9) \quad \min_{x \in M} f(x).$$

We recall the following result.

**Theorem 1.1.** [10] *If  $x_0 \in M$  is a solution of the problem 1.9, then*

a)  $(\text{grad})(x_0) \in T_{x_0}^\perp M$ ;

b) *The bilinear form  $\alpha : T_{x_0} M \times T_{x_0} M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\alpha(X, Y) = \text{Hess}_f(X, Y) + \tilde{g}(h(X, Y), (\text{grad})(x_0))$  is semipositive definite, where  $h$  is the second fundamental form of the submanifold  $M$  in  $\tilde{M}$ .*

## 2. CHEN INVARIANTS

In this section we recall the basic definitions and standard notations (see, for example, [3]).

Let  $M$  be an  $n$  dimensional Riemannian manifold and  $K(\pi)$  the sectional curvature of  $M$  associated with a plane section  $\pi \subset T_p M$ ,  $p \in M$ . For any orthonormal basis  $\{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n\}$  of the tangent space  $T_p M$ , the scalar curvature  $\tau$  at  $p$  is defined by

$$(2.1) \quad \tau(p) = \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} K(e_i \wedge e_j).$$

One denotes (see [2])

$$(\inf K)(p) = \inf\{K(\pi) | \pi \subset T_p M, \dim \pi = 2\}$$

and the *Chen first invariant* is defined by

$$(2.2) \quad \delta_M(p) = \tau(p) - (\inf K)(p).$$

If  $L$  is a subspace of  $T_p M$  of dimension  $r \geq 2$  and  $\{e_1, \dots, e_r\}$  an orthonormal basis of  $L$ , the scalar curvature  $\tau(L)$  of the  $r$ -plane section  $L$  is defined by

$$\tau(L) = \sum_{1 \leq \alpha < \beta \leq r} K(e_\alpha \wedge e_\beta).$$

For given integers  $n \geq 3$  and  $k \geq 1$ , denote by  $S(n, k)$  the finite set of all  $k$ -tuples  $(n_1, n_2, \dots, n_k)$  of integers satisfying

$$2 \leq n_1, n_2, \dots, n_k < n \text{ and } n_1 + \dots + n_k \leq n.$$

Let  $S(n)$  be the union  $\bigcup_{k \geq 1} S(n, k)$ .

For each  $(n_1, n_2, \dots, n_k) \in S(n)$  and each point  $p \in M$ , B.-Y. Chen introduced a Riemannian invariant

$$\delta(n_1, \dots, n_k)(p) = \tau(p) - \inf\{\tau(L_1) + \dots + \tau(L_k)\},$$

where  $L_1, \dots, L_k$  run over all  $k$  mutually orthogonal subspaces of  $T_p M$  such that  $\dim L_j = n_j$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, k$ .

## 3. IMPROVED $\delta_M$ -INEQUALITY FOR LAGRANGIAN SUBMANIFOLDS IN QUATERNIONIC SPACE FORMS

B.-Y. Chen, F. Dillen, L. Verstraelen and L. Vrancken [6] showed that every totally real submanifold  $M$  of a real dimension  $n$  in a complex space form  $\tilde{M}(c)$  of real dimension  $2m$  satisfies Chen's inequality

$$\delta_M \leq \frac{n-2}{n} \left\{ \frac{n^2}{n-1} \|H\|^2 + (n+1) \frac{c}{4} \right\}.$$

J. Bolton et al. [1] established an improved inequality for this invariant, in the case of a Lagrangian submanifold in a complex space form:

$$\delta_M \leq \frac{(n-2)(n+1)}{2} \frac{c}{4} + \frac{n^2}{2} \frac{2n-3}{2n+3} \|H\|^2$$

(see also Oprea [10]).

In this section we prove a similar inequality for Lagrangian submanifold of a quaternionic space form.

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $M$  be an  $n$ -dimensional Lagrangian submanifold of a quaternionic space form  $\tilde{M}(c)$ . Then, we have*

$$(3.1) \quad \delta_M \leq \frac{(n-2)(n+1)}{2} \cdot \frac{c}{4} + \frac{n^2}{2} \cdot \frac{2n-3}{2n+3} \cdot \|H\|^2.$$

*The equality sign holds at a point  $p \in M$  if and only if there is an orthonormal basis  $\{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n\}$  at  $p$  such that with respect to this basis the second fundamental form  $h$  satisfies the conditions*

$$h_{ij}^{\phi_r(k)} = 0, \quad i = \overline{1, n}, \quad j = \overline{3, n}, \quad i \neq j, \quad k \in \{1, \dots, n\} \setminus \{i, j\}.$$

*Proof.* From the Gauss equation we have

$$R(X, Y, Z, W) = \frac{c}{4} \{g(Y, Z)g(X, W) - g(X, Z)g(Y, W)\} + \\ + g(h(X, W), h(Y, Z)) - g(h(X, Z), h(Y, W)),$$

for any  $X, Y, Z, W$  tangent to  $M$ .

We get

$$(3.2) \quad \tau = \frac{c}{4} \cdot \frac{n(n-1)}{2} + \frac{n^2}{2} \|H\|^2 - \frac{1}{2} \|h\|^2.$$

Let  $e_1, e_2$  be tangent to  $M$ . Then

$$\tilde{R}(e_1, e_2, e_1, e_2) = R(e_1, e_2, e_1, e_2) - \sum_{r=1}^3 \sum_{k=1}^n \left[ h_{11}^{\phi_r(k)} h_{22}^{\phi_r(k)} - (h_{12}^{\phi_r(k)})^2 \right].$$

From this, we obtain

$$(3.3) \quad K(e_1 \wedge e_2) = \frac{c}{4} + \sum_{r=1}^3 \sum_{k=1}^n \left[ h_{11}^{\phi_r(k)} h_{22}^{\phi_r(k)} - (h_{12}^{\phi_r(k)})^2 \right].$$

$$\delta_M = \tau - K(e_1 \wedge e_2) = \frac{c}{4} \left\{ \frac{n(n-1)}{2} - 1 \right\} + \frac{n^2 \|H\|^2}{2} - \frac{\|h\|^2}{2} - \sum_{r=1}^3 \sum_{k=1}^n \left[ h_{11}^{\phi_r(k)} h_{22}^{\phi_r(k)} - (h_{12}^{\phi_r(k)})^2 \right],$$

equivalent with

$$\delta_M = \frac{c}{4} \left( \frac{n^2 - n - 2}{2} \right) + \sum_{r=1}^3 \sum_{k=1}^n \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} \left[ h_{ii}^{\phi_r(k)} h_{jj}^{\phi_r(k)} - (h_{ij}^{\phi_r(k)})^2 \right] - \\ - \sum_{r=1}^3 \sum_{k=1}^n \left[ h_{11}^{\phi_r(k)} h_{22}^{\phi_r(k)} - (h_{12}^{\phi_r(k)})^2 \right].$$

It follows that

$$\delta_M = \frac{(n+1)(n-2)c}{2} \frac{c}{4} + \sum_{r=1}^3 \sum_{k=1}^n \left[ \sum_{j=3}^n (h_{11}^{\phi_r(k)} + h_{22}^{\phi_r(k)}) h_{jj}^{\phi_r(k)} + \sum_{3 \leq i < j \leq n} h_{ii}^{\phi_r(k)} h_{jj}^{\phi_r(k)} \right] - \\ - \sum_{r=1}^3 \sum_{k=1}^n \left[ \sum_{j=3}^n (h_{1j}^{\phi_r(k)})^2 + (h_{2j}^{\phi_r(k)})^2 \right] - \sum_{r=1}^3 \sum_{k=1}^n \sum_{3 \leq i < j \leq n} (h_{ij}^{\phi_r(k)})^2,$$

and then

$$\delta_M = \frac{(n+1)(n-2)c}{2} \frac{c}{4} + \sum_{r=1}^3 \sum_{k=1}^n \left[ \sum_{j=3}^n (h_{11}^{\phi_r(k)} + h_{22}^{\phi_r(k)}) h_{jj}^{\phi_r(k)} + \sum_{3 \leq i < j \leq n} h_{ii}^{\phi_r(k)} h_{jj}^{\phi_r(k)} \right] -$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& - \sum_{r=1}^3 \left\{ \sum_{j=3}^n \left[ \left( h_{1j}^{\phi_r(1)} \right)^2 + \left( h_{2j}^{\phi_r(2)} \right)^2 + \left( h_{1j}^{\phi_r(j)} \right)^2 + \left( h_{2j}^{\phi_r(j)} \right)^2 \right] + \right. \\
& \quad \left. + \sum_{1 \leq k \leq n}^{k \neq 1} \sum_{3 \leq j \leq n}^{k \neq j} \left( h_{1j}^{\phi_r(k)} \right)^2 + \sum_{1 \leq k \leq n}^{k \neq 2} \sum_{3 \leq j \leq n}^{k \neq j} \left( h_{2j}^{\phi_r(k)} \right)^2 \right\} - \\
& - \sum_{r=1}^3 \left[ \sum_{3 \leq i < j \leq n} \left( h_{ij}^{\phi_r(i)} \right)^2 + \sum_{3 \leq i < j \leq n} \left( h_{ij}^{\phi_r(j)} \right)^2 + \sum_{k=1}^n \sum_{3 \leq i < j \leq n}^{k \neq i, j} \left( h_{ij}^{\phi_r(k)} \right)^2 \right].
\end{aligned}$$

This implies

$$\begin{aligned}
\delta_M &= \frac{(n+1)(n-2)c}{2} \frac{c}{4} + \sum_{r=1}^3 \sum_{k=1}^n \left[ \sum_{j=3}^n \left( h_{11}^{\phi_r(k)} + h_{22}^{\phi_r(k)} \right) h_{jj}^{\phi_r(k)} + \sum_{3 \leq i < j \leq n} h_{ii}^{\phi_r(k)} h_{jj}^{\phi_r(k)} \right] - \\
& - \sum_{r=1}^3 \left\{ \sum_{j=3}^n \left[ \left( h_{11}^{\phi_r(j)} \right)^2 + \left( h_{22}^{\phi_r(j)} \right)^2 + \left( h_{jj}^{\phi_r(1)} \right)^2 + \left( h_{jj}^{\phi_r(2)} \right)^2 \right] + \right. \\
& \quad \left. + \sum_{1 \leq k \leq n}^{k \neq 1} \sum_{3 \leq j \leq n}^{k \neq j} \left( h_{1j}^{\phi_r(k)} \right)^2 + \sum_{1 \leq k \leq n}^{k \neq 2} \sum_{3 \leq j \leq n}^{k \neq j} \left( h_{2j}^{\phi_r(k)} \right)^2 \right\} - \\
& - \sum_{r=1}^3 \left\{ \sum_{3 \leq i < j \leq n} \left[ \left( h_{ii}^{\phi_r(j)} \right)^2 + \left( h_{jj}^{\phi_r(i)} \right)^2 \right] + \sum_{k=1}^n \sum_{3 \leq i < j \leq n}^{k \neq i, j} \left( h_{ij}^{\phi_r(k)} \right)^2 \right\}.
\end{aligned}$$

From the previous relation, it follows that

$$\begin{aligned}
(3.4) \quad \delta_M &\leq \frac{(n+1)(n-2)c}{2} \frac{c}{4} + \sum_{r=1}^3 \sum_{k=1}^n \left[ \sum_{j=3}^n \left( h_{11}^{\phi_r(k)} + h_{22}^{\phi_r(k)} \right) h_{jj}^{\phi_r(k)} + \sum_{3 \leq i < j \leq n} h_{ii}^{\phi_r(k)} h_{jj}^{\phi_r(k)} \right] - \\
& - \sum_{r=1}^3 \sum_{j=3}^n \left[ \left( h_{11}^{\phi_r(j)} \right)^2 + \left( h_{22}^{\phi_r(j)} \right)^2 + \left( h_{jj}^{\phi_r(1)} \right)^2 + \left( h_{jj}^{\phi_r(2)} \right)^2 \right] - \\
& - \sum_{r=1}^3 \sum_{3 \leq i < j \leq n} \left[ \left( h_{ii}^{\phi_r(j)} \right)^2 + \left( h_{jj}^{\phi_r(i)} \right)^2 \right].
\end{aligned}$$

For  $r \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ , let us consider the quadratic forms  $f_{\phi_r(k)} : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $k = \overline{1, n}$  defined by

$$\begin{aligned}
(3.5) \quad f_{\phi_r(1)}(h_{11}^{\phi_r(1)}, h_{22}^{\phi_r(1)}, \dots, h_{nn}^{\phi_r(1)}) &= \sum_{j=3}^n \left( h_{11}^{\phi_r(1)} + h_{22}^{\phi_r(1)} \right) h_{jj}^{\phi_r(1)} + \\
& + \sum_{3 \leq i < j \leq n} h_{ii}^{\phi_r(1)} h_{jj}^{\phi_r(1)} - \sum_{j=3}^n \left( h_{jj}^{\phi_r(1)} \right)^2,
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
(3.6) \quad f_{\phi_r(2)}(h_{11}^{\phi_r(2)}, h_{22}^{\phi_r(2)}, \dots, h_{nn}^{\phi_r(2)}) &= \sum_{j=3}^n \left( h_{11}^{\phi_r(2)} + h_{22}^{\phi_r(2)} \right) h_{jj}^{\phi_r(2)} + \\
& + \sum_{3 \leq i < j \leq n} h_{ii}^{\phi_r(2)} h_{jj}^{\phi_r(2)} - \sum_{j=3}^n \left( h_{jj}^{\phi_r(2)} \right)^2,
\end{aligned}$$

$$(3.7) \quad f_{\phi_r(k)}(h_{11}^{\phi_r(k)}, h_{22}^{\phi_r(k)}, \dots, h_{nn}^{\phi_r(k)}) = \sum_{j=3}^n (h_{11}^{\phi_r(k)} + h_{22}^{\phi_r(k)}) h_{jj}^{\phi_r(k)} + \\ + \sum_{3 \leq i < j \leq n} h_{ii}^{\phi_r(k)} h_{jj}^{\phi_r(k)} - (h_{11}^{\phi_r(k)})^2 - (h_{22}^{\phi_r(k)})^2 - \sum_{3 \leq i \leq n} (h_{ii}^{\phi_r(k)})^2,$$

where

$$k = \overline{3, n}, \quad r = 1, 2, 3, \quad \phi_1 = I, \quad \phi_2 = J, \quad \phi_3 = K.$$

For  $r \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ , we must find an upper bound for  $f_{\phi_r(1)}$ , subject to

$$(3.8) \quad P : h_{11}^{\phi_r(1)} + h_{22}^{\phi_r(1)} + \dots + h_{nn}^{\phi_r(1)} = c^{\phi_r(1)},$$

where  $c^{\phi_r(1)}$  is a real number.

The bilinear form  $\alpha : T_q P \times T_q P \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  has the expression

$$\alpha(X, Y) = \text{Hess}(f_r)(X, Y) + \langle h'(X, Y), \text{grad } f_r(q) \rangle,$$

where  $h'$  is the second fundamental form of  $P$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  is the standard inner-product on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

Searching for the partial derivatives of the function  $f_{\phi_r(1)}$ , we get

$$\frac{\partial f_{\phi_r(1)}}{\partial h_{11}^{\phi_r(1)}} = \sum_{j=3}^n h_{jj}^{\phi_r(1)}, \\ \frac{\partial f_{\phi_r(1)}}{\partial h_{22}^{\phi_r(1)}} = \sum_{j=3}^n h_{jj}^{\phi_r(1)}, \\ \frac{\partial f_{\phi_r(1)}}{\partial h_{tt}^{\phi_r(1)}} = h_{11}^{\phi_r(1)} + h_{22}^{\phi_r(1)} + \sum_{3 \leq j \leq n, j \neq t} h_{jj}^{\phi_r(1)} - 2h_{tt}^{\phi_r(1)}, \quad t = \overline{3, n}.$$

In the standard frame of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , the Hessian of  $f_{\phi_r(1)}$  has the matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & -2 & 1 & 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & -2 & 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -2 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -2 & \dots & 1 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & \dots & -2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

As  $P$  is totally geodesic in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  ( $P$  a hyperplane;  $h' = 0$ ), we get

$$\alpha(X, X) = \sum_{j=3}^n (X_{\phi_r(1)} + X_{\phi_r(2)}) X_{\phi_r(j)} + \sum_{j=3}^n \sum_{1 \leq k \leq n, k \neq j} X_{\phi_r(j)} X_{\phi_r(k)} - 2 \sum_{j=3}^n (X_{\phi_r(j)})^2 = \\ = \left( \sum_{j=1}^n X_{\phi_r(j)} \right)^2 - 2X_{\phi_r(1)} X_{\phi_r(2)} - (X_{\phi_r(1)})^2 - (X_{\phi_r(2)})^2 - 3 \sum_{j=3}^n (X_{\phi_r(j)})^2 = \\ = - (X_{\phi_r(1)} + X_{\phi_r(2)})^2 - 3 \sum_{j=3}^n (X_{\phi_r(j)})^2 \leq 0,$$

so the Hessian of  $f_{\phi_r(1)}$  is negative semidefinite.

Searching for the critical points  $h_{11}^{\phi_r(1)}, h_{22}^{\phi_r(1)}, \dots, h_{nn}^{\phi_r(1)}$  of  $f_{\phi_r(1)}$ , we find

$$h_{33}^{\phi_r(1)} = h_{44}^{\phi_r(1)} = \dots = h_{nn}^{\phi_r(1)} = \lambda,$$

$$\frac{\partial f_{\phi_r(1)}}{\partial h_{22}^{\phi_r(1)}} = \frac{\partial f_{\phi_r(1)}}{\partial h_{33}^{\phi_r(1)}}.$$

It follows

$$(n-2)\lambda = h_{11}^{\phi_r(1)} + h_{22}^{\phi_r(1)} + (n-3)\lambda - 2\lambda,$$

which implies

$$h_{11}^{\phi_r(1)} + h_{22}^{\phi_r(1)} = 3\lambda.$$

From (3.5) we obtain

$$3\lambda + (n-2)\lambda = c^{\phi_r(1)}.$$

Then

$$\lambda = \frac{c^{\phi_r(1)}}{n+1}$$

and

$$h_{11}^{\phi_r(1)} + h_{22}^{\phi_r(1)} = \frac{3c^{\phi_r(1)}}{n+1},$$

$$h_{33}^{\phi_r(1)} = h_{44}^{\phi_r(1)} = \dots = h_{nn}^{\phi_r(1)} = \frac{c^{\phi_r(1)}}{n+1}.$$

Again, from (3.5), we find

$$\begin{aligned} f_{\phi_r(1)} &\leq \frac{3c^{\phi_r(1)}}{n+1}(n-2)\frac{c^{\phi_r(1)}}{n+1} + C_{n-2}^2 \left(\frac{c^{\phi_r(1)}}{n+1}\right)^2 - (n-2) \left(\frac{c^{\phi_r(1)}}{n+1}\right)^2 = \\ &= \frac{3(n-2)}{(n+1)^2} \cdot \left(c^{\phi_r(1)}\right)^2 + \frac{(n-2)(n-3)}{2(n+1)^2} \cdot \left(c^{\phi_r(1)}\right)^2 - \frac{n-2}{(n+1)^2} \cdot \left(c^{\phi_r(1)}\right)^2 = \\ &= \frac{1}{2(n+1)^2} \cdot \left(c^{\phi_r(1)}\right)^2 \cdot [6(n-2) + (n-2)(n-3) - 2(n-2)] = \\ &= \frac{1}{2(n+1)^2} \cdot \left(c^{\phi_r(1)}\right)^2 \cdot (n+1)(n-2), \end{aligned}$$

which implies

$$(3.9) \quad f_{\phi_r(1)} \leq \frac{n^2}{2} \cdot \frac{n-2}{n+1} \cdot \left(H^{\phi_r(1)}\right)^2.$$

In a similar manner, we find for  $f_{\phi_r(2)}$

$$(3.10) \quad f_{\phi_r(2)} \leq \frac{n^2}{2} \cdot \frac{n-2}{n+1} \cdot \left(H^{\phi_r(2)}\right)^2.$$

Next, we must find an upper bound for  $f_{\phi_r(k)}$ ,  $k = \overline{3, n}$ ,  $r \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ , subject to

$$(3.11) \quad P : h_{11}^{\phi_r(k)} + h_{22}^{\phi_r(k)} + \dots + h_{nn}^{\phi_r(k)} = c^{\phi_r(k)}.$$

For  $k = 3$  we have

$$(3.12) \quad f_{\phi_r(3)} = \left( h_{11}^{\phi_r(3)} + h_{22}^{\phi_r(3)} \right) \sum_{j=3}^n h_{jj}^{\phi_r(3)} + \sum_{3 \leq i < j \leq n} h_{ii}^{\phi_r(3)} h_{jj}^{\phi_r(3)} - \left( h_{11}^{\phi_r(3)} \right)^2 - \left( h_{22}^{\phi_r(3)} \right)^2 - \sum_{3 \leq i \leq n, i \neq 3} \left( h_{ii}^{\phi_r(3)} \right)^2.$$

We calculate the partial derivatives of  $f_{\phi_r(3)}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial f_{\phi_r(3)}}{\partial h_{11}^{\phi_r(3)}} &= \sum_{j=3}^n h_{jj}^{\phi_r(3)} - 2h_{11}^{\phi_r(3)}, \\ \frac{\partial f_{\phi_r(3)}}{\partial h_{22}^{\phi_r(3)}} &= \sum_{j=3}^n h_{jj}^{\phi_r(3)} - 2h_{22}^{\phi_r(3)}, \\ \frac{\partial f_{\phi_r(3)}}{\partial h_{33}^{\phi_r(3)}} &= h_{11}^{\phi_r(3)} + h_{22}^{\phi_r(3)} + \sum_{3 \leq j \leq n, j \neq 3} h_{jj}^{\phi_r(3)}, \\ \frac{\partial f_{\phi_r(3)}}{\partial h_{tt}^{\phi_r(3)}} &= h_{11}^{\phi_r(3)} + h_{22}^{\phi_r(3)} + \sum_{3 \leq j \leq n, j \neq t} h_{jj}^{\phi_r(3)} - 2h_{tt}^{\phi_r(3)}, \quad t = \overline{4, n}. \end{aligned}$$

From the above relations, we find

$$\begin{aligned} h_{11}^{\phi_r(3)} &= h_{22}^{\phi_r(3)} = 3\lambda, \\ h_{33}^{\phi_r(3)} &= 4h_{11}^{\phi_r(3)} = 12\lambda, \\ h_{44}^{\phi_r(3)} &= \dots = h_{nn}^{\phi_r(3)} = 4\lambda, \end{aligned}$$

so these relations and (3.8) implies

$$6\lambda + 12\lambda + (n-3) \cdot 4\lambda = c^{\phi_r(3)},$$

equivalent with

$$\lambda = \frac{c^{\phi_r(3)}}{2(2n+3)}.$$

Then

$$(3.13) \quad h_{11}^{\phi_r(3)} = h_{22}^{\phi_r(3)} = \frac{3c^{\phi_r(3)}}{2(2n+3)},$$

$$(3.14) \quad h_{33}^{\phi_r(3)} = 4h_{11}^{\phi_r(3)} = \frac{6c^{\phi_r(3)}}{2n+3},$$

$$(3.15) \quad h_{44}^{\phi_r(3)} = \dots = h_{nn}^{\phi_r(3)} = \frac{2c^{\phi_r(3)}}{2n+3}.$$

In the standard frame of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , the Hessian of  $f_{\phi_r(3)}$  has the matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} -2 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ 0 & -2 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & -2 & 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -2 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -2 & \dots & 1 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & \dots & -2 \end{pmatrix}.$$



As  $P$  is totally geodesic in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned}
\alpha(X, X) &= -2 \sum_{1 \leq j \leq n}^{j \neq 3} (X_j)^2 + 2 \sum_{j=3}^n (X_1 + X_2)X_j + 2 \sum_{3 \leq i < j \leq n} X_i X_j = \\
&= \left( \sum_{j=1}^n X_j \right)^2 - 2X_1 X_2 - \sum_{j=1}^n (X_j)^2 - 2 \sum_{1 \leq j \leq n}^{j \neq 3} (X_j)^2 = \\
&= \left( \sum_{j=1}^n X_j \right)^2 - (X_1 + X_2)^2 - (X_3)^2 - 2(X_1)^2 - 2(X_2)^2 - 3 \sum_{j=4}^n (X_j)^2 < 0,
\end{aligned}$$

so the Hessian of  $f_{\phi_r(3)}$  is negative semidefinite.

From (3.12), (3.13), (3.14) and (3.15), we get

$$\begin{aligned}
f_{\phi_r(3)} &\leq \frac{3c^{\phi_r(3)}}{2n+3} \cdot \left[ \frac{6c^{\phi_r(3)}}{2n+3} + (n-3) \cdot \frac{2c^{\phi_r(3)}}{2n+3} \right] + \\
&+ \frac{6c^{\phi_r(3)}}{2n+3} \cdot (n-3) \frac{2c^{\phi_r(3)}}{2n+3} + C_{n-3}^2 \cdot \left( \frac{2c^{\phi_r(3)}}{2n+3} \right)^2 - 2 \cdot \left[ \frac{3c^{\phi_r(3)}}{2(2n+3)} \right]^2 - (n-3) \left( \frac{2c^{\phi_r(3)}}{2n+3} \right)^2 = \\
&= \frac{18(c^{\phi_r(3)})^2}{(2n+3)^2} + \frac{6(n-3)}{(2n+3)^2} \cdot (c^{\phi_r(3)})^2 + \frac{12(n-3)}{(2n+3)^2} \cdot (c^{\phi_r(3)})^2 + \frac{(n-3)(n-4)}{2} \cdot \frac{4(c^{\phi_r(3)})^2}{(2n+3)^2} - \\
&- 2 \cdot \frac{9(c^{\phi_r(3)})^2}{4(2n+3)^2} - \frac{4(n-3)(c^{\phi_r(3)})^2}{(2n+3)^2} = \\
&= \frac{(c^{\phi_r(3)})^2}{2(2n+3)^2} [36 + 12(n-3) + 24(n-3) + 4(n-3)(n-4) - 9 - 8(n-3)] = \\
&= \frac{(c^{\phi_r(3)})^2}{2(2n+3)^2} (4n^2 - 9) = \frac{(c^{\phi_r(3)})^2}{2(2n+3)^2} (2n-3)(2n+3),
\end{aligned}$$

so we obtain

$$f_{\phi_r(3)} \leq \frac{2n-3}{2(2n+3)} (c^{\phi_r(3)})^2.$$

From previous relation and (3.11), we find that

$$(3.16) \quad f_{\phi_r(3)} \leq \frac{n^2}{2} \cdot \frac{2n-3}{2n+3} \cdot (H^{\phi_r(3)})^2.$$

In a similar manner,  $\forall r \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ ,  $\forall k \geq 3$ , we get

$$(3.17) \quad f_{\phi_r(k)} \leq \frac{n^2}{2} \cdot \frac{2n-3}{2n+3} \cdot (H^{\phi_r(k)})^2.$$

Since  $\frac{n-2}{n+1} < \frac{2n-3}{2n+3}$ , then we have

$$\delta_M \leq \frac{(n+1)(n-2)}{2} \cdot \frac{c}{4} + \frac{n^2}{2} \cdot \frac{2n-3}{2n+3} \cdot \|H\|^2,$$

which is an improvement of the result of Y. Hong, and C.S. Houh [8].

□

4.  $\delta(n_1, \dots, n_k)$ -INEQUALITY FOR LAGRANGIAN SUBMANIFOLD OF A QUATERNIONIC SPACE FORM

B.-Y. Chen established the following inequalities for Chen invariant  $\delta(n_1, \dots, n_k)$  of Lagrangian submanifolds in complex space forms.

**Theorem 4.1.** [4] *Let  $M$  be a Lagrangian submanifold of a complex space form  $\tilde{M}(c)$ . For a given  $k$ -tuple  $(n_1, n_2, \dots, n_k) \in S(n)$ , we put  $N = n_1 + n_2 + \dots + n_k$  and  $Q = \sum_{i=1}^k (2 + n_i)^{-1}$ . If  $Q \leq \frac{1}{3}$  and  $N < n$ , we have*

$$(4.1) \quad \delta(n_1, n_2, \dots, n_k) \leq \frac{n^2 \{n - N + 3k - 1 - 6Q\}}{2 \{n - N + 3k - 1 - 6Q\}} \|H\|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \left\{ n(n-1) - \sum_{i=1}^k n_i(n_i-1) \right\} \frac{c}{4}.$$

The equality sign holds at a point  $p \in M$  if and only if there is an orthonormal basis  $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$  at  $p$  such that with respect to this basis the second fundamental form  $h$  takes the following form

$$h(e_{\alpha_i}, e_{\beta_i}) = \sum_{\gamma_i \in \Delta_i} h_{\alpha_i \beta_i}^{\gamma_i} J e_{\gamma_i} + \frac{3\delta_{\alpha_i \beta_i}}{2 + n_i} \lambda J e_{N+1},$$

$$h(e_{\alpha_i}, e_{\alpha_j}) = 0, \quad \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i} h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\gamma_i} = 0,$$

$$h(e_{\alpha_i}, e_{N+1}) = \frac{3\lambda}{2 + n_i} J e_{\alpha_i}, \quad h(e_{\alpha_i}, e_u) = 0,$$

$$h(e_{N+1}, e_{N+1}) = 3\lambda J e_{N+1}, \quad h(e_{N+1}, e_u) = \lambda J e_u,$$

$$h(e_u, e_v) = \lambda \delta_{uv} J e_{N+1},$$

for distinct  $i, j \in \{1, \dots, k\}$ ,  $u, v \in \{N+2, \dots, n\}$  and  $\lambda = \frac{1}{3} h_{N+1, N+1}^{N+1}$ .

**Theorem 4.2.** [5] *Let  $M$  be a Lagrangian submanifold of a complex space form  $\tilde{M}(c)$ . For a given  $k$ -tuple  $(n_1, n_2, \dots, n_k) \in S(n)$ , we put  $N = n_1 + n_2 + \dots + n_k$  and  $Q = \sum_{i=1}^k (2 + n_i)^{-1}$ . If  $Q > \frac{1}{3}$  and  $N < n$ , we have*

$$(4.2) \quad \delta(n_1, n_2, \dots, n_k) \leq \frac{n^2(n - N + 3k - 3)}{2(n - N + 3k)} \|H\|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \left\{ n(n-1) - \sum_{i=1}^k n_i(n_i-1) \right\} \frac{c}{4}.$$

The equality sign holds at a point  $p \in M$  if and only if there is an orthonormal basis  $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$  at  $p$  such that

$$h(e_{\alpha_i}, e_{\beta_i}) = \sum_{\gamma_i \in \Delta_i} h_{\alpha_i \beta_i}^{\gamma_i} J e_{\gamma_i}, \quad \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i} h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\gamma_i} = 0,$$

$$h(e_A, e_B) = 0 \text{ otherwise,}$$

for  $\alpha_i, \beta_i, \gamma_i \in \Delta_i, i \in \{1, \dots, k\}$ , and  $A, B, C \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ .

By using the method of constrained maximum, we obtain a similiar inequality in the case of Lagrangian submanifolds in quaternionic space forms in the next Theorem.

**Theorem 4.3.** Let  $M$  be an  $n$ -dimensional Lagrangian submanifold of a quaternionic space form  $\tilde{M}(c)$ . For a given  $k$ -tuple  $(n_1, n_2, \dots, n_k) \in S(n)$ , we put  $N = n_1 + n_2 + \dots + n_k$  and  $Q = \sum_{i=1}^k (2 + n_i)^{-1}$ . If  $N < n$  then we have

a) if  $Q \leq \frac{1}{3}$ ,

$$(4.3) \quad \delta(n_1, n_2, \dots, n_k) \leq \frac{n^2\{n - N + 3k - 1 - 6Q\}}{2\{n - N + 3k + 2 - 6Q\}} \|H\|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \left\{ n(n-1) - \sum_{i=1}^k n_i(n_i-1) \right\} \frac{c}{4}.$$

The equality sign holds at a point  $p \in M$  if and only if there is an orthonormal basis  $\{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n\}$  at  $p$  such that with respect to this basis the second fundamental form  $h$  takes the following form

$$h(e_{\alpha_i}, e_{\beta_i}) = \sum_{r=1}^3 \left( \sum_{\gamma_i \in \Delta_i} h_{\alpha_i \beta_i}^{\phi_r(\gamma_i)} \phi_r e_{\gamma_i} + \frac{3\delta_{\alpha_i \beta_i}}{2 + n_i} \lambda \phi_r(e_{N+1}) \right), \quad \alpha_i, \beta_i \in \Delta_i, \quad i = \overline{1, k},$$

$$h(e_{\alpha_i}, e_{\alpha_j}) = 0, \quad \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i} h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(\gamma_i)} = 0, \quad r = \overline{1, 3}, \quad \alpha_i \in \Delta_i, \quad \alpha_j \in \Delta_j, \quad i \neq j, \quad i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\},$$

$$h(e_{\alpha_i}, e_{N+1}) = \frac{3\lambda}{2 + n_i} \sum_{r=1}^3 \phi_r(e_{\alpha_i}), \quad h(e_{\alpha_i}, e_u) = 0, \quad u \in \{N+2, \dots, n\},$$

$$h(e_{N+1}, e_{N+1}) = 3\lambda \sum_{r=1}^3 \phi_r(e_{N+1}),$$

$$h(e_{N+1}, e_u) = \lambda \sum_{r=1}^3 \phi_r(e_u), \quad u \in \{N+2, \dots, n\},$$

$$h(e_u, e_v) = \lambda \delta_{uv} \sum_{r=1}^3 \phi_r(e_{N+1}), \quad u, v \in \{N+2, \dots, n\},$$

for  $\lambda = \frac{1}{3} h_{e_{N+1} e_{N+1}}^{N+1}$ .

b) if  $Q > \frac{1}{3}$ ,

$$(4.4) \quad \delta(n_1, n_2, \dots, n_k) \leq \frac{n^2\{n - N + 3k - 3\}}{2\{n - N + 3k\}} \|H\|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \left\{ n(n-1) - \sum_{i=1}^k n_i(n_i-1) \right\} \frac{c}{4}.$$

The equality sign holds at a point  $p \in M$  if and only if there is an orthonormal basis  $\{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n\}$  at  $p$  such that with respect to this basis the second fundamental form  $h$  takes the following form

$$h(e_{\alpha_i}, e_{\beta_i}) = \sum_{r=1}^3 \sum_{\gamma_i \in \Delta_i} h_{\alpha_i \beta_i}^{\phi_r(\gamma_i)} \phi_r(e_{\gamma_i}),$$

$$\sum_{r=1}^3 \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i} h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(\gamma_i)} \phi_r(e_{\gamma_i}) = 0,$$

$$h(e_A, e_B) = 0 \quad \text{otherwise,}$$

for  $\alpha_i, \beta_i, \gamma_i \in \Delta_i, i = \overline{1, k}, A, B, C = \overline{1, n}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n\}$  an orthonormal basis in  $p \in M, (n_1, n_2, \dots, n_k) \in S(n)$  and  $L_1, L_2, \dots, L_k$  be  $k$  mutual orthogonal subspaces of  $T_p M, \dim L_j = n_j, j = \overline{1, k}, L_j = \text{Span}\{e_{n_1+\dots+n_{j-1}+1}, \dots, e_{n_1+\dots+n_j}\}, j = \overline{1, k}$ .

We choose

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta_1 &= \{1, \dots, n_1\}, \\ \Delta_2 &= \{n_1 + 1, n_1 + 2, \dots, n_1 + n_2\}, \\ &\dots \\ \Delta_k &= \{n_1 + \dots + n_{k-1} + 1, \dots, n_1 + \dots + n_k\}, \\ \Delta_{k+1} &= \{n_1 + \dots + n_k + 1, \dots, n\},\end{aligned}$$

and

$$N = n_1 + \dots + n_k.$$

By using Gauss equation, we have

$$\begin{aligned}\tau &= \sum_{r=1}^3 \sum_{k=1}^n \sum_{1 \leq A < B \leq n} \left[ h_{AA}^{\phi_r(k)} h_{BB}^{\phi_r(k)} - \left( h_{AB}^{\phi_r(k)} \right)^2 \right] + \frac{n(n-1)c}{2} \frac{c}{4}, \\ \tau(L_i) &= \sum_{r=1}^3 \sum_{k=1}^n \sum_{A, B \in \Delta_i} \left[ h_{AA}^{\phi_r(k)} h_{BB}^{\phi_r(k)} - \left( h_{AB}^{\phi_r(k)} \right)^2 \right] + \frac{n_i(n_i-1)c}{2} \frac{c}{4}, \quad i = \overline{1, k}.\end{aligned}$$

Using the following convention concerning indices

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha_i, \beta_i, \gamma_i &\in \Delta_i, \quad i, j \in \{1, \dots, k\}, \\ r, s, t &\in \Delta_{k+1}, \quad u, v \in \{N+2, \dots, n\}, \\ A, B, C &\in \{1, \dots, n\},\end{aligned}$$

we get

$$(4.5) \quad \tau = \sum_{r=1}^3 \sum_{A=1}^n \sum_{B < C} \left[ h_{BB}^{\phi_r(A)} h_{CC}^{\phi_r(A)} - \left( h_{BC}^{\phi_r(A)} \right)^2 \right] + \frac{n(n-1)c}{2} \frac{c}{4},$$

$$(4.6) \quad \tau(L_i) = \sum_{r=1}^3 \sum_{A=1}^n \sum_{\alpha_i < \beta_i} \left[ h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(A)} h_{\beta_i \beta_i}^{\phi_r(A)} - \left( h_{\alpha_i \beta_i}^{\phi_r(A)} \right)^2 \right] + \frac{n_i(n_i-1)c}{2} \frac{c}{4}, \quad i = \overline{1, k}.$$

From the relations (4.5) and (4.6), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}\tau - \sum_{i=1}^k \tau(L_i) &= \sum_{r=1}^3 \sum_{A=1}^n \left[ \sum_{1 \leq B < C \leq n} h_{BB}^{\phi_r(A)} h_{CC}^{\phi_r(A)} - \sum_{\alpha_i < \beta_i, i = \overline{1, k}} h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(A)} h_{\beta_i \beta_i}^{\phi_r(A)} \right] - \\ &- \sum_{r=1}^3 \sum_{A=1}^n \left[ \sum_{1 \leq B < C \leq n} \left( h_{BC}^{\phi_r(A)} \right)^2 - \sum_{\alpha_i < \beta_i, i = \overline{1, k}} \left( h_{\alpha_i \beta_i}^{\phi_r(A)} \right)^2 \right] + \frac{1}{2} \left[ n(n-1) - \sum_{i=1}^k n_i(n_i-1) \right] \frac{c}{4} = \\ &= \sum_{r=1}^3 \sum_{A=1}^n \left[ \sum_{\substack{t < s \\ t, s \in \Delta_{k+1}}} h_{tt}^{\phi_r(A)} h_{ss}^{\phi_r(A)} + \sum_{\substack{1 \leq i < j \leq k \\ \alpha_i \in \Delta_i, \alpha_j \in \Delta_j}} h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(A)} h_{\alpha_j \alpha_j}^{\phi_r(A)} + \sum_{\substack{1 \leq i \leq k \\ \alpha_i \in \Delta_i, t \in \Delta_{k+1}}} h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(A)} h_{tt}^{\phi_r(A)} \right] -\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& - \sum_{r=1}^3 \sum_{A=1}^n \left[ \sum_{t,s \in \Delta_{k+1}}^{t < s} \left( h_{ts}^{\phi_r(A)} \right)^2 + \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i, \alpha_j \in \Delta_j}^{1 \leq i < j \leq k} \left( h_{\alpha_i \alpha_j}^{\phi_r(A)} \right)^2 + \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i, t \in \Delta_{k+1}}^{1 \leq i \leq k} \left( h_{\alpha_i t}^{\phi_r(A)} \right)^2 \right] + \\
& \quad + \frac{1}{2} \left[ n(n-1) - \sum_{i=1}^k n_i(n_i-1) \right] \frac{c}{4} \leq \\
& \leq \sum_{r=1}^3 \sum_{A=1}^n \left[ \sum_{t,s \in \Delta_{k+1}}^{t < s} h_{tt}^{\phi_r(A)} h_{ss}^{\phi_r(A)} + \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i, \alpha_j \in \Delta_j}^{1 \leq i < j \leq k} h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(A)} h_{\alpha_j \alpha_j}^{\phi_r(A)} + \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i, t \in \Delta_{k+1}}^{1 \leq i \leq k} h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(A)} h_{tt}^{\phi_r(A)} \right] - \\
& - \sum_{r=1}^3 \sum_{A=1}^n \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i}^{s \in \Delta_{k+1}} \left( h_{ss}^{\phi_r(\alpha_i)} \right)^2 - \sum_{r=1}^3 \sum_{t=N+1}^n \sum_{1 \leq A \leq n}^{A \neq t} \left( h_{AA}^{\phi_r(t)} \right)^2 + \frac{1}{2} \left[ n(n-1) - \sum_{i=1}^k n_i(n_i-1) \right] \frac{c}{4}.
\end{aligned}$$

Thus, we find

$$\begin{aligned}
\tau - \tau(L_i) & \leq \sum_{r=1}^3 \sum_{A=1}^n \left[ \sum_{t,s \in \Delta_{k+1}}^{t < s} h_{tt}^{\phi_r(A)} h_{ss}^{\phi_r(A)} + \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i, \alpha_j \in \Delta_j}^{1 \leq i < j \leq k} h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(A)} h_{\alpha_j \alpha_j}^{\phi_r(A)} + \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i, t \in \Delta_{k+1}}^{1 \leq i \leq k} h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(A)} h_{tt}^{\phi_r(A)} \right] - \\
(4.7) \quad & - \sum_{r=1}^3 \sum_{A=1}^n \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i}^{s \in \Delta_{k+1}} \left( h_{ss}^{\phi_r(\alpha_i)} \right)^2 - \sum_{r=1}^3 \sum_{t=N+1}^n \sum_{1 \leq A \leq n}^{A \neq t} \left( h_{AA}^{\phi_r(t)} \right)^2 + \frac{1}{2} \left[ n(n-1) - \sum_{i=1}^k n_i(n_i-1) \right] \frac{c}{4}.
\end{aligned}$$

For  $A = \overline{1, n}$  we consider the quadratic forms  $f_{\phi_r(A)} : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  defined by

$$\begin{aligned}
(4.8) \quad f_{\phi_r(\alpha_i)}(h_{11}^{\phi_r(\alpha_i)}, h_{22}^{\phi_r(\alpha_i)}, \dots, h_{nn}^{\phi_r(\alpha_i)}) & = \sum_{t,s \in \Delta_{k+1}}^{t < s} h_{tt}^{\phi_r(\alpha_i)} h_{ss}^{\phi_r(\alpha_i)} + \\
& + \sum_{\alpha_j \in \Delta_j, \alpha_h \in \Delta_h}^{1 \leq j < h \leq k} h_{\alpha_j \alpha_j}^{\phi_r(\alpha_i)} h_{\alpha_h \alpha_h}^{\phi_r(\alpha_i)} + \sum_{\alpha_j \in \Delta_j, t \in \Delta_{k+1}}^{1 \leq j \leq k} h_{\alpha_j \alpha_j}^{\phi_r(\alpha_i)} h_{tt}^{\phi_r(\alpha_i)} - \sum_{s \in \Delta_{k+1}} \left( h_{ss}^{\phi_r(\alpha_i)} \right)^2,
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
(4.9) \quad f_{\phi_r(t)}(h_{11}^{\phi_r(t)}, h_{22}^{\phi_r(t)}, \dots, h_{nn}^{\phi_r(t)}) & = \sum_{s,q \in \Delta_{k+1}}^{s < q} h_{ss}^{\phi_r(t)} h_{qq}^{\phi_r(t)} + \\
& + \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i, \alpha_j \in \Delta_j}^{1 \leq i < j \leq k} h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(t)} h_{\alpha_j \alpha_j}^{\phi_r(t)} + \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i, s \in \Delta_{k+1}}^{1 \leq i \leq k} h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(t)} h_{ss}^{\phi_r(t)} - \sum_{1 \leq A \leq n}^{A \neq t} \left( h_{AA}^{\phi_r(t)} \right)^2,
\end{aligned}$$

for  $\alpha_i \in \Delta_i$ ,  $i = \overline{1, k}$ ,  $t \in \Delta_{k+1}$ ,  $r \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ .

For  $r \in \{1, 2, 3\}$

$$\begin{aligned}
(4.10) \quad f_{\phi_r(1)}(h_{11}^{\phi_r(1)}, h_{22}^{\phi_r(1)}, \dots, h_{nn}^{\phi_r(1)}) & = \sum_{t,s \in \Delta_{k+1}}^{t < s} h_{tt}^{\phi_r(1)} h_{ss}^{\phi_r(1)} + \\
& + \sum_{\alpha_j \in \Delta_j, \alpha_h \in \Delta_h}^{1 \leq j < h \leq k} h_{\alpha_j \alpha_j}^{\phi_r(1)} h_{\alpha_h \alpha_h}^{\phi_r(1)} + \sum_{\alpha_j \in \Delta_j, t \in \Delta_{k+1}}^{1 \leq j \leq k} h_{\alpha_j \alpha_j}^{\phi_r(1)} h_{tt}^{\phi_r(1)} - \sum_{t \in \Delta_{k+1}} \left( h_{tt}^{\phi_r(1)} \right)^2.
\end{aligned}$$

We want to find an upper bound for  $f_{\phi_r(1)}$ , subject to

$$(4.11) \quad P : h_{11}^{\phi_r(1)} + h_{22}^{\phi_r(1)} + \dots + h_{nn}^{\phi_r(1)} = c^{\phi_r(1)},$$

where  $c^{\phi_r(1)}$  is a real number.

The bilinear form  $\alpha : T_q P \times T_q P \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  has the expression

$$\alpha(X, Y) = \text{Hess}(f_r)(X, Y) + \langle h'(X, Y), \text{grad } f_r(q) \rangle,$$

where  $h'$  is the second fundamental form of  $P$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  is the standard inner-product on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

A vector  $X \in T_q P$  satisfies  $\sum_{i=1}^n X^i = 0$ .

Searching for the partial derivatives of the function  $f_{\phi_r(1)}$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial f_{\phi_r(1)}}{\partial h_{11}^{\phi_r(1)}} &= \sum_{\alpha_h \in \Delta_h}^{2 \leq h \leq k} h_{\alpha_h \alpha_h}^{\phi_r(1)} + \sum_{t \in \Delta_{k+1}} h_{tt}^{\phi_r(1)}, \\ \frac{\partial f_{\phi_r(1)}}{\partial h_{22}^{\phi_r(1)}} &= \sum_{\alpha_h \in \Delta_h}^{2 \leq h \leq k} h_{\alpha_h \alpha_h}^{\phi_r(1)} + \sum_{t \in \Delta_{k+1}} h_{tt}^{\phi_r(1)}, \\ \frac{\partial f_{\phi_r(1)}}{\partial h_{\alpha_1 \alpha_1}^{\phi_r(1)}} &= \sum_{\alpha_h \in \Delta_h, h \neq 1}^{1 \leq h \leq k} h_{\alpha_h \alpha_h}^{\phi_r(1)} + \sum_{t \in \Delta_{k+1}} h_{tt}^{\phi_r(1)}, \quad \alpha_1 \in \Delta_1. \end{aligned}$$

In a similar manner, we find

$$\frac{\partial f_{\phi_r(1)}}{\partial h_{\alpha_2 \alpha_2}^{\phi_r(1)}} = \sum_{\alpha_h \in \Delta_h, h \neq 2}^{1 \leq h \leq k} h_{\alpha_h \alpha_h}^{\phi_r(1)} + \sum_{t \in \Delta_{k+1}} h_{tt}^{\phi_r(1)}, \quad \alpha_2 \in \Delta_2,$$

so, in general,

$$(4.12) \quad \frac{\partial f_{\phi_r(1)}}{\partial h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(1)}} = \sum_{\alpha_j \in \Delta_j, j \neq i}^{1 \leq j \leq k} h_{\alpha_j \alpha_j}^{\phi_r(1)} + \sum_{t \in \Delta_{k+1}} h_{tt}^{\phi_r(1)}, \quad \alpha_i \in \Delta_i, \quad i = \overline{1, k}.$$

For  $s \in \Delta_{k+1}$ , we also find

$$(4.13) \quad \frac{\partial f_{\phi_r(1)}}{\partial h_{ss}^{\phi_r(1)}} = \sum_{t \in \Delta_{k+1}}^{t \neq s} h_{tt}^{\phi_r(1)} + \sum_{\alpha_j \in \Delta_j}^{1 \leq j \leq k} h_{\alpha_j \alpha_j}^{\phi_r(1)} - 2h_{ss}^{\phi_r(1)}.$$

In the standard frame of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , the Hessian of  $f_{\phi_r(1)}$  has the matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} O_1 & A_{12} & A_{13} & A_{14} & \dots & A_{1k} & B_1 \\ A_{21} & O_2 & A_{23} & A_{24} & \dots & A_{2k} & B_2 \\ A_{31} & A_{32} & O_3 & A_{34} & \dots & A_{3k} & B_3 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ A_{k1} & A_{k2} & A_{k3} & A_{k4} & \dots & O_k & B_k \\ B_1^t & B_2^t & B_3^t & B_4^t & \dots & B_k^t & A \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $O_i \in \mathcal{M}_{n_i}(\mathbb{R})$ , with all the elements equals to 0,  $i = \overline{1, k}$ ,  $A_{ij} \in \mathcal{M}_{n_i, n_j}(\mathbb{R})$ ,  $i \neq j$ ,  $i, j = \overline{1, k}$ , with all the elements equals to 1,  $B_i \in \mathcal{M}_{n_i, n-N}(\mathbb{R})$ , with all the elements equals to 1 and  $A$  is the matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ 1 & -2 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & \dots & -2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad A \in \mathcal{M}_{n-N, n-N}(\mathbb{R}).$$

As  $P$  is totally geodesic in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  ( $P$  a hyperplane;  $h' = 0$ ), we get

$$\alpha(X, X) = \left[ X_1 \sum_{\alpha_j \in \Delta_j, j \neq 1}^{1 \leq j \leq k} X_{\alpha_j} + \dots + X_{n_1} \sum_{\alpha_j \in \Delta_j, j \neq 1}^{1 \leq j \leq k} X_{\alpha_j} \right] +$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& + \left[ X_{n_1+1} \sum_{\alpha_j \in \Delta_j, j \neq 2}^{1 \leq j \leq k} X_{\alpha_j} + \dots + X_{n_1+n_2} \sum_{\alpha_j \in \Delta_j, j \neq 2}^{1 \leq j \leq k} X_{\alpha_j} \right] + \dots + \\
& + \left[ X_{n_1+\dots+n_{k-1}+1} \sum_{\alpha_j \in \Delta_j, j \neq k}^{1 \leq j \leq k} X_{\alpha_j} + \dots + X_{n_1+\dots+n_k} \sum_{\alpha_j \in \Delta_j, j \neq k}^{1 \leq j \leq k} X_{\alpha_j} \right] + \\
& + \left( \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i}^{1 \leq i \leq k} X_{\alpha_i} \right) \cdot \sum_{s \in \Delta_{k+1}} X_s + X_{N+1} \cdot \left[ \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i}^{1 \leq i \leq k} X_{\alpha_i} + \sum_{s \in \Delta_{k+1}}^{s \neq N+1} X_s \right] + \\
& + X_{N+2} \cdot \left[ \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i}^{1 \leq i \leq k} X_{\alpha_i} + \sum_{s \in \Delta_{k+1}}^{s \neq N+2} X_s \right] + \dots + X_n \cdot \left[ \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i}^{1 \leq i \leq k} X_{\alpha_i} + \sum_{s \in \Delta_{k+1}}^{s \neq n} X_s \right] - 2 \sum_{s \in \Delta_{k+1}} (X_s)^2.
\end{aligned}$$

Thus, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
\alpha(X, X) &= 2 \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i, \alpha_j \in \Delta_j}^{1 \leq i < j \leq k} X_{\alpha_i} X_{\alpha_j} + 2 \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i, s \in \Delta_{k+1}}^{1 \leq i \leq k} X_{\alpha_i} X_s + \\
& + 2 \sum_{s, t \in \Delta_{k+1}}^{s \neq t} X_s X_t - 2 \sum_{s \in \Delta_{k+1}} (X_s)^2 = \\
& = \left( \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \right)^2 - \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i}^{1 \leq i \leq k} (X_{\alpha_i})^2 - \sum_{s \in \Delta_{k+1}} (X_s)^2 - 2 \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i, \beta_i \in \Delta_i}^{\alpha_i \neq \beta_i} X_{\alpha_i} X_{\beta_i} - 2 \sum_{s \in \Delta_{k+1}} (X_s)^2 = \\
& = \left( \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \right)^2 - \sum_{i=1}^k \left( \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i} X_{\alpha_i} \right)^2 - 3 \sum_{s \in \Delta_{k+1}} (X_s)^2 < 0,
\end{aligned}$$

so the Hessian of  $f_{\phi_r(1)}$  is negative semidefinite.

Searching for the critical point  $(h_{11}^{\phi_r(1)}, h_{22}^{\phi_r(1)}, \dots, h_{nn}^{\phi_r(1)})$  of  $f_{\phi_r(1)}$ , we find

$$\frac{\partial f_{\phi_r(1)}}{\partial h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(1)}} = \frac{\partial f_{\phi_r(1)}}{\partial h_{\alpha_j \alpha_j}^{\phi_r(1)}}, \quad i \neq j, \quad \alpha_i \in \Delta_i, \alpha_j \in \Delta_j,$$

then

$$\begin{aligned}
(4.14) \quad & \sum_{\alpha_h \in \Delta_h, h \neq i}^{1 \leq h \leq k} h_{\alpha_h \alpha_h}^{\phi_r(1)} = \sum_{\alpha_h \in \Delta_h, h \neq j}^{1 \leq h \leq k} h_{\alpha_h \alpha_h}^{\phi_r(1)}, \\
& \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i} h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(1)} = \sum_{\alpha_j \in \Delta_j} h_{\alpha_j \alpha_j}^{\phi_r(1)} \quad i \neq j.
\end{aligned}$$

From

$$\frac{\partial f_{\phi_r(1)}}{\partial h_{ss}^{\phi_r(1)}} = \frac{\partial f_{\phi_r(1)}}{\partial h_{qq}^{\phi_r(1)}} \quad s, q \in \Delta_{k+1}, \quad s \neq q$$

we get

$$\begin{aligned}
(4.15) \quad & \sum_{t \in \Delta_{k+1}}^{t \neq s} h_{tt}^{\phi_r(1)} - 2h_{ss}^{\phi_r(1)} = \sum_{t \in \Delta_{k+1}}^{t \neq q} h_{tt}^{\phi_r(1)} - 2h_{qq}^{\phi_r(1)} \implies h_{ss}^{\phi_r(1)} = h_{qq}^{\phi_r(1)}, \\
& h_{N+1N+1}^{\phi_r(1)} = \dots = h_{nn}^{\phi_r(1)}.
\end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{\partial f_{\phi_r(1)}}{\partial h_{ss}^{\phi_r(1)}} = \frac{\partial f_{\phi_r(1)}}{\partial h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(1)}}.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\alpha_j \in \Delta_j, j \neq i}^{1 \leq j \leq k} h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(1)} + \sum_{t \in \Delta_{k+1}} h_{tt}^{\phi_r(1)} &= \sum_{t \in \Delta_{k+1}, t \neq s} h_{tt}^{\phi_r(1)} + \sum_{\alpha_j \in \Delta_j}^{1 \leq j \leq k} h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(1)} - 2h_{ss}^{\phi_r(1)} \implies \\ \implies h_{ss}^{\phi_r(1)} &= \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i} h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(1)} - 2h_{ss}^{\phi_r(1)} \end{aligned}$$

and from this, we get

$$(4.16) \quad h_{ss}^{\phi_r(1)} = \frac{1}{3} \cdot \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i} h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(1)}, \quad s \in \Delta_{k+1}.$$

Let

$$(4.17) \quad \sum_{\alpha_1 \in \Delta_1} h_{\alpha_1 \alpha_1}^{\phi_r(1)} = \sum_{\alpha_2 \in \Delta_2} h_{\alpha_2 \alpha_2}^{\phi_r(1)} = \dots = \sum_{\alpha_k \in \Delta_k} h_{\alpha_k \alpha_k}^{\phi_r(1)} = 3a^1,$$

$$(4.18) \quad h_{ss}^{\phi_r(1)} = \frac{1}{3} \cdot \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i} h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(1)} = a^1, \quad s \in \Delta_{k+1},$$

where  $a^1$  is a real number.

From the relations (4.11), (4.17) and (4.18), we get

$$k \cdot 3a^1 + (n - N)a^1 = c^{\phi_r(1)} \iff a^1 = \frac{c^{\phi_r(1)}}{n - N + 3k}.$$

One gets

$$(4.19) \quad \sum_{\alpha_1 \in \Delta_1} h_{\alpha_1 \alpha_1}^{\phi_r(1)} = \sum_{\alpha_2 \in \Delta_2} h_{\alpha_2 \alpha_2}^{\phi_r(1)} = \dots = \sum_{\alpha_k \in \Delta_k} h_{\alpha_k \alpha_k}^{\phi_r(1)} = \frac{3c^{\phi_r(1)}}{n - N + 3k},$$

$$(4.20) \quad h_{ss}^{\phi_r(1)} = \frac{c^{\phi_r(1)}}{n - N + 3k}, \quad s \in \Delta_{k+1}.$$

Thus, from (4.10), (4.19) and (4.20), we have

$$\begin{aligned} f_{\phi_r(1)} &\leq C_{n-N}^2 \cdot \left( \frac{c^{\phi_r(1)}}{n - N + 3k} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{3c^{\phi_r(1)}}{n - N + 3k} \right)^2 + \\ &\quad + \frac{3k(n - N)(c^{\phi_r(1)})^2}{(n - N + 3k)^2} - (n - N) \cdot \left( \frac{c^{\phi_r(1)}}{n - N + 3k} \right)^2 = \\ &= \left( \frac{c^{\phi_r(1)}}{n - N + 3k} \right)^2 \cdot [C_{n-N}^2 + 9 \cdot C_k^2 + 3k(n - N) - (n - N)] = \\ &= \left( \frac{c^{\phi_r(1)}}{n - N + 3k} \right)^2 \cdot \left[ \frac{(n - N)(n - N - 1)}{2} + \frac{9k(k - 1)}{2} + 3k(n - N) - (n - N) \right] = \\ &= \frac{(c^{\phi_r(1)})^2}{2(n - N + 3k)^2} [(n - N)(n - N - 1) + 9k(k - 1) + 6k(n - N) - 2(n - N)] = \\ &= \frac{(c^{\phi_r(1)})^2}{2(n - N + 3k)^2} (n^2 - nN - n - nN + N^2 + N + 9k^2 - 9k + 6kn - 6kN - 2n + 2N) = \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned}
&= \frac{(c^{\phi_r(1)})^2}{2(n-N+3k)^2} (n^2 + N^2 - 2nN - 3n + 3N + 9k^2 - 9k + 6kn - 6kN) = \\
&= \frac{(c^{\phi_r(1)})^2}{2(n-N+3k)^2} [(n-N+3k)^2 - 3n + 3N - 9k] = \\
&= \frac{(c^{\phi_r(1)})^2}{2(n-N+3k)^2} [(n-N+3k)^2 - 3(n-N+3k)] = \\
&= \frac{(c^{\phi_r(1)})^2}{2(n-N+3k)^2} (n-N+3k)(n-N+3k-3) = \\
&= \frac{(c^{\phi_r(1)})^2}{2(n-N+3k)} \cdot (n-N+3k+3),
\end{aligned}$$

which implies

$$(4.21) \quad f_{\phi_r(1)} \leq \frac{n^2}{2} \cdot \left( \frac{n-N+3k-3}{n-N+3k} \right) \cdot \left( H^{\phi_r(1)} \right)^2.$$

In a similar manner, we find

$$(4.22) \quad f_{\phi_r(\alpha_i)} \leq \frac{n^2}{2} \cdot \left( \frac{n-N+3k-3}{n-N+3k} \right) \cdot \left( H^{\phi_r(\alpha_i)} \right)^2, \quad i = \overline{1, k}, \quad \alpha_i \in \Delta_i.$$

Let  $r \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ ,  $t \in \Delta_{k+1}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
(4.23) \quad f_{\phi_r(t)}(h_{11}^{\phi_r(t)}, h_{22}^{\phi_r(t)}, \dots, h_{nn}^{\phi_r(t)}) &= \sum_{s, q \in \Delta_{k+1}}^{s < q} h_{ss}^{\phi_r(t)} h_{qq}^{\phi_r(t)} + \\
&+ \sum_{\substack{1 \leq i < j \leq k \\ \alpha_i \in \Delta_i, \alpha_j \in \Delta_j}} h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(t)} h_{\alpha_j \alpha_j}^{\phi_r(t)} + \sum_{\substack{1 \leq i \leq k \\ \alpha_i \in \Delta_i, s \in \Delta_{k+1}}} h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(t)} h_{ss}^{\phi_r(t)} - \sum_{1 \leq A \leq n}^{A \neq t} \left( h_{AA}^{\phi_r(t)} \right)^2.
\end{aligned}$$

Searching for the partial derivatives of  $f_{\phi_r(t)}$ , we have

$$(4.24) \quad \frac{\partial f_{\phi_r(t)}}{h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(t)}} = \sum_{\substack{1 \leq j \leq k \\ \alpha_j \in \Delta_j, j \neq i}} h_{\alpha_j \alpha_j}^{\phi_r(t)} + \sum_{s \in \Delta_{k+1}} h_{ss}^{\phi_r(t)} - 2h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(t)}, \quad \alpha_i \in \Delta_i, \quad i = \overline{1, k},$$

$$(4.25) \quad \frac{\partial f_{\phi_r(t)}}{h_{tt}^{\phi_r(t)}} = \sum_{q \in \Delta_{k+1}}^{q \neq t} h_{qq}^{\phi_r(t)} + \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i}^{1 \leq i \leq k} h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(t)},$$

$$(4.26) \quad \frac{\partial f_{\phi_r(t)}}{h_{ss}^{\phi_r(t)}} = \sum_{q \in \Delta_{k+1}}^{q \neq s} h_{qq}^{\phi_r(t)} + \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i}^{1 \leq i \leq k} h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(t)} - 2h_{ss}^{\phi_r(t)}, \quad s \neq t.$$

In the standard frame of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , the Hessian of  $f_{\phi_r(t)}$  has the matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix}
I_1 & A_{12} & A_{13} & A_{14} & \dots & A_{1k} & B_1 \\
A_{21} & I_2 & A_{23} & A_{24} & \dots & A_{2k} & B_2 \\
A_{31} & A_{32} & I_3 & A_{34} & \dots & A_{3k} & B_3 \\
\dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\
A_{k1} & A_{k2} & A_{k3} & A_{k4} & \dots & O_I & B_k \\
B_1^t & B_2^t & B_3^t & B_4^t & \dots & B_k^t & A_t
\end{pmatrix},$$

where  $I_i \in \mathcal{M}_{n_i}(\mathbb{R})$ , with all the elements equals to 0, except those on the first diagonal that are equals to  $-2$ ,  $i = \overline{1, k}$ ,  $A_{ij} \in \mathcal{M}_{n_i, n_j}(\mathbb{R})$ ,  $i \neq j$ ,  $i, j = \overline{1, k}$ , with all the elements equals to 1,  $B_i \in \mathcal{M}_{n_i, n-N}(\mathbb{R})$ , with all the elements equals to 1 and  $A_t$  is the matrix :

$$A_t = (a_{ij})_{i, j = \overline{1, n-N}}, \quad A \in \mathcal{M}_{n-N, n-N}(\mathbb{R}),$$

$$a_{ii} = -2, \quad i = \overline{1, n-N}, \quad i \neq t,$$

$$a_{ij} = 1, \quad i, j = \overline{1, n-N}, \quad i \neq j,$$

$$a_{tt} = 0.$$

As  $P$  is totally geodesic in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha(X, X) &= -2 \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i}^{1 \leq i \leq k} (X_{\alpha_i})^2 + 2 \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i, \alpha_j \in \Delta_j}^{1 \leq i \neq j \leq k} X_{\alpha_i} X_{\alpha_j} + \\ &+ 2 \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i, s \in \Delta_{k+1}}^{1 \leq i \leq k} X_{\alpha_i} X_s - 2 \sum_{s \in \Delta_{k+1}}^{s \neq t} (X_s)^2 + 2 \sum_{s, q \in \Delta_{k+1}}^{s \neq q} X_s X_q = \\ &= \left( \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \right)^2 - \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i}^{1 \leq i \leq k} (X_{\alpha_i})^2 - \sum_{s \in \Delta_{k+1}} (X_s)^2 - 2 \sum_{\alpha_i, \beta_i \in \Delta_i, \alpha_i \neq \beta_i}^{1 \leq i \leq k} X_{\alpha_i} X_{\beta_i} - \\ &\quad - 2 \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i}^{1 \leq i \leq k} (X_{\alpha_i})^2 - 2 \sum_{s \in \Delta_{k+1}}^{s \neq t} (X_s)^2 = \\ &= \left( \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \right)^2 - \sum_{i=1}^k \left( \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i} X_{\alpha_i} \right)^2 - 2 \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i}^{1 \leq i \leq k} (X_{\alpha_i})^2 - 3 \sum_{s \in \Delta_{k+1}}^{s \neq t} (X_s)^2 - (X_t)^2 < 0, \end{aligned}$$

so the Hessian of  $f_{\phi_r(t)}$  is negative semidefinite.

Searching for the critical point  $(h_{11}^{\phi_r(t)}, h_{22}^{\phi_r(t)}, \dots, h_{nn}^{\phi_r(t)})$  of  $f_{\phi_r(t)}$ , we have

$$\frac{\partial f_{\phi_r(t)}}{h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(t)}} = \frac{\partial f_{\phi_r(t)}}{h_{\beta_i \beta_i}^{\phi_r(t)}}, \quad \alpha_i, \beta_i \in \Delta_i \implies h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(t)} = h_{\beta_i \beta_i}^{\phi_r(t)}, \quad \alpha_i, \beta_i \in \Delta_i \implies$$

$$h_{11}^{\phi_r(t)} = \dots = h_{n_1 n_1}^{\phi_r(t)},$$

$$h_{n_1+1 n_1+1}^{\phi_r(t)} = \dots = h_{n_1+n_2 n_1+n_2}^{\phi_r(t)}, \dots$$

Thus, we get

$$(4.27) \quad \forall i = \overline{1, k}, \quad \forall \alpha_i, \beta_i \in \Delta_i, \quad h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(t)} = h_{\beta_i \beta_i}^{\phi_r(t)}.$$

In the same way, we find

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial f_{\phi_r(t)}}{h_{ss}^{\phi_r(t)}} &= \frac{\partial f_{\phi_r(t)}}{h_{vv}^{\phi_r(t)}}, \quad v, s \in \Delta_{k+1}, \quad t \notin \{v, s\} \implies \\ \sum_{q \in \Delta_{k+1}}^{q \neq s} h_{qq}^{\phi_r(t)} + \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i}^{1 \leq i \leq k} h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(t)} - 2h_{ss}^{\phi_r(t)} &= \sum_{q \in \Delta_{k+1}}^{q \neq v} h_{qq}^{\phi_r(t)} + \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i}^{1 \leq i \leq k} h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(t)} - 2h_{vv}^{\phi_r(t)}, \quad t \notin \{v, s\} \\ \implies h_{vv}^{\phi_r(t)} - 2h_{ss}^{\phi_r(t)} &= h_{ss}^{\phi_r(t)} - 2h_{vv}^{\phi_r(t)}, \quad \text{which is} \end{aligned}$$

$$(4.28) \quad h_{ss}^{\phi_r(t)} = h_{vv}^{\phi_r(t)}, \quad \forall s, v \in \Delta_{k+1}, \quad t \notin \{s, v\}.$$

Also, for  $s \neq t$ , we have

$$\frac{\partial f_{\phi_r(t)}}{h_{tt}^{\phi_r(t)}} = \frac{\partial f_{\phi_r(t)}}{h_{ss}^{\phi_r(t)}},$$

which implies

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{q \in \Delta_{k+1}}^{q \neq t} h_{qq}^{\phi_r(t)} + \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i}^{1 \leq i \leq k} h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(t)} &= \sum_{q \in \Delta_{k+1}}^{q \neq s} h_{qq}^{\phi_r(t)} + \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i}^{1 \leq i \leq k} h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(t)} - 2h_{ss}^{\phi_r(t)} \implies \\ h_{ss}^{\phi_r(t)} &= h_{tt}^{\phi_r(t)} - 2h_{ss}^{\phi_r(t)}, \end{aligned}$$

from which we have

$$(4.29) \quad h_{tt}^{\phi_r(t)} = 3h_{ss}^{\phi_r(t)}, \quad s \neq t, \quad s \in \Delta_{k+1}.$$

From  $\frac{\partial f_{\phi_r(t)}}{h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(t)}} = \frac{\partial f_{\phi_r(t)}}{h_{\alpha_j \alpha_j}^{\phi_r(t)}}$ ,  $i \neq j$ , we get

$$\sum_{\alpha_h \in \Delta_h, h \neq i}^{1 \leq h \leq k} h_{\alpha_h \alpha_h}^{\phi_r(t)} + \sum_{s \in \Delta_{k+1}} h_{ss}^{\phi_r(t)} - 2h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(t)} = \sum_{\alpha_h \in \Delta_h, h \neq j}^{1 \leq h \leq k} h_{\alpha_h \alpha_h}^{\phi_r(t)} + \sum_{s \in \Delta_{k+1}} h_{ss}^{\phi_r(t)} - 2h_{\alpha_j \alpha_j}^{\phi_r(t)}.$$

Thus

$$(4.30) \quad \begin{aligned} \sum_{\alpha_j \in \Delta_j} h_{\alpha_j \alpha_j}^{\phi_r(t)} - 2h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(t)} &= \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i} h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(t)} - 2h_{\alpha_j \alpha_j}^{\phi_r(t)} \implies \\ \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i} h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(t)} + 2h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(t)} &= \sum_{\alpha_j \in \Delta_j} h_{\alpha_j \alpha_j}^{\phi_r(t)} + 2h_{\alpha_j \alpha_j}^{\phi_r(t)}. \end{aligned}$$

From (4.30), using the relation (4.27), we get

$$(4.31) \quad (n_i + 2)h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(t)} = (n_j + 2)h_{\alpha_j \alpha_j}^{\phi_r(t)}, \quad \alpha_i \in \Delta_i, \quad \alpha_j \in \Delta_j, \quad i \neq j.$$

Also, from  $\frac{\partial f_{\phi_r(t)}}{h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(t)}} = \frac{\partial f_{\phi_r(t)}}{h_{tt}^{\phi_r(t)}}$ , for some  $i = \overline{1, k}$ ,  $\alpha_i \in \Delta_i$  we get

$$(4.32) \quad \begin{aligned} \sum_{\alpha_j \in \Delta_j, j \neq i}^{1 \leq j \leq k} h_{\alpha_j \alpha_j}^{\phi_r(t)} + \sum_{s \in \Delta_{k+1}} h_{ss}^{\phi_r(t)} - 2h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(t)} &= \sum_{s \in \Delta_{k+1}}^{s \neq t} h_{ss}^{\phi_r(t)} + \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i}^{1 \leq i \leq k} h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(t)} \implies \\ \implies h_{tt}^{\phi_r(t)} - 2h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(t)} &= \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i} h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(t)}, \quad \text{and we get} \\ h_{tt}^{\phi_r(t)} &= (n_i + 2)h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(t)}, \quad i = \overline{1, k}, \quad \alpha_i \in \Delta_i. \end{aligned}$$

From  $\frac{\partial f_{\phi_r(t)}}{h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(t)}} = \frac{\partial f_{\phi_r(t)}}{h_{ss}^{\phi_r(t)}}$ , for some  $i = \overline{1, k}$ ,  $\alpha_i \in \Delta_i$ ,  $s \neq t$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\alpha_j \in \Delta_j, j \neq i}^{1 \leq j \leq k} h_{\alpha_j \alpha_j}^{\phi_r(t)} + \sum_{q \in \Delta_{k+1}} h_{qq}^{\phi_r(t)} - 2h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(t)} &= \sum_{q \in \Delta_{k+1}}^{q \neq s} h_{qq}^{\phi_r(t)} + \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i}^{1 \leq i \leq k} h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(t)} - 2h_{ss}^{\phi_r(t)} \implies \\ \implies h_{ss}^{\phi_r(t)} - 2h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(t)} &= \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i} h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(t)} - 2h_{ss}^{\phi_r(t)}. \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$3h_{ss}^{\phi_r(t)} = \sum_{\alpha_i \in \Delta_i} h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(t)} + 2h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(t)}.$$

Using this relation and (4.25), we get

$$(4.33) \quad 3h_{ss}^{\phi_r(t)} = (n_i + 2)h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(t)}, \quad s \neq t, \quad \alpha_i \in \Delta_i, \quad i = \overline{1, k}.$$

From the relations (4.27), (4.28), (4.29), (4.31), (4.32) and (4.33), we find

$$(4.34) \quad h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(t)} = h_{\beta_i \beta_i}^{\phi_r(t)} = a^i, \quad \forall i = \overline{1, k}, \quad \alpha_i, \beta_i \in \Delta_i,$$

$$(4.35) \quad h_{ss}^{\phi_r(t)} = h_{vv}^{\phi_r(t)} = a^s, \quad s, v \in \Delta_{k+1}, \quad t \notin \{v, s\},$$

$$(4.36) \quad h_{tt}^{\phi_r(t)} = 3h_{ss}^{\phi_r(t)} = 3a^s, \quad s, t \in \Delta_{k+1}, \quad s \neq t,$$

where  $a^i, a^s$  are some real numbers.

So, we obtain

$$(n_i + 2)h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(t)} = (n_j + 2)h_{\alpha_j \alpha_j}^{\phi_r(t)}, \quad \alpha_i \in \Delta_i, \quad \alpha_j \in \Delta_j, \quad i, j \in \{1, \dots, k\}, \quad i \neq j$$

and

$$(4.37) \quad (n_i + 2)a^i = (n_j + 2)a^j, \quad i, j \in \overline{1, k}, \quad i \neq j.$$

$$(4.38) \quad h_{tt}^{\phi_r(t)} = (n_i + 2)a^i, \quad i = \overline{1, k}.$$

From  $3h_{ss}^{\phi_r(t)} = (n_i + 2)h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(t)}$ ,  $s \neq t$ ,  $\alpha_i \in \Delta_i$ ,  $i = \overline{1, k}$ , we get

$$(4.39) \quad 3a^s = (n_i + 2)a^i.$$

Let  $a^s = m$ ,  $m \in \mathbb{R}$ . Thus  $a^i = \frac{3m}{n_i + 2}$ ,  $i = \overline{1, k}$  and this implies

$$(4.40) \quad h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(t)} = \frac{3m}{n_i + 2}, \quad i = \overline{1, k}, \quad \alpha_i \in \Delta_i,$$

$$(4.41) \quad h_{ss}^{\phi_r(t)} = m, \quad s \in \Delta_{k+1}, \quad s \neq t,$$

$$(4.42) \quad h_{tt}^{\phi_r(t)} = 3m.$$

Because  $h_{11}^{\phi_r(t)} + h_{22}^{\phi_r(t)} + \dots + h_{nn}^{\phi_r(t)} = k^r$ ,  $r = \overline{1, 3}$ , from the above relations we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{i=1}^k \left( n_i \cdot \frac{3m}{n_i + 2} \right) + 3m + (n - N - 1)m = k^r, \\ & 3m \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{n_i}{n_i + 2} + 3m + \left( n - \sum_{i=1}^k n_i - 1 \right) m = k^r, \end{aligned}$$

which implies

$$m \left[ 3 \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{n_i}{n_i + 2} + 3 + n - \sum_{i=1}^k n_i - 1 \right] = k^r$$

or

$$m \left[ 3 \sum_{i=1}^k \left( 1 - \frac{2}{n_i + 2} \right) + 3 + n - \sum_{i=1}^k n_i - 1 \right] = k^r$$

and this is equivalent with

$$(4.43) \quad m \left[ 3k - 6 \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{1}{n_i + 2} + 3 + n - N - 1 \right] = k^r.$$

Denoting by  $Q = \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{1}{n_i + 2}$ , from (4.43) we find

$$m = \frac{k^r}{n - N + 3k + 2 - 6Q}$$

and using (4.40), (4.41) and (4.42) we get

$$(4.44) \quad h_{\alpha_i \alpha_i}^{\phi_r(t)} = \frac{3k^r}{(n_i + 2)(n - N + 3k + 2 - 6Q)}, \quad i = \overline{1, k} \quad \alpha_i \in \Delta_i,$$

$$(4.45) \quad h_{ss}^{\phi_r(t)} = \frac{k^r}{n - N + 3k + 2 - 6Q}, \quad s \in \Delta_{k+1}, \quad s \neq t,$$

$$(4.46) \quad h_{tt}^{\phi_r(t)} = \frac{3k^r}{n - N + 3k + 2 - 6Q}.$$

Using the relation (4.23) and the relations (4.44), (4.45) and (4.46), we have

$$\begin{aligned} f_{\phi_r(t)} &\leq \frac{3k^r}{n - N + 3k + 2 - 6Q} \cdot (n - N - 1) \cdot \frac{k^r}{n - N + 3k + 2 - 6Q} + \\ &+ C_{n-N-1}^2 \cdot \frac{(k^r)^2}{(n - N + 3k + 2 - 6Q)^2} + \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq k} \frac{n_i \cdot n_j}{(n_i + 2)(n_j + 2)} \cdot \frac{(3k^r)^2}{(n - N + 3k + 2 - 6Q)^2} + \\ &+ \frac{3k^r}{n - N + 3k + 2 - 6Q} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{n_i \cdot 3k^r}{(n_i + 2)(n - N + 3k + 2 - 6Q)} + \\ &+ (n - N - 1) \cdot \frac{k^r}{n - N + 3k + 2 - 6Q} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{n_i \cdot 3k^r}{(n_i + 2)(n - N + 3k + 2 - 6Q)} - \\ &- \sum_{i=1}^k n_i \cdot \frac{(3k^r)^2}{(n_i + 2)^2(n - N + 3k + 2 - 6Q)^2} - (n - N - 1) \cdot \frac{(k^r)^2}{(n - N + 3k + 2 - 6Q)^2} = \\ &= \frac{(k^r)^2}{(n - N + 3k + 2 - 6Q)^2} \cdot \left[ 3(n - N - 1) + C_{n-N-1}^2 + 9 \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq k} \frac{n_i \cdot n_j}{(n_i + 2)(n_j + 2)} + \right. \\ &\quad \left. + 9 \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{n_i}{n_i + 2} + 3(n - N - 1) \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{n_i}{n_i + 2} - 9 \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{n_i}{(n_i + 2)^2} - (n - N - 1) \right] = \\ &= \frac{(k^r)^2}{(n - N + 3k + 2 - 6Q)^2} \cdot \left[ 2(n - N - 1) + C_{n-N-1}^2 + 9 \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq k} \frac{n_i \cdot n_j}{(n_i + 2)(n_j + 2)} + \right. \\ &\quad \left. + 9 \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{n_i}{n_i + 2} + 3(n - N - 1) \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{n_i}{n_i + 2} - 9 \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{n_i}{(n_i + 2)^2} \right] = \\ &= \frac{(k^r)^2}{(n - N + 3k + 2 - 6Q)^2} \cdot \left[ 2(n - N - 1) + \frac{(n - N - 1)(n - N - 2)}{2} + \right. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& +9 \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq k} \frac{(n_i + 2)(n_j + 2) - 2n_i - 2n_j - 4}{(n_i + 2)(n_j + 2)} + 9 \sum_{i=1}^k \left( 1 - \frac{2}{n_i + 2} \right) + \\
& + 3(n - N - 1) \sum_{i=1}^k \left( 1 - \frac{2}{n_i + 2} \right) - 9 \sum_{i=1}^k \left( \frac{1}{(n_i + 2)} - \frac{2}{(n_i + 2)^2} \right) \Big] = \\
= & \frac{(k^r)^2}{(n - N + 3k + 2 - 6Q)^2} \cdot \left\{ \frac{(n - N - 1)(n - N + 2)}{2} + 9 \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq k} \left[ 1 - \frac{2(n_i + n_j + 2)}{(n_i + 2)(n_j + 2)} \right] + \right. \\
& + 9k - 18 \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{1}{n_i + 2} + 3(n - N - 1)k - 6(n - N - 1) \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{1}{n_i + 2} - \\
& \left. - 9 \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{1}{n_i + 2} + 18 \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{1}{(n_i + 2)^2} \right\} = \\
= & \frac{(k^r)^2}{(n - N + 3k + 2 - 6Q)^2} \cdot \left\{ \frac{(n - N - 1)(n - N + 2)}{2} + 9C_k^2 - \right. \\
& - 18 \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq k} \left[ \frac{(n_i + 2) + (n_j + 2) - 2}{(n_i + 2)(n_j + 2)} \right] + 9k - 18Q + \\
& \left. + 3(n - N - 1)k - 6(n - N - 1)Q - 9Q + 18 \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{1}{(n_i + 2)^2} \right\} = \\
= & \frac{(k^r)^2}{(n - N + 3k + 2 - 6Q)^2} \cdot \left\{ \frac{(n - N - 1)(n - N + 2)}{2} + \frac{9k(k - 1)}{2} - \right. \\
& - 18 \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq k} \left[ \frac{1}{n_i + 2} + \frac{1}{n_j + 2} \right] + 36 \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq k} \frac{1}{(n_i + 2)(n_j + 2)} + \\
& \left. + 9k - 18Q + 3(n - N - 1)k - 6(n - N - 1)Q - 9Q + 18 \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{1}{(n_i + 2)^2} \right\} = \\
= & \frac{(k^r)^2}{2(n - N + 3k + 2 - 6Q)^2} \cdot \left[ (n - N - 1)(n - N + 2) + 9k^2 - 9k - 36(k - 1)Q + \right. \\
& + 36 \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq k} \frac{2}{(n_i + 2)(n_j + 2)} + 18k - 36Q + 6(n - N - 1)k - \\
& \left. - 12(n - N - 1)Q - 18Q + 36 \frac{1}{(n_i + 2)^2} \right] = \\
= & \frac{(k^r)^2}{2(n - N + 3k + 2 - 6Q)^2} \cdot \left[ (n - N - 1)(n - N + 2) + 9k^2 - 9k - 36(k - 1)Q + \right. \\
& \left. + 18k - 36Q + 6(n - N - 1)k - 12(n - N - 1)Q - 18Q + 36Q^2 \right] = \\
= & \frac{(k^r)^2}{2(n - N + 3k + 2 - 6Q)^2} \cdot \left[ (n - N - 1)(n - N + 2) + 3(n - N - 1)k + \right. \\
& \left. + 3(n - N - 1)k - 6(n - N - 1)Q - 6(n - N - 1)Q + 9k^2 - 9k - 36kQ + 36Q + \right.
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& +18k - 36Q - 18Q + 36Q^2] = \\
& = \frac{(k^r)^2}{2(n - N + 3k + 2 - 6Q)^2} \cdot [(n - N - 1)(n - N + 2) + 3(n - N - 1)k - 6Q(n - N - 1) + \\
& + 9k^2 - 9k + 18k + 3k(n - N - 1) - 36(k - 1)Q - 36Q - 6Q(n - N - 1) - 18Q + 36Q^2] = \\
& = \frac{(k^r)^2}{2(n - N + 3k + 2 - 6Q)^2} \cdot [(n - N - 1)(n - N + 2 + 3k - 6Q) + 3k(n - N - 1 + 3k + 3) - \\
& - 36kQ + 36Q - 36Q - 6Q(n - N - 1) - 18Q + 36Q^2] = \\
& = \frac{(k^r)^2}{2(n - N + 3k + 2 - 6Q)^2} \cdot [(n - N - 1)(n - N + 3k + 2 - 6Q) + 3k(n - N + 3k + 2) - \\
& - 36kQ - 6Qn + 6QN - 12Q + 36Q^2] = \\
& = \frac{(k^r)^2}{2(n - N + 3k + 2 - 6Q)^2} \cdot [(n - N - 1)(n - N + 3k + 2 - 6Q) + \\
& + 3k(n - N + 3k + 2) - 18kQ - 18kQ - 6Qn + 6QN - 12Q + 36Q^2] = \\
& = \frac{(k^r)^2}{2(n - N + 3k + 2 - 6Q)^2} \cdot [(n - N - 1)(n - N + 3k + 2 - 6Q) + \\
& + 3k(n - N + 3k + 2 - 6Q) - 6Q(n - N + 3k + 2 - 6Q)] = \\
& = \frac{(k^r)^2}{2(n - N + 3k + 2 - 6Q)^2} \cdot (n - N + 3k + 2 - 6Q)(n - N + 3k - 1 - 6Q).
\end{aligned}$$

Thus, we find that

$$f_{\phi_r(t)} \leq \frac{(k^r)^2}{2(n - N + 3k + 2 - 6Q)^2} \cdot (n - N + 3k + 2 - 6Q)(n - N + 3k - 1 - 6Q),$$

so

$$f_{\phi_r(t)} \leq \frac{(k^r)^2}{2} \cdot \frac{n - N + 3k - 1 - 6Q}{n - N + 3k + 2 - 6Q},$$

from which we have

$$(4.47) \quad f_{\phi_r(t)} \leq \left( \frac{n^2}{2} \cdot \frac{n - N + 3k - 1 - 6Q}{n - N + 3k + 2 - 6Q} \right) \cdot \left( H^{\phi_r(t)} \right)^2.$$

We have 2 cases

I) if  $Q \leq \frac{1}{3}$ , then

$$\frac{n - N + 3k - 3}{n - N + 3k} \leq \frac{n - N + 3k - 1 - 6Q}{n - N + 3k + 2 - 6Q},$$

so, using the relations (4.7), (4.22) and (4.47), we find the relation (4.3).

II) if  $Q > \frac{1}{3}$ , then

$$\frac{n - N + 3k - 1 - 6Q}{n - N + 3k + 2 - 6Q} < \frac{n - N + 3k - 3}{n - N + 3k},$$

thus, using the relations (4.7), (4.22) and (4.47), we find the relation (4.4).

□

**Remark 4.4.** In the particular case  $n_1 = n_2 = 2$ , we have  $Q = \frac{1}{2}$  and  $N = 4 < n$ ; it follows that we are in the case b) of the Theorem 4.3 and the inequality (4.4) becomes

$$(4.48) \quad \delta(2, 2) \leq \frac{n^2(n-1)}{2(n+2)} \|H\|^2 + \frac{1}{2}[n(n-1) - 4] \frac{c}{4}.$$

In this case, the following improved inequality can be obtained

$$\delta(2, 2) \leq \frac{n^2(n-2)}{2(n+1)} \|H\|^2 + \frac{1}{2}[n(n-1) - 4] \frac{c}{4};$$

it improves the inequality (4.48), because  $\frac{n-2}{n+1} < \frac{n-1}{n+2}$ , for  $n > 4$ . The complete proof is given in a forthcoming paper (joint work with A. Mihai), submitted for publication.

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