

# Deformations of Hermitian Yang-Mills Metrics on the Iwasawa and Nakamura Threefolds\*

Jixiang FU<sup>1</sup>      Jieming YANG<sup>2</sup>

**Abstract** The authors show the stability of Hermitian Yang-Mills metrics under deformations of complex structures of either the Iwasawa or the Nakamura threefolds.

**Keywords** Deformations, Balanced metrics, Hermitian Yang-Mills metrics

**2020 MR Subject Classification** 53C55, 53B35, 32Q26

## 1 Introduction

Let  $X_0$  be a compact complex manifold with  $\dim_{\mathbb{C}} X_0 = n$  and  $c_1^{BC}(X_0) = 0$ , where

$$c_1^{BC}(X) \in H_{BC}^{1,1}(X, \mathbb{R}) = \frac{\{\phi \in \mathcal{A}_{\mathbb{R}}^{1,1}(X) \mid d\phi = 0\}}{\{\sqrt{-1}\partial\bar{\partial}u \mid u \in \mathcal{A}_{\mathbb{R}}^0(X)\}}.$$

Such  $X_0$  is named as (non-Kähler) Calabi-Yau (see [25]). In particular, if the canonical bundle  $K_{X_0}$  is holomorphically trivial, then  $X_0$  is Calabi-Yau.

Let  $\omega_0$  be a Hermitian metric on  $X_0$ . If  $\partial\bar{\partial}\omega_0^{n-1} = 0$ ,  $\omega_0$  is called Gauduchon. If  $d\omega_0^{n-1} = 0$ ,  $\omega_0$  is called balanced. If  $d\omega_0 = 0$ ,  $\omega_0$  is called Kähler.

Let  $\nabla_0$  be the Chern connection of an arbitrary Hermitian metric  $\omega_0$  and  $R_{\omega_0} \in \mathcal{A}^{1,1}(\text{End}(T^{1,0}X_0))$  be the curvature of  $\nabla_0$ . If the mean curvature form  $\sqrt{-1}\Lambda_{\omega_0}R_{\omega_0}$  satisfies the Hermitian Yang-Mills equation (see Lemma 3.2)

$$\sqrt{-1}\Lambda_{\omega_0}R_{\omega_0} = 0,$$

then  $\omega_0$  is said to be Hermitian Yang-Mills with respect to itself (see [27]).

Obviously, the above equation coincides with the Calabi-Yau equation if  $\omega_0$  is Kähler (see [30]). Thus Hermitian Yang-Mills metrics are candidates for canonical metrics on non-Kähler manifolds. For other analogous of Calabi-Yau metrics, we refer to [2–3, 8–10, 13, 17, 21–22, 25–26] and the references therein.

The first problem is the existence of Hermitian Yang-Mills metrics on non-Kähler Calabi-Yau manifolds. A typical example is the Iwasawa or the Nakamura threefold. There is a natural metric  $\omega_0$  on  $X_0$  which is balanced with flat Chern connection  $\nabla_0$ . Thus  $X_0$  is a non-Kähler

---

Manuscript received March 26, 2025.

<sup>1</sup>Institute of Mathematics, Fudan University, Shanghai 200433, China. E-mail: majxfu@fudan.edu.cn

<sup>2</sup>Department of Mathematics, Wenzhou University, Wenzhou 325035, Zhejiang, China.

E-mail: 20230120@wzu.edu.cn

\*This work was supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (No. 12141104).

Calabi-Yau threefold and  $\omega_0$  is Hermitian Yang-Mills. Besides, there is no general conclusion on the existence.

A well-known example of non-Kähler Calabi-Yau threefolds is the complex structures on  $\#_{k \geq 2} S^3 \times S^3$  given by the conifold transitions. Since the existence of balanced metrics on  $\#_{k \geq 2} S^3 \times S^3$  was proved in [8], an essential question is whether there exists on such manifolds a balanced metric  $\omega$  which is also Hermitian Yang-Mills with respect to itself (see [7]).

Assumed the existence of Hermitian Yang-Mills metrics on non-Kähler Calabi-Yau manifolds, one of the further questions is the stability of Hermitian Yang-Mills metrics under deformations of complex structures. It would be fundamental for generalizations of Calabi-Yau moduli spaces.

Deformations of complex structures of Kähler (Calabi-Yau) manifolds were studied extensively (see e.g., [23–24]). However, deformations of non-Kähler manifolds are far from well-understood, see [1, 4, 8, 11, 18–20, 29] and references therein for some results.

In particular, in contrast to the Kähler case (see e.g., [15, Chapter 4]), the property of being balanced is not stable under deformations (see [1]). Certain topological conditions were imposed to guarantee the stability of balanced metrics (see e.g., [4, 11, 19, 29]).

Denote  $\Delta_\epsilon = \{t \in \mathbb{C}^m : |t| < \epsilon\}$  for some  $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  and  $\epsilon \ll 1$ . Let  $\{X_t\}_{t \in \Delta_\epsilon}$  be the Kuranishi family of  $X_0$ . As far as we are concerned, one of the key ingredients in [19] (or [20]) is the definition of a natural Hermitian metric  $\omega_t$  on  $X_t$  (see (2.2)). Such a metric  $\omega_t$  is our starting point for deformations of Hermitian Yang-Mills metrics.

Here we only consider some special compact complex threefolds and leave the general case to further study.

Let  $X_0$  be either the Iwasawa or the Nakamura manifold (see [16]). As stated above, there exists a Hermitian Yang-Mills metric  $\omega_0$  on  $X_0$ . The Kuranishi family  $\{X_t\}_{t \in \Delta_\epsilon}$  of  $X_0$  was explicitly constructed (see [16, Section 3]). For the natural metric  $\omega_t$  on  $X_t$  (given by (2.2)), we calculate its curvatures  $R_{\omega_t}$  and  $K_{\omega_t}$ , which enable us to obtain a Hermitian Yang-Mills metric  $\tilde{\omega}_t$  after perturbing  $\omega_t$  by a contraction mapping argument (see e.g., [5–6]). However, we do not know whether the metric  $\tilde{\omega}_t$  is balanced or not.

Our main result is as follows.

**Theorem 1.1** *Let  $X_0$  be either the Iwasawa or the Nakamura manifold and  $\{X_t\}_{t \in \Delta_\epsilon}$  be the Kuranishi family of  $X_0$ . For  $\epsilon \ll 1$ , each  $X_t$  admits a Hermitian Yang-Mills metric with respect to itself.*

In Section 2, we present basic facts on deformation theory and study the geometry of  $(X_t, \omega_t)$ . In Section 3, we prove Theorem 1.1.

## 2 Preliminaries

Let  $X_0$  be a compact complex manifold and  $\{X_t\}_{t \in \Delta_\epsilon}$  be the Kuranishi family of  $X_0$ . We refer to [15, Chapter 4] for the deformation theory of Kodaira-Spencer.

We first recall the extension map defined in [20] (see also [19]). The crucial thing of Kodaira-

Spencer's theory is that the complex structure on  $X_t$  is described by a vector  $(0, 1)$ -form  $\varphi(t) \in \mathcal{A}^{0,1}(T^{1,0}X_0)$  satisfying the integrability condition. More precisely, there is a complex manifold  $\mathcal{X}$  and a holomorphic map  $\varpi : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \Delta_\epsilon$  satisfying the following conditions:

- (1)  $\varpi^{-1}(t) = X_t$  is a compact complex manifold for each  $t \in \Delta_\epsilon$ .
- (2) The rank of the Jacobian of  $\varpi$  is  $m$  at each point of  $\mathcal{X}$ .

Then the complex structure on  $X_t$  is obtained by deforming the complex structure on  $X_0$  via  $\varphi(t)$  such that  $\varphi(0) = 0$  and

$$\bar{\partial}\varphi(t) = \frac{1}{2}[\varphi(t), \varphi(t)].$$

Let  $d = \partial_t + \bar{\partial}_t$  be the decomposition of  $d$  with respect to the complex structure on  $X_t$ .

Let  $(z^1, \dots, z^n)$  be local holomorphic coordinates of  $X_0$ . Let  $(\zeta^1(z, t), \dots, \zeta^n(z, t))$  be local holomorphic coordinates of  $X_t$ . For  $t = 0$ , both

$$(z^1, \dots, z^n) \quad \text{and} \quad (\zeta^1(z, 0), \dots, \zeta^n(z, 0))$$

are holomorphic coordinates on  $X_0$ . While for  $t \in \Delta_\epsilon \setminus \{0\}$  and  $k \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ ,  $\zeta^k(z, t)$  is only smooth on  $t$ . Denote

$$\mathcal{A}_t = \left( \frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial z} \right)^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{A}_{t,1}^1 & \cdots & \mathcal{A}_{t,n}^1 \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ \mathcal{A}_{t,1}^n & \cdots & \mathcal{A}_{t,n}^n \end{pmatrix}. \quad (2.1)$$

The vector  $(0, 1)$ -form  $\varphi$  is given by (see e.g., [15, 20])

$$\varphi = \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial z^1}, \dots, \frac{\partial}{\partial z^n} \right) \mathcal{A}_t \left( \frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial \bar{z}} \right) \begin{pmatrix} d\bar{z}^1 \\ \vdots \\ d\bar{z}^n \end{pmatrix} = \varphi_j^i d\bar{z}^j \otimes \frac{\partial}{\partial z^i},$$

where

$$\varphi_j^i = \mathcal{A}_{t,k}^i \frac{\partial \zeta^k(z, t)}{\partial \bar{z}^j}.$$

We may also use  $\varphi$  to denote the above  $n \times n$  matrix.

The extended contraction operator is

$$i_\varphi : \mathcal{A}^{p,q}(X_0) \rightarrow \mathcal{A}^{p-1,q+1}(X_0).$$

Define two operators (see e.g., [20])

$$e^{i_\varphi} = \sum_{k \geq 0} \frac{1}{k!} i_\varphi^k \quad \text{and} \quad e^{i_{\bar{\varphi}}} = \sum_{k \geq 0} \frac{1}{k!} i_{\bar{\varphi}}^k,$$

where  $i_\varphi^k = i_\varphi \circ \dots \circ i_\varphi$ . Then for  $\epsilon \ll 1$ ,

$$\{e^{i_\varphi}(dz^i) = dz^i + \varphi_j^i d\bar{z}^j\}_{i=1}^n \quad \text{and} \quad \{e^{i_{\bar{\varphi}}}(d\bar{z}^j) = d\bar{z}^j + \bar{\varphi}_i^j dz^i\}_{j=1}^n$$

are local smooth frames of  $\mathcal{A}^{1,0}(X_t)$  and  $\mathcal{A}^{0,1}(X_t)$ , respectively.

By [20, Lemma 2.5], the local smooth frame  $\{e^{i_\varphi}(dz^i)\}_{i=1}^n$  and the local holomorphic frame  $\{d\zeta^i\}_{i=1}^n$  are related by

$$e^{i_\varphi}(dz^i) = \mathcal{A}_{t,k}^i d\zeta^k.$$

Moreover, for

$$\sigma = \sigma_{i_1 \dots i_p \bar{j}_1 \dots \bar{j}_q}(z) dz^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dz^{i_p} \wedge d\bar{z}^{j_1} \wedge \dots \wedge d\bar{z}^{j_q} \in \mathcal{A}^{p,q}(X_0),$$

the extension map (see [20, Definition 2.8])

$$e^{i_\varphi|i_{\bar{\varphi}}} : \mathcal{A}^{p,q}(X_0) \rightarrow \mathcal{A}^{p,q}(X_t)$$

is given by

$$e^{i_\varphi|i_{\bar{\varphi}}}(\sigma) = \sigma_{i_1 \dots i_p \bar{j}_1 \dots \bar{j}_q}(z) e^{i_\varphi}(dz^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dz^{i_p}) \wedge e^{i_{\bar{\varphi}}}(d\bar{z}^{j_1} \wedge \dots \wedge d\bar{z}^{j_q}).$$

It is proved in [20, Lemma 9] that  $e^{i_\varphi|i_{\bar{\varphi}}}$  is a linear isomorphism for  $\epsilon \ll 1$ .

Let

$$\omega_0 = \sqrt{-1} g_{0,i\bar{j}} dz^i \wedge d\bar{z}^j$$

be a Hermitian metric on  $X_0$ . Then for  $\epsilon \ll 1$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \omega_t &= e^{i_\varphi|i_{\bar{\varphi}}}(\omega_0) = \sqrt{-1} g_{0,i\bar{j}} e^{i_\varphi}(dz^i) \wedge e^{i_{\bar{\varphi}}}(d\bar{z}^j) \\ &= \sqrt{-1} g_{t,i\bar{j}} d\zeta^i \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^j \end{aligned} \quad (2.2)$$

is a Hermitian metric on  $X_t$ , where  $g_{t,i\bar{j}} = g_{0,kl} \mathcal{A}_{t,i}^k \bar{\mathcal{A}}_{t,j}^l$ . The metric  $\omega_t$  is our starting point for the proof of Theorem 1.1.

Let  $X_0$  be either the Iwasawa or the Nakamura manifold and  $\{X_t\}_{t \in \Delta_\epsilon}$  be the Kuranishi family of  $X_0$  (see [16]).

There is a natural metric  $\omega_0$  on  $X_0$  which is balanced with flat Chern connection  $\nabla_0$ . For  $\epsilon \ll 1$ , the natural metric  $\omega_t$  on  $X_t$  is given by (2.2), and the Chern connection of  $\omega_t$  is  $\nabla_t$ . Then the curvature and mean curvature of  $\nabla_t$  are  $R_{\omega_t}$  and  $K_{\omega_t}$  (see e.g., [12, Section 1.7]), respectively.

Our main result in this subsection is as follows.

**Proposition 2.1** *Under the above setting, the norms of the curvature and the mean curvature of the Chern connection  $\nabla_t$  satisfy*

$$|R_{\omega_t}|_{\omega_t} = |K_{\omega_t}|_{\omega_t} = o(|t|^2)$$

for  $\epsilon \ll 1$ .

In the rest of this part, we prove Proposition 2.1 for the Iwasawa manifold. While the proof for the Nakamura manifold is given in the appendix.

Denote

$$G = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & z^2 & z^3 \\ 0 & 1 & z^1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}; z^k \in \mathbb{C} \right\} \simeq \mathbb{C}^3$$

and

$$\Gamma = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & w^2 & w^3 \\ 0 & 1 & w^1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}; w^k \in \mathbb{Z} \oplus \sqrt{-1}\mathbb{Z} \right\}.$$

The Iwasawa manifold  $X_0 = G/\Gamma$  is the quotient by the action of  $\Gamma$  on  $G$ :

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & z^2 & z^3 \\ 0 & 1 & z^1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & w^2 & w^3 \\ 0 & 1 & w^1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & z^2 + w^2 & z^3 + z^2 w^1 + w^3 \\ 0 & 1 & z^1 + w^1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Denote

$$t = (t_{11}, t_{12}, t_{21}, t_{22}, t_{31}, t_{32}) \in \Delta_\epsilon = \{t \in \mathbb{C}^6 : |t| < \epsilon\}.$$

Let  $\{X_t\}_{t \in \Delta_\epsilon}$  be the Kuranishi family of  $X_0$  for  $\epsilon \ll 1$  (see [16, p. 95]).

Let  $\{z^1, z^2, z^3\}$  be holomorphic coordinates on  $X_0$ . The integrable vector  $(0, 1)$ -form  $\varphi \in \mathcal{A}^{0,1}(T^{1,0}X_0)$  is (see [16, p. 95])

$$\varphi = \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial z^1}, \frac{\partial}{\partial z^2}, \frac{\partial}{\partial z^3} \right) \begin{pmatrix} t_{11} & t_{12} & 0 \\ t_{21} & t_{22} & 0 \\ \eta_1 & \eta_2 + D\bar{z}^1 & -D \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} d\bar{z}^1 \\ d\bar{z}^2 \\ d\bar{z}^3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (2.3)$$

where

$$\eta_1 = t_{31} + t_{21}z^1, \quad \eta_2 = t_{32} + t_{22}z^1, \quad D = t_{11}t_{22} - t_{12}t_{21}.$$

The holomorphic coordinates  $\{\zeta^1, \zeta^2, \zeta^3\}$  on  $X_t$  are given by (see [16, p. 95]):

$$\zeta^1 = z^1 + \sum_{l=1}^2 t_{1l}\bar{z}^l, \quad \zeta^2 = z^2 + \sum_{l=1}^2 t_{2l}\bar{z}^l, \quad \zeta^3 = z^3 + \sum_{l=1}^2 \eta_l\bar{z}^l + A - D\bar{z}^3, \quad (2.4)$$

where

$$2A = t_{11}t_{21}(\bar{z}^1)^2 + 2t_{11}t_{22}\bar{z}^1\bar{z}^2 + t_{12}t_{22}(\bar{z}^2)^2.$$

Then we obtain from (2.1) that

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{A}_{t,1}^1 & \cdots & \mathcal{A}_{t,3}^1 \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ \mathcal{A}_{t,1}^3 & \cdots & \mathcal{A}_{t,3}^3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -(\zeta^2 - z^2) & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (2.5)$$

Since

$$\{\phi_0^1 = dz^1, \phi_0^2 = dz^2, \phi_0^3 = dz^3 - z^1 dz^2\}$$

is a global basis of the space of holomorphic 1-forms on  $X_0$ , the three  $(1, 0)$ -forms

$$\phi_t^1 = e^{i\varphi}(\phi_0^1) = d\zeta^1, \quad \phi_t^2 = e^{i\varphi}(\phi_0^2) = d\zeta^2$$

and

$$\phi_t^3 = e^{i\varphi}(\phi_0^3) = d\zeta^3 - z^1 d\zeta^2 - (\zeta^2 - z^2) d\zeta^1$$

form a basis of the space of smooth  $(1, 0)$ -forms on  $X_t$ . Since

$$\phi_t^1 \wedge \phi_t^2 \wedge \phi_t^3 = d\zeta^1 \wedge d\zeta^2 \wedge d\zeta^3,$$

the canonical bundle  $K_{X_t}$  of  $X_t$  is holomorphically trivial.

It is well-known that the natural metric

$$\begin{aligned}\omega_0 = \sqrt{-1} \sum_{l=1}^3 \phi_0^l \wedge \bar{\phi}_0^l &= \sqrt{-1} (dz^1 \wedge d\bar{z}^1 + (1 + |z^1|^2) dz^2 \wedge d\bar{z}^2 + dz^3 \wedge d\bar{z}^3 \\ &\quad - z^1 dz^2 \wedge d\bar{z}^3 - \bar{z}^1 dz^3 \wedge d\bar{z}^2)\end{aligned}$$

on  $X_0$  is balanced with flat Chern connection  $\nabla_0$ . Thus  $X_0$  is a non-Kähler Calabi-Yau threefold and  $\omega_0$  is Hermitian Yang-Mills.

Moreover, for  $\epsilon \ll 1$ , there is a natural Hermitian metric on  $X_t$  (given by (2.2)):

$$\omega_t = e^{i\varphi|i\bar{\varphi}}(\omega_0) = \sqrt{-1} g_{t,i\bar{j}} d\zeta^i \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^j,$$

where

$$\begin{pmatrix} g_{t,1\bar{1}} & \cdots & g_{t,1\bar{3}} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ g_{t,3\bar{1}} & \cdots & g_{t,3\bar{3}} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 + |\zeta^2 - z^2|^2 & \bar{z}^1(\zeta^2 - z^2) & -(\zeta^2 - z^2) \\ z^1(\overline{\zeta^2 - z^2}) & 1 + |z^1|^2 & -z^1 \\ -(\overline{\zeta^2 - z^2}) & -\bar{z}^1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (2.6)$$

It is direct to check

$$\omega_t = \sqrt{-1} \sum_{l=1}^3 \phi_t^l \wedge \bar{\phi}_t^l.$$

As mentioned above, the property of being balanced is not stable under deformations of the Iwasawa manifold (see [1]). As for the natural metric  $\omega_t$ , we have the following observation.

**Proposition 2.2** *Let  $X_0$  be the Iwasawa manifold and  $\{X_t\}_{t \in \Delta_\epsilon}$  be the Kuranishi family of  $X_0$ . The natural metric  $\omega_t$  on  $X_t$  is Gauduchon and Chern-Ricci flat. Moreover, it is balanced if and only if*

$$t_{21}|t_{12}|^2 - t_{12}|t_{21}|^2 = t_{11}t_{22}(\overline{t_{12} - t_{21}}) + t_{12} - t_{21}.$$

**Proof** We obtain from (2.6) that  $\det \omega_t = 1$ . Then the Chern-Ricci curvature of  $\omega_t$  is

$$\rho_{\omega_t} = \sqrt{-1} \bar{\partial}_t \partial_t \log \det \omega_t = 0.$$

Direct calculation yields

$$\begin{aligned}\omega_t^2 &= 2\sqrt{-1}^2 ((1 + |z^1|^2 + |\zeta^2 - z^2|^2) d\zeta^1 \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^1 \wedge d\zeta^2 \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^2 \\ &\quad - z^1 d\zeta^1 \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^1 \wedge d\zeta^2 \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^3 - (\zeta^2 - z^2) d\zeta^1 \wedge d\zeta^2 \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^2 \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^3 \\ &\quad + \bar{z}^1 d\zeta^1 \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^1 \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^2 \wedge d\zeta^3 + (\overline{\zeta^2 - z^2}) d\bar{\zeta}^1 \wedge d\zeta^2 \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^2 \wedge d\zeta^3 \\ &\quad + d\zeta^1 \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^1 \wedge d\zeta^3 \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^3 + d\zeta^2 \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^2 \wedge d\zeta^3 \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^3).\end{aligned} \quad (2.7)$$

To calculate  $\bar{\partial}_t \hat{\omega}_t^2$ , we use (2.3) to show

$$(I - \varphi\bar{\varphi}) = \begin{pmatrix} \bar{\alpha} & -\bar{\beta} & 0 \\ -\bar{\gamma} & \bar{\delta} & 0 \\ D\bar{t}_{31} - \eta_1\bar{t}_{11} - \eta_2\bar{t}_{21} & D(\bar{t}_{31} + \bar{D}z^1) - \eta_1\bar{t}_{12} - \eta_2\bar{t}_{22} & 1 - |D|^2 \end{pmatrix},$$

where

$$\alpha = 1 - |t_{11}|^2 - t_{21}\bar{t}_{12}, \quad \delta = 1 - |t_{22}|^2 - t_{12}\bar{t}_{21}$$

and

$$\beta = t_{12}\bar{t}_{11} + t_{22}\bar{t}_{12}, \quad \gamma = t_{11}\bar{t}_{21} + t_{21}\bar{t}_{22}.$$

Then we get

$$(I - \bar{\varphi}\varphi)^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\beta\gamma}{\alpha^2\sigma} + \frac{1}{\alpha} & \frac{\beta}{\alpha\sigma} & 0 \\ \frac{\gamma}{\alpha\sigma} & \frac{1}{\sigma} & 0 \\ * & * & \frac{1}{1-|D|^2} \end{pmatrix}, \quad (2.8)$$

where

$$\sigma = \delta - \frac{\beta\gamma}{\alpha}$$

and elements denoted by  $*$  are irrelevant for us.

By [20, Lemma 2.4], we obtain from (2.5) and (2.8) that

$$\left(\frac{\partial\bar{z}}{\partial\bar{\zeta}}\right) = (I - \bar{\varphi}\varphi)^{-1}\bar{\mathcal{A}}_t = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\beta\gamma}{\alpha^2\sigma} + \frac{1}{\alpha} & \frac{\beta}{\alpha\sigma} & 0 \\ \frac{\gamma}{\alpha\sigma} & \frac{1}{\sigma} & 0 \\ * & * & \frac{1}{1-|D|^2} \end{pmatrix},$$

which implies

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} \tau_{11} & \tau_{12} \\ \tau_{21} & \tau_{22} \end{pmatrix} &:= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial z^1}{\zeta^1} & \frac{\partial z^1}{\zeta^2} \\ \frac{\partial z^2}{\zeta^1} & \frac{\partial z^2}{\zeta^2} \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 + \frac{|t_{11}|^2}{\alpha} + \frac{\lambda_1\mu_1}{\sigma} & \frac{t_{11}\bar{t}_{12}}{\alpha} + \frac{\lambda_2\mu_1}{\sigma} \\ \frac{t_{21}\bar{t}_{11}}{\alpha} + \frac{\lambda_1\mu_2}{\sigma} & 1 + \frac{t_{21}\bar{t}_{12}}{\alpha} + \frac{\lambda_2\mu_2}{\sigma} \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned} \quad (2.9)$$

Here

$$\lambda_1 = \bar{t}_{21} + \frac{\gamma}{\alpha}\bar{t}_{11}, \quad \lambda_2 = \bar{t}_{22} + \frac{\gamma}{\alpha}\bar{t}_{12}$$

and

$$\mu_1 = t_{12} + \frac{\beta}{\alpha}t_{11}, \quad \mu_2 = t_{22} + \frac{\beta}{\alpha}t_{21}.$$

Similarly, we obtain from (2.3), (2.5) and (2.8) that

$$-\left(\frac{\partial z}{\partial\bar{\zeta}}\right) = \varphi(I - \bar{\varphi}\varphi)^{-1}\bar{\mathcal{A}}_t = \begin{pmatrix} \left(1 + \frac{\beta\gamma}{\alpha\sigma}\right)\frac{t_{11}}{\alpha} + \frac{t_{12}\gamma}{\alpha\sigma} & \frac{t_{11}\beta}{\alpha\sigma} + \frac{t_{12}}{\sigma} & 0 \\ \left(1 + \frac{\beta\gamma}{\alpha\sigma}\right)\frac{t_{21}}{\alpha} + \frac{t_{22}\gamma}{\alpha\sigma} & \frac{t_{21}\beta}{\alpha\sigma} + \frac{t_{22}}{\sigma} & 0 \\ * & * & \frac{D}{|D|^2 - 1} \end{pmatrix},$$

which implies

$$\begin{pmatrix} \tau_{31} & \tau_{32} \\ \tau_{41} & \tau_{42} \end{pmatrix} := \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial z^1}{\bar{\zeta}^1} & \frac{\partial z^1}{\bar{\zeta}^2} \\ \frac{\partial z^2}{\bar{\zeta}^1} & \frac{\partial z^2}{\bar{\zeta}^2} \end{pmatrix} = - \begin{pmatrix} \frac{t_{11}}{\alpha} + \frac{\gamma\mu_1}{\alpha\sigma} & \frac{\mu_1}{\sigma} \\ \frac{t_{21}}{\alpha} + \frac{\gamma\mu_2}{\alpha\sigma} & \frac{\mu_2}{\sigma} \end{pmatrix}. \quad (2.10)$$

By (2.7) and (2.9)–(2.10), we get

$$\bar{\partial}_t \omega_t^2 = 2\sqrt{-1}^2 (\tau_{32} - \tau_{41}) d\zeta^1 \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^1 \wedge d\zeta^2 \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^2 \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^3,$$

which implies

$$\partial_t \bar{\partial}_t \omega_t^2 = 0,$$

i.e.,  $\omega_t$  is Gauduchon. While  $\omega_t$  is balanced if and only if  $\tau_{32} = \tau_{41}$ , which is exactly the desired identity.

**Proof of Proposition 2.1** Let  $X_0$  be the Iwasawa manifold and  $\{X_t\}_{t \in \Delta_\epsilon}$  be the Kuranishi family of  $X_0$ .

By (2.6), we get

$$\begin{pmatrix} g_t^{1\bar{1}} & \cdots & g_t^{3\bar{1}} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ g_t^{1\bar{3}} & \cdots & g_t^{3\bar{3}} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & \zeta^2 - z^2 \\ 0 & 1 & z^1 \\ \overline{(\zeta^2 - z^2)} & \bar{z}^1 & 1 + |z^1|^2 + |\zeta^2 - z^2|^2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.11)$$

and

$$\partial_t g_t g_t^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} -(\zeta^2 - z^2) \partial_t \bar{z}^2 & (\zeta^2 - z^2) \partial_t \bar{z}^1 & \theta_1^3 \\ -z^1 \partial_t \bar{z}^2 & z^1 \partial_t \bar{z}^1 & \theta_2^3 \\ \partial_t \bar{z}^2 & -\partial_t \bar{z}^1 & (\zeta^2 - z^2) \partial_t \bar{z}^2 - z^1 \partial_t \bar{z}^1 \end{pmatrix},$$

where

$$\theta_1^3 = -(\zeta^2 - z^2)^2 \partial_t \bar{z}^2 + z^1 (\zeta^2 - z^2) \partial_t \bar{z}^1 - \partial_t (\zeta^2 - z^2)$$

and

$$\theta_2^3 = (z^1)^2 \partial_t \bar{z}^1 - z^1 (\zeta^2 - z^2) \partial_t \bar{z}^2 - \partial_t z^1.$$

By definition of the Chern curvature (see e.g., [12, 14]), we obtain from (2.10) that

$$\begin{aligned} R_{\omega_t}^T &= \bar{\partial}_t (\partial_t g_t g_t^{-1}) \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} \bar{\partial}_t z^2 \wedge \partial_t \bar{z}^2 & -\bar{\partial}_t z^2 \wedge \partial_t \bar{z}^1 & \Omega_1^3 \\ -\bar{\partial}_t z^1 \wedge \partial_t \bar{z}^2 & \bar{\partial}_t z^1 \wedge \partial_t \bar{z}^1 & \Omega_2^3 \\ 0 & 0 & -\bar{\partial}_t z^1 \wedge \partial_t \bar{z}^1 - \bar{\partial}_t z^2 \wedge \partial_t \bar{z}^2 \end{pmatrix}, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\Omega_1^3 = (\zeta^2 - z^2) (2\bar{\partial}_t z^2 \wedge \partial_t \bar{z}^2 + \bar{\partial}_t z^1 \wedge \partial_t \bar{z}^1) - z^1 \bar{\partial}_t z^2 \wedge \partial_t \bar{z}^1$$

and

$$\Omega_2^3 = z^1 (2\bar{\partial}_t z^1 \wedge \partial_t \bar{z}^1 + \bar{\partial}_t z^2 \wedge \partial_t \bar{z}^2) - (\zeta^2 - z^2) \bar{\partial}_t z^1 \wedge \partial_t \bar{z}^2.$$



Since  $R_{\omega_t}$  is skew-symmetric with respect to  $\omega_t$ :  $R_{\omega_t}^* = -R_{\omega_t}$ , we get (see e.g., [14])

$$\begin{aligned} |R_{\omega_t}|_{\omega_t}^2 \frac{\omega_t^3}{3!} &= \text{tr}(R_{\omega_t} \wedge *_t R_{\omega_t}^*) \\ &= -2(\bar{\partial}_t z^2 \wedge \partial_t \bar{z}^2 \wedge *_t(\bar{\partial}_t z^2 \wedge \partial_t \bar{z}^2) + \bar{\partial}_t z^1 \wedge \partial_t \bar{z}^1 \wedge *_t(\bar{\partial}_t z^1 \wedge \partial_t \bar{z}^1)) \\ &\quad - (\bar{\partial}_t z^1 \wedge \partial_t \bar{z}^1 \wedge *_t(\bar{\partial}_t z^2 \wedge \partial_t \bar{z}^2) + \bar{\partial}_t z^2 \wedge \partial_t \bar{z}^2 \wedge *_t(\bar{\partial}_t z^1 \wedge \partial_t \bar{z}^1)) \\ &\quad + \bar{\partial}_t z^1 \wedge \partial_t \bar{z}^2 \wedge *_t(\bar{\partial}_t z^2 \wedge \partial_t \bar{z}^1) + \bar{\partial}_t z^2 \wedge \partial_t \bar{z}^1 \wedge *_t(\bar{\partial}_t z^1 \wedge \partial_t \bar{z}^2)), \end{aligned}$$

where  $*_t$  is the Hodge star operator with respect to  $\omega_t$ .

By (2.9)–(2.10), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\partial}_t z^1 \wedge \partial_t \bar{z}^1 &= |\tau_{31}|^2 d\bar{\zeta}^1 \wedge d\zeta^1 + |\tau_{32}|^2 d\bar{\zeta}^2 \wedge d\zeta^2 \\ &\quad + \tau_{31}\bar{\tau}_{32} d\bar{\zeta}^1 \wedge d\zeta^2 + \tau_{32}\bar{\tau}_{31} d\bar{\zeta}^2 \wedge d\zeta^1, \\ \bar{\partial}_t z^1 \wedge \partial_t \bar{z}^2 &= \tau_{31}\bar{\tau}_{41} d\bar{\zeta}^1 \wedge d\zeta^1 + \tau_{32}\bar{\tau}_{42} d\bar{\zeta}^2 \wedge d\zeta^2 \\ &\quad + \tau_{31}\bar{\tau}_{42} d\bar{\zeta}^1 \wedge d\zeta^2 + \tau_{32}\bar{\tau}_{41} d\bar{\zeta}^2 \wedge d\zeta^1, \\ \bar{\partial}_t z^2 \wedge \partial_t \bar{z}^2 &= |\tau_{41}|^2 d\bar{\zeta}^1 \wedge d\zeta^1 + |\tau_{42}|^2 d\bar{\zeta}^2 \wedge d\zeta^2 \\ &\quad + \tau_{41}\bar{\tau}_{42} d\bar{\zeta}^1 \wedge d\zeta^2 + \tau_{42}\bar{\tau}_{41} d\bar{\zeta}^2 \wedge d\zeta^1, \end{aligned} \tag{2.12}$$

which together with (2.11) imply

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\partial}_t z^1 \wedge \partial_t \bar{z}^1 \wedge *_t(\bar{\partial}_t z^1 \wedge \partial_t \bar{z}^1) &= -(|\tau_{31}|^2 + |\tau_{32}|^2) \frac{\omega_t^3}{3!}, \\ \bar{\partial}_t z^2 \wedge \partial_t \bar{z}^2 \wedge *_t(\bar{\partial}_t z^2 \wedge \partial_t \bar{z}^2) &= -(|\tau_{41}|^2 + |\tau_{42}|^2) \frac{\omega_t^3}{3!}, \\ \bar{\partial}_t z^1 \wedge \partial_t \bar{z}^1 \wedge *_t(\bar{\partial}_t z^2 \wedge \partial_t \bar{z}^2) &= \bar{\partial}_t z^2 \wedge \partial_t \bar{z}^2 \wedge *_t(\bar{\partial}_t z^1 \wedge \partial_t \bar{z}^1) \\ &= -|\tau_{31}\bar{\tau}_{41} + \tau_{42}\bar{\tau}_{32}|^2 \frac{\omega_t^3}{3!} \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\partial}_t z^1 \wedge \partial_t \bar{z}^2 \wedge *_t(\bar{\partial}_t z^2 \wedge \partial_t \bar{z}^1) &= \bar{\partial}_t z^2 \wedge \partial_t \bar{z}^1 \wedge *_t(\bar{\partial}_t z^1 \wedge \partial_t \bar{z}^2) \\ &= -(|\tau_{31}|^2 + |\tau_{32}|^2)(|\tau_{41}|^2 + |\tau_{42}|^2) \frac{\omega_t^3}{3!}. \end{aligned}$$

Combining the above yields

$$\begin{aligned} |R_{\omega_t}|_{\omega_t}^2 &= 2(|\tau_{31}\bar{\tau}_{41} + \tau_{42}\bar{\tau}_{32}|^2 + (|\tau_{31}|^2 + |\tau_{32}|^2)(|\tau_{41}|^2 + |\tau_{42}|^2) \\ &\quad + (|\tau_{31}|^2 + |\tau_{32}|^2)^2 + (|\tau_{41}|^2 + |\tau_{42}|^2)^2). \end{aligned}$$

By (2.11)–(2.12), the mean curvature  $K_{\omega_t} = \sqrt{-1}\Lambda_{\omega_t} R_{\omega_t}$  is

$$K_{\omega_t}^T = \begin{pmatrix} -|\tau_{41}|^2 - |\tau_{42}|^2 & \tau_{41}\bar{\tau}_{31} + \tau_{42}\bar{\tau}_{32} & K_1^3 \\ \tau_{31}\bar{\tau}_{41} + \tau_{32}\bar{\tau}_{42} & -|\tau_{31}|^2 - |\tau_{32}|^2 & K_2^3 \\ 0 & 0 & |\tau_{31}|^2 + |\tau_{32}|^2 + |\tau_{41}|^2 + |\tau_{42}|^2 \end{pmatrix},$$

where

$$K_1^3 = -(\zeta^2 - z^2)(|\tau_{31}|^2 + |\tau_{32}|^2 + 2|\tau_{41}|^2 + 2|\tau_{42}|^2) + z^1(\bar{\tau}_{31}\tau_{41} + \bar{\tau}_{32}\tau_{42})$$

and

$$K_2^3 = -z^1(2|\tau_{31}|^2 + 2|\tau_{32}|^2 + |\tau_{41}|^2 + |\tau_{42}|^2) + (\zeta^2 - z^2)(\tau_{31}\bar{\tau}_{41} + \tau_{32}\bar{\tau}_{42}).$$

Since  $K_{\omega_t}$  is skew-symmetric with respect to  $\omega_t$ :  $K_{\omega_t}^* = K_{\omega_t}$ , we get (see e.g., [14])

$$|K_{\omega_t}|_{\omega_t}^2 = \text{tr}(K_{\omega_t} \circ K_{\omega_t}^*) = |R_{\omega_t}|_{\omega_t}^2.$$

The conclusion for the Iwasawa manifold is valid.

### 3 Proof of Theorem 1.1

Let  $X_0$  be either the Iwasawa or the Nakamura manifold and  $\{X_t\}_{t \in \Delta_\epsilon}$  be the Kuranishi family of  $X_0$ . In this section, we will perturb the natural metric  $\omega_t$  (given by (2.2)) on  $X_t$  via a contraction mapping to show the existence of a Hermitian Yang-Mills metric  $\tilde{\omega}_t$  on  $X_t$ . We refer to [5–6] and references therein for gluing constructions of Hermitian Yang-Mills metrics. We refer to [2, 13] and references therein for constructions of Hermitian Yang-Mills metrics by the implicit function theorem.

Fix  $t \in \Delta_\epsilon$  for sufficiently small  $\epsilon$  (to be determined) and a diffeomorphism  $\Psi_t : X_t \rightarrow X_0$  such that  $\Psi_0 = \text{id}$ . Let  $\omega_0$  be the natural balanced metric on  $X_0$ . For  $\epsilon \ll 1$ , the  $(1, 1)$ -part

$$\hat{\omega}_t = (\Psi_t^* \omega_0)^{1,1}$$

of the 2-form  $\Psi_t^* \omega_0$  on  $X_t$  is a Hermitian metric (see e.g., [8, 11]). We introduce the extra metric  $\hat{\omega}_t$  for the uniqueness in the contraction mapping argument (see (3.17)).

Let  $\omega_t$  be the natural Hermitian metric (given by (2.2)) on  $X_t$ . Let  $D_t$  be the Chern connection of  $\omega_t$  and  $\nabla_t$  be its covariant derivatives. Hereafter we will use  $\omega_t$ ,  $\hat{\omega}_t$ ,  $g_t$  and  $\hat{g}_t$  interchangeably to denote the two metrics.

By calculations in Proposition 2.1, we have the following Lemma.

**Lemma 3.1** *For  $\epsilon \ll 1$  and  $l = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ , there exist uniform constants  $C_l > 0$  such that*

$$|\hat{g}_t^{-1} - g_t^{-1}|_{\hat{g}_t} \leq C_0 |t|, \quad |\hat{\nabla}_{\hat{g}_t}^l (\hat{g}_t - g_t)|_{\hat{g}_t} \leq C_l |t|,$$

where  $\hat{\nabla}_{\hat{g}_t}$  is the covariant derivative of  $\hat{g}_t$ .

Denote

$$W_t = \{\eta \in \Gamma(\text{End}(T^{1,0} X_t)) : \eta^* = \eta\},$$

where the adjoint  $*$  is with respect to  $g_t$ .

Recall the definition of Hölder spaces (see e.g., [5–6, 14]). For  $\eta \in \Gamma(\text{End}(T^{1,0} X_t))$ , we define

$$\|\eta\|_{C^k(g_t, \hat{g}_t)} = \sum_{l=0}^k \sup |\nabla_t^l \eta|_{\hat{g}_t}.$$

For  $\Phi \in \mathcal{A}^{p,q}(X_t)$ , we define

$$[\Phi]_{C^{0,\alpha}(g_t)} = \sup_{x \neq y} \left( \frac{|\Phi(x) - \Phi(y)|_{\hat{g}_t}}{d(x, y)^\alpha} \right),$$

where the sup is taken over points  $x$  and  $y$  with distance less than the injectivity radius and  $\Phi(x) - \Phi(y)$  is  $\widehat{\nabla}_{\widehat{g}_t}$ -parallel transport along the minimal  $\widehat{g}_t$  geodesic connecting  $x$  and  $y$ . Then we define

$$\|\eta\|_{C^{k,\alpha}(X_t)} = \|\eta\|_{C^k(g_t, \widehat{g}_t)} + [\nabla_t^k \eta]_{C^{0,\alpha}(\widehat{g}_t)}.$$

We need one more auxiliary result.

**Lemma 3.2** *Let  $X_0$  be a compact (non-Kähler) Calabi-Yau manifold. If  $\omega$  is a Hermitian metric with  $K_\omega = \varphi I$  for some  $\varphi \in \mathcal{A}_{\mathbb{R}}^0(X_0)$  of constant sign, then  $\varphi = 0$  and  $\omega$  is Chern-Ricci flat.*

**Proof** Since  $c_1^{BC}(X_0) = 0$ , there exists  $u \in \mathcal{A}_{\mathbb{R}}^0(X_0)$  such that the Chern-Ricci curvature of  $\omega$  is

$$\rho_\omega = \sqrt{-1} \partial \bar{\partial} u,$$

which implies the scalar curvature is

$$s_\omega = \Lambda_\omega \rho_\omega = \sqrt{-1} \Lambda_\omega \partial \bar{\partial} u.$$

On the other hand, since  $s_\omega = \text{tr} K_\omega = n\varphi$  is of constant sign,  $u$  is a constant by the maximum principle (see e.g., [14, Lemma 7.2.7]).

Then we have  $\varphi = 0$  and  $\rho_\omega = 0$ .

Let  $\mathcal{G}^{\mathbb{C}} = \Gamma(\text{GL}(T^{1,0}X_t, \mathbb{C}))$  be the complex gauge group of  $T^{1,0}X_t$ . Denote

$$\mathcal{H}_t = \mathcal{G}^{\mathbb{C}} \cap W_t.$$

For  $f \in W_t$  with

$$S = f + I \in \mathcal{H}_t,$$

we define

$$D_f = D'_f + D''_f = S \circ D'_t \circ \widetilde{S} + \widetilde{S} \circ D''_t \circ S \quad (3.1)$$

and

$$\widetilde{D}_t = \widetilde{D}'_t + \widetilde{D}''_t = S \circ D_f \circ \widetilde{S}, \quad (3.2)$$

where we have denoted  $\widetilde{S} = S^{-1}$  for convenience later.

For  $u, v \in \Gamma(T^{1,0}X_t)$ , we define  $\widetilde{g}_t = (\widetilde{S}^2)^T g_t$  by

$$\widetilde{g}_t(u, v) = g_t(\widetilde{S}(u), \widetilde{S}(v)) = g_t(\widetilde{S}^2(u), v), \quad (3.3)$$

where the last identity follows from that  $\widetilde{S}$  is symmetric with respect to  $g_t$ . Then  $S$  and  $\widetilde{S}$  are also symmetric with respect to  $\widetilde{g}_t$ .

**Lemma 3.3** *The connection  $D_f$  is the Chern connection of  $(g_t, D''_f)$ . The connection  $\widetilde{D}_t$  is the Chern connection of  $(\widetilde{g}_t, D''_t)$ .*

**Proof** Since

$$D_f'' \circ D_f'' = \tilde{S} \circ D_t'' \circ D_t'' \circ S = 0,$$

to show the first statement, we only need to check

$$g_t(D_f'(u), v) + g_t(u, D_f''(v)) = \partial_t g_t(u, v).$$

By definition (3.1), we get

$$\begin{aligned} g_t(D_f'(u), v) + g_t(u, D_f''(v)) &= g_t(D_t'(\tilde{S}(u)), S(v)) + g_t(\tilde{S}(u), D_t''(S(v))) \\ &= \partial_t g_t(\tilde{S}(u), S(v)) = \partial_t g_t(u, v). \end{aligned}$$

Since

$$\tilde{D}_f'' = \tilde{S} \circ D_f'' \circ S = D_t'',$$

to show the second statement, we only need to check

$$\tilde{g}_t(\tilde{D}_t'(u), v) + \tilde{g}_t(u, \tilde{D}_t''(v)) = \partial_t \tilde{g}_t(u, v).$$

By definitions (3.2)–(3.3), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{g}_t(\tilde{D}_t'(u), v) + \tilde{g}_t(u, \tilde{D}_t''(v)) &= g_t(D_t'(\tilde{S}^2(u)), v) + g_t(\tilde{S}^2(u), D_t''(v)) \\ &= \partial_t g_t(\tilde{S}^2(u), v) = \partial_t \tilde{g}_t(u, v), \end{aligned}$$

which completes the proof.

Indeed, one can deform either a metric or a connection for the convenience of their respective problems, e.g., [2, 5–6, 13].

Denote the curvatures of  $D_t$ ,  $\tilde{D}_t$  and  $D_f$  by  $R_{\omega_t}$ ,  $R_{\tilde{\omega}_t}$  and  $F_{D_f}$ , respectively. Then we obtain from (3.1)–(3.2) that

$$R_{\tilde{\omega}_t} = S \circ F_{D_f} \circ \tilde{S},$$

which implies that

$$\sqrt{-1}\Lambda_{\tilde{\omega}_t} R_{\tilde{\omega}_t} = 0 \tag{3.4}$$

if and only if

$$\sqrt{-1}\Lambda_{\tilde{\omega}_t} F_{D_f} = 0. \tag{3.5}$$

Here we have used Lemma 3.2.

We will solve the equation (3.5) in this part. To begin with, we calculate the linearization of the mean curvature  $\sqrt{-1}\Lambda_{\tilde{\omega}_t} F_{D_f}$  at  $f = 0$ .

Let  $\left\{ \frac{\partial}{\partial \zeta^i} \right\}_{i=1}^3$  be a local holomorphic frame of  $D_t''$ . Then we can write

$$\omega_t = \sqrt{-1}g_{t,i\bar{j}} d\zeta^i \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^j$$

and

$$f = f_i^p \frac{\partial}{\partial \zeta^p} \otimes d\zeta^i \quad \text{and} \quad S = S_i^p \frac{\partial}{\partial \zeta^p} \otimes d\bar{\zeta}^i$$

for  $S_i^p = f_i^p + \delta_i^p$ .

Denote the Chern connection of  $(g_t, D_t'')$  and its curvature by

$$\Gamma_{t,ik}^p = g_t^{p\bar{j}} \frac{\partial g_{t,i\bar{j}}}{\partial \zeta^k} \quad \text{and} \quad R_{t,ik\bar{l}}^p = -\frac{\partial \Gamma_{t,ik}^p}{\partial \zeta^{\bar{l}}}.$$

Then we can express  $R_{\omega_t}$  and  $F_{D_f}$  by

$$R_{\omega_t} = R_{t,ik\bar{l}}^p d\zeta^k \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^{\bar{l}} \otimes \frac{\partial}{\partial \zeta^p} \otimes d\zeta^i$$

and

$$F_{D_f} = F_{t,ik\bar{l}}^p d\zeta^k \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^{\bar{l}} \otimes \frac{\partial}{\partial \zeta^p} \otimes d\zeta^i.$$

Thus the mean curvature is

$$\sqrt{-1} \Lambda_{\tilde{\omega}_t} F_{D_f} = \tilde{g}_t^{k\bar{l}} F_{t,ik\bar{l}}^p \frac{\partial}{\partial \zeta^p} \otimes d\zeta^i.$$

Let  $\tau \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $\{S(\tau) : S(0) = I\} \subseteq \mathcal{H}_t$ . Denote

$$\psi = \partial_\tau S(\tau)|_{\tau=0} = \psi_i^p \frac{\partial}{\partial \zeta^p} \otimes d\zeta^i \in W_t.$$

**Proposition 3.1** *The linearization of the mean curvature  $\sqrt{-1} \Lambda_{\tilde{\omega}_t} F_{D_f}$  is*

$$\partial_\tau (\tilde{g}_t^{k\bar{l}} F_{t,ik\bar{l}}^p)|_{\tau=0} = g_t^{k\bar{l}} (\nabla_{t,k} \nabla_{t,\bar{l}} + \nabla_{t,\bar{l}} \nabla_{t,k}) \psi_i^p + 2g_t^{m\bar{l}} \psi_m^k R_{t,ik\bar{l}}^p. \quad (3.6)$$

**Proof** By definition (3.3), we get

$$\tilde{\omega}_t = \sqrt{-1} \tilde{g}_{t,i\bar{j}} d\zeta^i \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^{\bar{j}},$$

where

$$\tilde{g}_{t,i\bar{j}} = g_{t,k\bar{l}} \tilde{S}_i^k \tilde{S}_j^{\bar{l}} = g_{t,k\bar{j}} \tilde{S}_m^k \tilde{S}_i^{\bar{m}}, \quad \tilde{g}_t^{i\bar{j}} = g_t^{m\bar{j}} S_m^i S_k^{\bar{i}},$$

since

$$\tilde{S} = \tilde{S}_i^p \frac{\partial}{\partial \zeta^p} \otimes d\zeta^i$$

is symmetric with respect to  $g_t$ . Then we get

$$\partial_\tau \tilde{g}_t^{k\bar{l}}|_{\tau=0} = 2g_t^{i\bar{l}} \psi_i^k. \quad (3.7)$$

While we obtain from definition (3.1) that

$$\begin{aligned} D_f' D_f'' \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \zeta^i} \right) &= D_f' \left( \tilde{S}_m^p \nabla_{t,\bar{l}} S_i^m d\bar{\zeta}^{\bar{l}} \otimes \frac{\partial}{\partial \zeta^p} \right) \\ &= (S_\lambda^p \nabla_{t,k} (\tilde{S}_r^\lambda \tilde{S}_m^r \nabla_{t,\bar{l}} S_i^m) + \tilde{S}_r^p \nabla_{t,\bar{l}} S_m^r \Gamma_{t,ik}^m) d\zeta^k \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^{\bar{l}} \otimes \frac{\partial}{\partial \zeta^p} \end{aligned}$$

and

$$D_f'' D_f' \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \zeta^i} \right) = D_f'' \left( (\Gamma_{ik}^p + S_m^p \nabla_{t,k} \tilde{S}_i^m) d\zeta^k \otimes \frac{\partial}{\partial \zeta^p} \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= (R_{t,ik\bar{l}}^p - \tilde{S}_\lambda^p \nabla_{t,\bar{l}} (S_r^\lambda S_m^r \nabla_{t,k} \tilde{S}_i^m) \\
&\quad - \tilde{S}_r^p \nabla_{t,\bar{l}} S_m^r \Gamma_{t,ik}^m) d\zeta^k \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^l \otimes \frac{\partial}{\partial \zeta^p}.
\end{aligned}$$

Since

$$F_{D_f} = D'_f D''_f + D''_f D'_f,$$

we have

$$F_{t,ik\bar{l}}^p = R_{t,ik\bar{l}}^p + S_r^p \nabla_{t,k} (\tilde{S}_m^r \tilde{S}_\lambda^m \nabla_{t,\bar{l}} S_i^\lambda) + \tilde{S}_r^p \nabla_{t,\bar{l}} (S_m^r \nabla_{t,k} S_\lambda^m \tilde{S}_i^\lambda), \quad (3.8)$$

which together with  $S(0) = I$  implies

$$\partial_\tau F_{t,ik\bar{l}}^p|_{\tau=0} = (\nabla_{t,k} \nabla_{t,\bar{l}} + \nabla_{t,\bar{l}} \nabla_{t,k}) \psi_i^p.$$

Then (3.6) follows from

$$\partial_\tau (\tilde{g}_t^{k\bar{l}} F_{t,ik\bar{l}}^p)|_{\tau=0} = \partial_\tau \tilde{g}_t^{k\bar{l}}|_{\tau=0} R_{t,ik\bar{l}}^p + g_t^{k\bar{l}} \partial_\tau F_{t,ik\bar{l}}^p|_{\tau=0}$$

and (3.7).

Fix an arbitrary point  $q \in X_t$ . For

$$\eta = \eta_i^p \frac{\partial}{\partial \zeta^p} \otimes d\zeta^i \in W_t,$$

we define

$$L_t \eta = g_t^{k\bar{l}} (\nabla_{t,k} \nabla_{t,\bar{l}} + \nabla_{t,\bar{l}} \nabla_{t,k}) \eta - \text{tr}_q(\eta) I.$$

For any  $S \in \mathcal{H}_t$ , we define a connection (see (3.1))

$$\check{D} = S \circ D'_t \circ \tilde{S} + \tilde{S} \circ D''_t \circ S \quad (3.9)$$

and a Hermitian metric (see (3.3))

$$\check{g} = (\tilde{S}^2)^T g_t.$$

Then  $\check{D}$  is the Chern connection of  $(g_t, \check{D}'')$  (see Lemma 3.3).

Let  $\check{\nabla}$  be the covariant derivative of  $\check{D}$ . For  $\eta \in W_t$ , we define

$$L_{t,S} \eta = \check{g}^{k\bar{l}} (\check{\nabla}_k \check{\nabla}_{\bar{l}} + \check{\nabla}_{\bar{l}} \check{\nabla}_k) \eta - \text{tr}_q(\eta) I.$$

Then  $L_{t,I} = L_t$ . Moreover,  $L_{t,S} \eta \in W_t$  due to Lemma 3.3.

**Lemma 3.4** *Suppose that  $S \in \mathcal{H}_t$  with  $\|S - I\|_{C^{2,\alpha}} \leq c$  for some  $c \ll 1$ . Then*

$$\|L_{t,S} - L_t\| \leq C \|S - I\|_{C^{2,\alpha}}$$

for some uniform constant  $C > 0$ .

**Proof** For  $\eta \in C^{2,\alpha}(W_t)$ , by definition (3.9), direct calculation (see e.g., [6, p. 539]) yields:

$$\begin{aligned} (L_{t,S} - L_t)\eta_i^p &= (\check{g}^{k\bar{l}} - g^{k\bar{l}})(\nabla_{t,k}\nabla_{t,\bar{l}} + \nabla_{t,\bar{l}}\nabla_{t,k})\eta_i^p \\ &\quad + \check{g}^{k\bar{l}}S_a^p(\nabla_{t,k}\tilde{S}_m^a\nabla_{t,\bar{l}}\eta_i^m + \nabla_{t,k}(\tilde{S}_m^a\tilde{S}_r^m\nabla_{t,\bar{l}}S_\lambda^r\eta_i^\lambda)) \\ &\quad + \check{g}^{k\bar{l}}\tilde{S}_a^p(\nabla_{t,\bar{l}}S_m^a\nabla_{t,k}\eta_i^m + \nabla_{t,\bar{l}}(S_m^aS_r^m\nabla_{t,k}\tilde{S}_\lambda^r\eta_i^\lambda)). \end{aligned} \quad (3.10)$$

Since

$$\check{g}^{k\bar{l}} - g^{k\bar{l}} = g_t^{m\bar{l}}(S_m^rS_r^k - \delta_m^k) = g_t^{m\bar{l}}((S_m^r - \delta_m^r)(S_r^k - \delta_r^k) + 2(S_m^k - \delta_m^k)), \quad (3.11)$$

there exists a uniform constant  $C > 0$  such that

$$\|(\check{g}^{k\bar{l}} - g^{k\bar{l}})(\nabla_{t,k}\nabla_{t,\bar{l}} + \nabla_{t,\bar{l}}\nabla_{t,k})\eta_i^p\|_{C^{0,\alpha}} \leq C\|S - I\|_{C^{2,\alpha}}\|\eta\|_{C^{2,\alpha}}.$$

For  $c \ll 1$ , there exists a uniform constant  $C' > 0$  such that

$$\|\tilde{S} - I\|_{C^{2,\alpha}} \leq C'\|S - I\|_{C^{2,\alpha}}.$$

Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\|\check{g}^{k\bar{l}}S_a^p\nabla_k\tilde{S}_m^a\nabla_{\bar{l}}\eta_i^m\|_{C^{0,\alpha}} \\ &\leq \|(\check{g}^{k\bar{l}} - g^{k\bar{l}})\nabla_{t,k}\tilde{S}_m^p\nabla_{t,\bar{l}}\eta_i^m\|_{C^{0,\alpha}} + \|g_t^{k\bar{l}}\nabla_{t,k}\tilde{S}_m^p\nabla_{t,\bar{l}}\eta_i^m\|_{C^{0,\alpha}} \\ &\quad + \|(\check{g}^{k\bar{l}} - g^{k\bar{l}})(S_a^p - \delta_a^p)\nabla_{t,k}\tilde{S}_m^a\nabla_{t,\bar{l}}\eta_i^m\|_{C^{0,\alpha}} \\ &\quad + \|g_t^{k\bar{l}}(S_r^p - \delta_r^p)\nabla_{t,k}\tilde{S}_m^r\nabla_{t,\bar{l}}\eta_i^m\|_{C^{0,\alpha}} \\ &\leq C\|S - I\|_{C^{2,\alpha}}\|\eta\|_{C^{2,\alpha}}. \end{aligned}$$

We can estimate other terms on the right hand side of (3.10) similarly. Then we obtain

$$\|(L_{t,S} - L_t)\eta\|_{C^{0,\alpha}} \leq C\|S - I\|_{C^{2,\alpha}}\|\eta\|_{C^{2,\alpha}},$$

which implies the conclusion.

**Proposition 3.2** *There exists a uniform constant  $C > 0$  and some  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  such that*

$$L_t : C^{2,\alpha}(W_t) \rightarrow C^{0,\alpha}(W_t)$$

*is invertible, and the inverse  $P_t = L_t^{-1}$  satisfies  $\|P_t\| \leq C$ .*

**Proof** For  $\eta \in C^{2,\alpha}(W_t)$ , we obtain from Lemma 3.1 and the Schauder estimate that

$$\|\eta\|_{C^{2,\alpha}} \leq C(\|\eta\|_{C^0} + \|L_t\eta\|_{C^{0,\alpha}}),$$

where  $C > 0$  is uniform in  $t$  and  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ . We will show that the term  $\|\eta\|_{C^0}$  is superfluous.

Otherwise there exist sequences  $\{t_l\}$  and  $\{\eta_l\} \subset C^{2,\alpha}(W_{t_l})$  such that for  $t_l \rightarrow 0$ ,

$$\|\eta_l\|_{C^{2,\alpha}(W_{t_l})} = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \|L_{t_l}\eta_l\|_{C^{0,\alpha}(W_{t_l})} \leq \frac{1}{l}.$$

By the definition of  $\omega_t$  and Lemma 3.1, there exists  $\eta_0 \in C^{2,\alpha}(W_0)$  such that

$$\|\eta_0\|_{C^{2,\alpha}(W_0)} = 1 \quad (3.12)$$

and

$$0 = L_0\eta_0 = g_0^{k\bar{l}}(\nabla_{0,k}\nabla_{0,\bar{l}} + \nabla_{0,\bar{l}}\nabla_{0,k})\eta_0 - \text{tr}_q(\eta_0)I, \quad (3.13)$$

where  $g_0$  is the natural balanced metric on  $X_0$  and  $\nabla_0$  is the covariant derivative of the Chern connection of  $g_0$ .

Since  $\omega_t$  is Gauduchon (see Propositions 2.2, 4.1–4.2), there exists a uniform constant  $C > 0$  such that

$$3|\text{tr}_q(\eta)| \int_{X_{t_l}} \frac{\omega_{t_l}^3}{3!} \leq \left| \int_{X_{t_l}} (L_{t_l}\eta, I)_{g_{t_l}} \frac{\omega_{t_l}^3}{3!} \right| \leq \frac{\sqrt{3}}{l} \int_{X_{t_l}} \frac{\omega_{t_l}^3}{3!} \leq \frac{C}{l},$$

which implies  $\text{tr}_q(\eta_0) = 0$ .

Since  $\omega_0$  is a balanced metric on  $X_0$  with flat Chern connection  $\nabla_0$ , the holomorphic tangent bundle  $T^{1,0}X_0$  is stable with respect to  $\omega_0$  (see e.g., [27]). By [14, Lemma 1.2.5], we have

$$\ker(g_0^{k\bar{l}}(\nabla_{0,k}\nabla_{0,\bar{l}} + \nabla_{0,\bar{l}}\nabla_{0,k})) = \mathbb{C}I. \quad (3.14)$$

Then we obtain from (3.13) that

$$\eta_0 \in H^0(X_0, \text{End}(T^{1,0}X_0)) = \mathbb{C}I.$$

Thus we get  $\eta_0 = 0$  due to  $\text{tr}_q(\eta_0) = 0$ , which contradicts (3.12).

Hence, we have

$$\|\eta\|_{C^{2,\alpha}} \leq C\|L_t\eta\|_{C^{0,\alpha}}, \quad (3.15)$$

which implies  $L_t$  is injective.

Since  $\phi_t^1$ ,  $\phi_t^2$  and  $\phi_t^3$  are global  $(1, 0)$ -forms on  $X_t$  (see Section 2.2),  $T^{1,0}X_t$  is trivial smoothly (but maybe not holomorphically). We obtain from the elliptic semicontinuity (see e.g., [28, Theorem 4.13]), Lemma 3.1 and (3.14) that

$$\ker(g_t^{k\bar{l}}(\nabla_{t,k}\nabla_{t,\bar{l}} + \nabla_{t,\bar{l}}\nabla_{t,k})) = \mathbb{C}I. \quad (3.16)$$

Denote

$$W_t^\circ = W_t \cap \left\{ \eta \in \Gamma(\text{End}(T^{1,0}X_t)), \int_{X_t} \text{tr}(\eta)\omega_t^3 = 0 \right\}.$$

Then we obtain from (3.16) and the standard theory of elliptic operator that

$$L_t(\cdot) + \text{tr}_q(\cdot)I = g_t^{k\bar{l}}(\nabla_{t,k}\nabla_{t,\bar{l}} + \nabla_{t,\bar{l}}\nabla_{t,k}) : C^{2,\alpha}(W_t^\circ) \rightarrow C^{0,\alpha}(W_t^\circ)$$

is isomorphic. For any  $\sigma \in C^{0,\alpha}(W_t)$ , we have

$$\sigma - \frac{\int_{X_t} \text{tr}(\sigma)\omega_t^3}{3 \int_{X_t} \omega_t^3} I \in C^{0,\alpha}(W_t^\circ).$$



Then there exists a unique  $\eta \in C^{2,\alpha}(W_t^\circ)$  such that

$$\widehat{L}_t \eta + \text{tr}_q(\eta)I = \sigma - \frac{\int_{X_t} \text{tr}(\sigma) \omega_t^3}{3 \int_{X_t} \omega_t^3} I.$$

Taking

$$\lambda = -\frac{\int_{X_t} \text{tr}(\sigma) \omega_t^3}{9 \int_{X_t} \omega_t^3} - \frac{1}{3} \text{tr}_q(\eta)$$

yields

$$L_t(\eta + \lambda I) = \sigma.$$

Since  $\eta + \lambda I \in C^{2,\alpha}(W_t)$ ,  $L_t$  is surjective.

Then  $L_t$  is isomorphic with a uniform bound of  $P_t = L_t^{-1}$  given by (3.15).

For  $f \in W_t$  with  $f + I \in \mathcal{H}_t$ , we define

$$Q_t(f) = \sqrt{-1} \Lambda_{\widehat{\omega}_t} F_{D_f} - \sqrt{-1} \Lambda_{\omega_t} R_{\omega_t} - g_t^{k\bar{l}} (\nabla_{t,k} \nabla_{t,\bar{l}} + \nabla_{t,\bar{l}} \nabla_{t,k}) f.$$

We consider the equation

$$L_t f = c_t I - \sqrt{-1} \Lambda_{\omega_t} R_{\omega_t} - Q_t(f), \quad (3.17)$$

where

$$c_t = \frac{\int_{X_t} \rho_{\widehat{\omega}_t} \wedge \widehat{\omega}_t^2}{\int_{X_t} \widehat{\omega}_t^3}.$$

If (3.17) admits a solution  $f$ , then  $f$  is the unique solution to (3.5) after forcing  $c_t + \text{tr}_q(f) = 0$ . However, if we replace  $\widehat{\omega}_t$  by  $\omega_t$ , then

$$\frac{\int_{X_t} \rho_{\omega_t} \wedge \omega_t^2}{\int_{X_t} \omega_t^3} = 0,$$

since  $\omega_t$  is Gauduchon (see Propositions 2.2 and 4.1–4.2) and  $X_t$  is Calabi-Yau. Thus the above trick for the uniqueness fails. It is why we have to introduce the metric  $\widehat{\omega}_t$ .

Once the equation (3.5) admits a unique solution, the Hermitian metric  $\widetilde{\omega}_t$  (given by (3.3)) satisfies (3.4), i.e.,  $\widetilde{\omega}_t$  is a Hermitian Yang-Mills metric with respect to itself.

To solve the equation (3.17), with Proposition 3.2 in hand, we define

$$\mathcal{N}_t : C^{2,\alpha}(W_t) \rightarrow C^{2,\alpha}(W_t)$$

by

$$\mathcal{N}_t(f) = P_t(c_t I - \sqrt{-1} \Lambda_{\omega_t} R_{\omega_t} - Q_t(f)).$$

We want to show that  $\mathcal{N}_t$  restricted to some subset  $\mathcal{U}_t$  is a contraction mapping.

**Lemma 3.5** *There exists a uniform constant  $C > 0$  such that*

$$\|\mathcal{N}_t(0)\|_{C^{2,\alpha}} \leq C|t|.$$

**Proof** Since  $Q_t(0) = 0$ , we have

$$\mathcal{N}_t(0) = P_t(c_t I - \sqrt{-1}\Lambda_{\omega_t} R_{\omega_t}).$$

According to Proposition 3.2, we have to estimate  $\|c_t I - \sqrt{-1}\Lambda_{\omega_t} R_{\omega_t}\|_{C^{0,\alpha}}$ .

Since  $\omega_0$  is a balanced metric on  $X_0$  with flat Chern connection  $\nabla_0$ ,

$$c_0 = \frac{\int_{X_0} \rho_{\omega_0} \wedge \omega_0^2}{\int_{X_0} \omega_0^3} = 0.$$

For  $\hat{\omega}_t = (\Psi_t^* \omega_0)^{1,1}$ , there exists a uniform constant  $C > 0$  such that  $|c_t| \leq C|t|$ .

By Proposition 2.1 and Lemma 3.1, there exists a uniform constant  $C > 0$  such that

$$\|\sqrt{-1}\Lambda_{\omega_t} R_{\omega_t}\|_{C^{0,\alpha}} \leq C|t|^2.$$

Then we have

$$\|\mathcal{N}_t(0)\|_{C^{2,\alpha}} \leq C(\|c_t I\|_{C^{0,\alpha}} + \|\sqrt{-1}\Lambda_{\omega_t} R_{\omega_t}\|_{C^{0,\alpha}}) \leq C|t|,$$

which implies the conclusion for sufficiently small  $\epsilon$ .

**Lemma 3.6** *If  $f_1, f_2 \in W_t$  satisfy*

$$\|f_1\|_{C^{2,\alpha}} \leq c, \quad \|f_2\|_{C^{2,\alpha}} \leq c$$

*for some  $c \ll 1$ , then*

$$\|\mathcal{N}_t(f_1) - \mathcal{N}_t(f_2)\|_{C^{2,\alpha}} \leq \frac{1}{2}\|f_1 - f_2\|_{C^{2,\alpha}}.$$

**Proof** Since

$$\mathcal{N}_t(f_1) - \mathcal{N}_t(f_2) = P_t(Q_t(f_2) - Q_t(f_1)),$$

by Proposition 3.2, we have to estimate  $\|Q_t(f_2) - Q_t(f_1)\|_{C^{0,\alpha}}$ .

Denote

$$S_1 = f_1 + I \in \mathcal{H}_t, \quad S_2 = f_2 + I \in \mathcal{H}_t$$

and  $\tilde{S}_1 = S_1^{-1}$  and  $\tilde{S}_2 = S_2^{-1}$ .

By the definition of  $Q_t$  and the mean value theorem, there exists a  $\lambda \in [0, 1]$  such that

$$S := \lambda S_1 + (1 - \lambda) S_2 \in \mathcal{H}_t$$

satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} Q_t(f_2) - Q_t(f_1) &= \sqrt{-1}\Lambda_{(\tilde{S}_2^2)^{\text{T}}g_t} F_{D_{f_2}} - \sqrt{-1}\Lambda_{(\tilde{S}_1^2)^{\text{T}}g_t} F_{D_{f_1}} \\ &\quad - g_t^{k\bar{l}}(\nabla_{t,k}\nabla_{t,\bar{l}} + \nabla_{t,\bar{l}}\nabla_{t,k})(f_2 - f_1) \end{aligned}$$

$$= (L_{t,S} - L_t)(f_2 - f_1) + 2\check{g}^{m\bar{l}}(f_2 - f_1)_m^k \check{F}_{ik\bar{l}}^p,$$

where

$$\check{g} = (\tilde{S}^2)^T g_t$$

and  $\check{F}_{ik\bar{l}}^p$  is the curvature of  $\check{D}$  (see (3.9)). Here we have used (3.6) for the second equality. Moreover, we have

$$\|S - I\|_{C^{2,\alpha}} \leq \lambda \|f_1\|_{C^{2,\alpha}} + (1 - \lambda) \|f_2\|_{C^{2,\alpha}} \leq c.$$

By Lemma 3.4, there exists a uniform constant  $C > 0$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} \|(L_{t,S} - L_t)(f_2 - f_1)\|_{C^{0,\alpha}} &\leq C \|S - I\|_{C^{2,\alpha}} \|f_2 - f_1\|_{C^{2,\alpha}} \\ &\leq cC \|f_2 - f_1\|_{C^{2,\alpha}}. \end{aligned}$$

While we obtain from (3.8) that

$$\begin{aligned} \check{g}^{m\bar{l}}(f_2 - f_1)_m^k \check{F}_{ik\bar{l}}^p &= (\check{g}^{m\bar{l}} - g_t^{m\bar{l}} + g_t^{m\bar{l}})(f_2 - f_1)_m^k (R_{t,ik\bar{l}}^p \\ &\quad + S_r^p \nabla_{t,k}(\tilde{S}_m^r \tilde{S}_\lambda^m \nabla_{t,\bar{l}} S_i^\lambda) + \tilde{S}_r^p \nabla_{t,\bar{l}}(S_m^r \nabla_{t,k} S_\lambda^m \tilde{S}_i^\lambda)). \end{aligned}$$

Similar to the estimations for (3.10), combining Proposition 2.1, Lemma 3.1 and (3.11) yields

$$\begin{aligned} \|\check{g}^{m\bar{l}}(f_2 - f_1)_m^k \check{F}_{ik\bar{l}}^p\|_{C^{0,\alpha}} &\leq C(\|S - I\|_{C^{2,\alpha}} + |t|^2) \|f_2 - f_1\|_{C^{2,\alpha}} \\ &\leq C(c + |t|^2) \|f_2 - f_1\|_{C^{2,\alpha}}. \end{aligned}$$

Then we get

$$\|\mathcal{N}_t(f_1) - \mathcal{N}_t(f_2)\|_{C^{2,\alpha}} \leq C(c + |t|^2) \|f_2 - f_1\|_{C^{2,\alpha}} \leq \frac{1}{2} \|f_1 - f_2\|_{C^{2,\alpha}}$$

for  $c$  and  $\epsilon$  sufficiently small.

Choose  $\epsilon > 0$  sufficiently small such that all the above propositions and lemmas hold. Choose  $\delta \in (0, 1)$  sufficiently small such that  $|t|^\delta$  is smaller than  $c$  (given by Lemma 3.6).

Denote

$$\mathcal{U}_t = \{f \in C^{2,\alpha}(W_t) : \|f\|_{C^{2,\alpha}} \leq |t|^\delta\}.$$

We may assume  $S = f + I \in \mathcal{H}_t$  for all  $f \in \mathcal{U}_t$ .

**Proposition 3.3** *The  $\mathcal{N}_t$  restricted to  $\mathcal{U}_t$  is a contraction mapping.*

**Proof** For  $f \in \mathcal{U}_t$ , by Lemmas 3.5–3.6, we have

$$\|\mathcal{N}_t(f)\|_{C^{2,\alpha}} \leq \|\mathcal{N}_t(f) - \mathcal{N}_t(0)\|_{C^{2,\alpha}} + \|\mathcal{N}_t(0)\|_{C^{2,\alpha}} \leq \frac{1}{2}|t|^\delta + C|t|.$$

Since  $\delta \in (0, 1)$ , we get  $\mathcal{N}_t \in \mathcal{U}_t$ .

By the Banach fixed point theorem, there exists  $f \in \mathcal{U}_t$  such that  $\mathcal{N}_t(f) = f$ . Moreover,  $f$  is smooth by the standard theory of elliptic equations. Then the Hermitian metric  $\tilde{\omega}_t$  (given by (3.3)) is a solution to (3.4).

For the solution to (3.17), we have the following observation.

Since  $\omega_0$  is a balanced metric on  $X_0$  with flat Chern connection  $\nabla_0$ , we obtain from (3.5)–(3.6) that for  $m \in \{1, 2, 3\}$  and  $n \in \{1, 2\}$ ,

$$0 = \partial_{t_{mn}}(\tilde{g}_t^{k\bar{l}} F_{t,ik\bar{l}}^p)|_{t=0} = g_0^{k\bar{l}}(\nabla_{0,k}\nabla_{0,\bar{l}} + \nabla_{0,\bar{l}}\nabla_{0,k})\psi_i^p,$$

where  $\psi_i^p = \partial_{t_{mn}} f_i^p|_{t=0} \in W_0$ . Then we obtain from (3.14) that

$$\psi = \lambda_{mn} I$$

for some  $\lambda_{mn} \in \mathbb{R}$ .

On the other hand, the Chern-Ricci curvature of  $\tilde{\omega}_t$  is  $\rho_{\tilde{\omega}_t} = 0$  due to Lemma 3.2. While the Chern-Ricci curvature of  $\omega_t$  is  $\rho_{\omega_t} = 0$  by Proposition 2.1. We obtain from definition (3.3) that

$$0 = \rho_{\omega_t} - \rho_{\tilde{\omega}_t} = \sqrt{-1} \bar{\partial}_t \partial_t \log \frac{\det \omega_t}{\det \tilde{\omega}_t} = \sqrt{-1} \bar{\partial}_t \partial_t \log \det(f + I)^2.$$

Then the function

$$\mu_t := \frac{1}{3} \log \det(f + I)$$

depends only on  $t$  by the maximum principle (see e.g., [14, Lemma 7.2.7]). Thus we obtain

$$\partial_{t_{mn}} \mu_t|_{t=0} = \frac{1}{3} \partial_{t_{mn}} \log \det(f + I)|_{t=0} = \lambda_{mn},$$

which implies

$$f = \sum_{m,n} (\partial_{t_{mn}} \mu_t|_{t=0} t_{mn}) I + o(|t|^2).$$

Here we have used  $f|_{t=0} = 0$  since  $\omega_0$  is already Hermitian Yang-Mills.

## 4 Appendix

Let  $X_0$  be the Nakamura manifold and  $\{X_t\}_{t \in \Delta_\epsilon}$  be the Kuranishi family of  $X_0$ . We refer to [16] for details on the construction of  $X_0$  and  $X_t$ . In this section, we will prove Proposition 2.1 for the current case.

Let  $\{z^1, z^2, z^3\}$  be holomorphic coordinates on  $X_0$ . A global basis of the space of holomorphic  $(1,0)$ -forms on  $X_0$  is

$$\{\phi_0^1 = dz^1, \phi_0^2 = e^{z^1} dz^2, \phi_0^3 = e^{-z^1} dz^3\}.$$

It is direct to check the metric

$$\omega_0 = \sqrt{-1} \sum_{l=1}^3 \phi_0^l \wedge \bar{\phi}_0^l = \sqrt{-1} (dz^1 \wedge d\bar{z}^1 + e^{z^1 + \bar{z}^1} dz^2 \wedge d\bar{z}^2 + e^{-(z^1 + \bar{z}^1)} dz^3 \wedge d\bar{z}^3)$$

on  $X_0$  is balanced with flat Chern connection  $\nabla_0$ .

As in [16, Theorem 1], we will distinguish two cases according to  $h^{0,1}(X_0)$ , and prove Proposition 2.1 for each case.

### 4.1 Type III-(3a)

The integrable vector  $(0, 1)$ -form  $\varphi \in \mathcal{A}^{0,1}(T^{1,0}X_0)$  is (see [16, p. 99])

$$\varphi = \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial z^1}, \frac{\partial}{\partial z^2}, \frac{\partial}{\partial z^3} \right) \begin{pmatrix} t_1 & 0 & 0 \\ t_2 e^{-z^1} & 0 & 0 \\ t_3 e^{z^1} & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} d\bar{z}^1 \\ d\bar{z}^2 \\ d\bar{z}^3 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (4.1)$$

For the two subcases in [16, p. 99], here we only consider the case 1:  $t_1 \neq 0$ . While the following calculations for the case 2:  $t_1 = 0$  are similar.

The holomorphic coordinates  $\{\zeta^1, \zeta^2, \zeta^3\}$  on  $X_t$  are given by (see [16, p. 99])

$$\zeta^1 = z^1 + t_1 \bar{z}^1, \quad \zeta^2 = z^2 - \mu e^{-z^1}, \quad \zeta^3 = z^3 + \lambda e^{z^1},$$

where

$$\lambda = (e^{t_1 \bar{z}^1} - 1) \frac{t_3}{t_1} \quad \text{and} \quad \mu = (e^{-t_1 \bar{z}^1} - 1) \frac{t_2}{t_1}.$$

Then we obtain from (2.1) that

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{A}_{t,1}^1 & \cdots & \mathcal{A}_{t,3}^1 \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ \mathcal{A}_{t,1}^3 & \cdots & \mathcal{A}_{t,3}^3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -\mu e^{-z^1} & 1 & 0 \\ -\lambda e^{z^1} & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (4.2)$$

The three  $(1, 0)$ -forms

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_t^1 &= e^{i\varphi}(\phi_0^1) = d\zeta^1, & \phi_t^2 &= e^{i\varphi}(\phi_0^2) = e^{z^1} d\zeta^2 - \mu d\zeta^1, \\ \phi_t^3 &= e^{i\varphi}(\phi_0^3) = e^{-z^1} d\zeta^3 - \lambda d\zeta^1 \end{aligned}$$

form a basis of the space of smooth  $(1, 0)$ -forms on  $X_t$ . Since

$$\phi_t^1 \wedge \phi_t^2 \wedge \phi_t^3 = d\zeta^1 \wedge d\zeta^2 \wedge d\zeta^3,$$

the canonical bundle  $K_{X_t}$  of  $X_t$  is holomorphically trivial.

For  $\epsilon \ll 1$ , there is a natural Hermitian metric on  $X_t$ :

$$\omega_t = e^{i\varphi|_{i\bar{\varphi}}}(\omega_0) = \sqrt{-1} g_{t,i\bar{j}} d\zeta^i \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^j,$$

where

$$\begin{pmatrix} g_{t,1\bar{1}} & \cdots & g_{t,1\bar{3}} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ g_{t,3\bar{1}} & \cdots & g_{t,3\bar{3}} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 + |\lambda|^2 + |\mu|^2 & -\mu e^{\bar{z}^1} & -\lambda e^{-\bar{z}^1} \\ -\bar{\mu} e^{z^1} & e^{z^1 + \bar{z}^1} & 0 \\ -\bar{\lambda} e^{-z^1} & 0 & e^{-(z^1 + \bar{z}^1)} \end{pmatrix}. \quad (4.3)$$

It is direct to check

$$\omega_t = \sqrt{-1} \sum_{l=1}^3 \phi_t^l \wedge \bar{\phi}_t^l.$$

**Proposition 4.1** *Let  $X_0$  be the Nakamura manifold for this case and  $\{X_t\}_{t \in \Delta_\epsilon}$  be the Kuranishi family of  $X_0$ . The natural metric  $\omega_t$  on  $X_t$  is Gauduchon and Chern-Ricci flat. Moreover, it is balanced if and only if  $t_2 = t_3 = 0$ .*

**Proof** We obtain from (4.3) that  $\det \omega_t = 1$ , which implies that  $\omega_t$  is Chern-Ricci flat. While we obtain from (4.1) that

$$(I - \varphi \bar{\varphi})^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{1 - |t_1|^2} & 0 & 0 \\ * & 1 & 0 \\ * & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (4.4)$$

where elements denoted by  $*$  are irrelevant for us.

By [20, Lemma 2.4], we obtain from (4.2) and (4.4) that

$$\left( \frac{\partial z}{\partial \zeta} \right) = (I - \varphi \bar{\varphi})^{-1} \mathcal{A}_t = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{1 - |t_1|^2} & 0 & 0 \\ * & 1 & 0 \\ * & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Similarly, we obtain from (4.1)–(4.2) and (4.4) that

$$-\left( \frac{\partial \bar{z}}{\partial \bar{\zeta}} \right) = \bar{\varphi} (I - \varphi \bar{\varphi})^{-1} \mathcal{A}_t = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\bar{t}_1}{1 - |t_1|^2} & 0 & 0 \\ * & 0 & 0 \\ * & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then we get

$$\frac{\partial z^1}{\partial \zeta^1} = \frac{1}{1 - |t_1|^2} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial z^1}{\partial \bar{\zeta}^1} = -\frac{t_1}{1 - |t_1|^2}. \quad (4.5)$$

By (4.5), we calculate

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\partial}_t \omega_t^2 &= 2\sqrt{-1}^2 (-\bar{\partial}_t (\mu e^{-z^1}) \wedge d\zeta^1 \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^2 \wedge d\zeta^3 \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^3 \\ &\quad - \bar{\partial}_t (\lambda e^{z^1}) \wedge d\zeta^1 \wedge d\zeta^2 \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^2 \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^3) \\ &= \frac{2\sqrt{-1}^2}{1 - |t_1|^2} (-t_2 e^{-z^1} d\zeta^1 \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^1 \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^2 \wedge d\zeta^3 \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^3 \\ &\quad + t_3 e^{z^1} d\zeta^1 \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^1 \wedge d\zeta^2 \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^2 \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^3), \end{aligned}$$

which implies

$$\partial_t \bar{\partial}_t \omega_t^2 = 0,$$

i.e.,  $\omega_t$  is Gauduchon. While  $\omega_t$  is balanced if and only if  $t_2 = t_3 = 0$ .

**Proof of Proposition 2.1** Let  $X_0$  be the Nakamura manifold for this case and  $\{X_t\}_{t \in \Delta_\epsilon}$  be the Kuranishi family of  $X_0$ .

By (4.3) and (4.5), we get

$$\begin{pmatrix} g_t^{1\bar{1}} & \cdots & g_t^{3\bar{1}} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ g_t^{1\bar{3}} & \cdots & g_t^{3\bar{3}} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \mu e^{-z^1} & \lambda e^{z^1} \\ \bar{\mu} e^{-\bar{z}^1} & (1 + |\mu|^2) e^{-(z^1 + \bar{z}^1)} & \lambda \bar{\mu} e^{z^1 - \bar{z}^1} \\ \bar{\lambda} e^{\bar{z}^1} & \mu \bar{\lambda} e^{\bar{z}^1 - z^1} & (1 + |\lambda|^2) e^{z^1 + \bar{z}^1} \end{pmatrix} \quad (4.6)$$

and

$$\partial_t g_t g_t^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} -\mu\bar{t}_2 + \lambda\bar{t}_3 & \left(-q\mu + \frac{t_2\bar{t}_1}{\eta}\right)e^{-z^1} & (p\lambda + \eta t_3\bar{t}_1)e^{z^1} \\ \bar{t}_2 e^{z^1} & \mu\bar{t}_2 - \bar{t}_1 + 1 & \lambda\bar{t}_2 e^{2z^1} \\ -\bar{t}_3 e^{-z^1} & -\mu\bar{t}_3 e^{-2z^1} & -\lambda\bar{t}_3 + \bar{t}_1 - 1 \end{pmatrix} \frac{d\zeta^1}{1 - |t_1|^2},$$

where

$$\eta = e^{t_1\bar{z}^1}, \quad p = \lambda\bar{t}_3 - \mu\bar{t}_2 - \bar{t}_1, \quad q = \mu\bar{t}_2 - \lambda\bar{t}_3 - \bar{t}_1.$$

Since  $R_{\omega_t}^T = \bar{\partial}_t(\partial_t g_t g_t^{-1})$ , we obtain from (4.5) that

$$R_{\omega_t}^T = \begin{pmatrix} \nu & (t_2 q + \nu\mu)e^{-z^1} & (t_3 p + \nu\lambda)e^{z^1} \\ -t_1\bar{t}_2 e^{z^1} & -\frac{|t_2|^2}{\eta} & t_3\bar{t}_2(2 - \eta)e^{2z^1} \\ -t_1\bar{t}_3 e^{-z^1} & t_2\bar{t}_3\left(2 - \frac{1}{\eta}\right)e^{-2z^1} & -|t_3|^2\eta \end{pmatrix} \frac{d\bar{\zeta}^1 \wedge d\zeta^1}{(1 - |t_1|^2)^2},$$

where

$$\nu = \frac{|t_2|^2}{\eta} + |t_3|^2\eta.$$

By (4.6), the mean curvature  $K_{\omega_t} = \sqrt{-1}\Lambda_{\omega_t}R_{\omega_t}$  is

$$K_{\omega_t}^T = \begin{pmatrix} \nu & (t_2 q + \nu\mu)e^{-z^1} & (t_3 p + \nu\lambda)e^{z^1} \\ -t_1\bar{t}_2 e^{z^1} & -\frac{|t_2|^2}{\eta} & t_3\bar{t}_2(2 - \eta)e^{2z^1} \\ -t_1\bar{t}_3 e^{-z^1} & t_2\bar{t}_3\left(2 - \frac{1}{\eta}\right)e^{-2z^1} & -|t_3|^2\eta \end{pmatrix} \frac{-1}{(1 - |t_1|^2)^2}.$$

Since  $K_{\omega_t}^* = K_{\omega_t}$ , direct calculation yields

$$|K_{\omega_t}|_{\omega_t}^2 = \text{tr}(K_{\omega_t} \circ K_{\omega_t}^*) = \frac{2(|t_2|^2 + |t_3|^2)(|t_1|^2 + |t_2|^2 + |t_3|^2)}{(1 - |t_1|^2)^4}.$$

Since  $R_{\omega_t}$  is skew-symmetric with respect to  $\omega_t$ :  $R_{\omega_t}^* = -R_{\omega_t}$ , we get

$$|R_{\omega_t}|_{\omega_t}^2 = -\frac{\text{tr}(R_{\omega_t} \wedge *_t R_{\omega_t})}{\frac{\omega_t^3}{3!}} = |K_{\omega_t}|_{\omega_t}^2.$$

The conclusion for this case is valid.

## 4.2 Type III-(3b)

The integrable vector  $(0, 1)$ -form  $\varphi \in \mathcal{A}^{0,1}(T^{1,0}X_0)$  is (see [16, p. 97])

$$\varphi = \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial z^1}, \frac{\partial}{\partial z^2}, \frac{\partial}{\partial z^3} \right) \begin{pmatrix} t_{11} & t_{12}e^{z^1} & t_{13}e^{-z^1} \\ t_{21}e^{-z^1} & t_{22} & t_{23}e^{-2z^1} \\ t_{31}e^{z^1} & t_{32}e^{2z^1} & t_{33} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} d\bar{z}^1 \\ d\bar{z}^2 \\ d\bar{z}^3 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (4.7)$$

For the four subcases in [16, p. 98], here we only consider the case 1:

$$t_{11} \neq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad t_{12} = t_{13} = t_{23} = t_{32} = 0.$$

The calculations for cases 2 to 4 are similar and are omitted.

The holomorphic coordinates  $\{\zeta^1, \zeta^2, \zeta^3\}$  on  $X_t$  are given by (see [16, p. 98])

$$\zeta^1 = z^1 + t_{11}\bar{z}^1, \quad \zeta^2 = z^2 + t_{22}\bar{z}^2 + \lambda e^{-z^1}, \quad \zeta^3 = z^3 + t_{33}\bar{z}^3 - \mu e^{z^1},$$

where

$$\lambda = (1 - e^{-t_{11}\bar{z}^1}) \frac{t_{21}}{t_{11}} \quad \text{and} \quad \mu = (1 - e^{t_{11}\bar{z}^1}) \frac{t_{31}}{t_{11}}.$$

Then we obtain from (2.1) that

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{A}_{t,1}^1 & \cdots & \mathcal{A}_{t,3}^1 \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ \mathcal{A}_{t,1}^3 & \cdots & \mathcal{A}_{t,3}^3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \lambda e^{-z^1} & 1 & 0 \\ \mu e^{z^1} & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (4.8)$$

The three  $(1, 0)$ -forms

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_t^1 &= e^{i\varphi}(\phi_0^1) = d\zeta^1, \quad \phi_t^2 = e^{i\varphi}(\phi_0^2) = e^{z^1} d\zeta^2 + \lambda d\zeta^1, \\ \phi_t^3 &= e^{i\varphi}(\phi_0^3) = e^{-z^1} d\zeta^3 + \mu d\zeta^1 \end{aligned}$$

form a basis of the space of smooth  $(1, 0)$ -forms on  $X_t$ . Since

$$\phi_t^1 \wedge \phi_t^2 \wedge \phi_t^3 = d\zeta^1 \wedge d\zeta^2 \wedge d\zeta^3,$$

the canonical bundle  $K_{X_t}$  of  $X_t$  is holomorphically trivial.

For  $\epsilon \ll 1$ , there is a natural Hermitian metric on  $X_t$ :

$$\omega_t = e^{i\varphi|i\bar{\varphi}}(\omega_0) = \sqrt{-1} g_{t,i\bar{j}} d\zeta^i \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^j,$$

where

$$\begin{pmatrix} g_{t,1\bar{1}} & \cdots & g_{t,1\bar{3}} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ g_{t,3\bar{1}} & \cdots & g_{t,3\bar{3}} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 + |\lambda|^2 + |\mu|^2 & \lambda e^{\bar{z}^1} & \mu e^{-\bar{z}^1} \\ \bar{\lambda} e^{z^1} & e^{z^1 + \bar{z}^1} & 0 \\ \bar{\mu} e^{-z^1} & 0 & e^{-(z^1 + \bar{z}^1)} \end{pmatrix}. \quad (4.9)$$

It is direct to check

$$\omega_t = \sqrt{-1} \sum_{l=1}^3 \phi_t^l \wedge \bar{\phi}_t^l.$$

**Proposition 4.2** *Let  $X_0$  be the Nakamura manifold for this case and  $\{X_t\}_{t \in \Delta_\epsilon}$  be the Kuranishi family of  $X_0$ . The natural metric  $\omega_t$  on  $X_t$  is Gauduchon and Chern-Ricci flat. Moreover, it is balanced if and only if  $t_{21} = t_{31} = 0$ .*



**Proof** We obtain from (4.9) that  $\det \omega_t = 1$ , which implies that  $\omega_t$  is Chern-Ricci flat. While we obtain from (4.1) that

$$(I - \varphi\bar{\varphi})^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{1 - |t_{11}|^2} & 0 & 0 \\ * & \frac{1}{1 - |t_{22}|^2} & 0 \\ * & 0 & \frac{1}{1 - |t_{33}|^2} \end{pmatrix}. \quad (4.10)$$

By [20, Lemma 2.4], we obtain from (4.8) and (4.10) that

$$\left(\frac{\partial z}{\partial \zeta}\right) = (I - \varphi\bar{\varphi})^{-1} \mathcal{A}_t = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{1 - |t_{11}|^2} & 0 & 0 \\ * & \frac{1}{1 - |t_{22}|^2} & 0 \\ * & 0 & \frac{1}{1 - |t_{33}|^2} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Similarly, we obtain from (4.7)–(4.8) and (4.10) that

$$-\left(\frac{\partial \bar{z}}{\partial \bar{\zeta}}\right) = \bar{\varphi}(I - \varphi\bar{\varphi})^{-1} \mathcal{A}_t = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\bar{t}_{11}}{1 - |t_{11}|^2} & 0 & 0 \\ * & \frac{\bar{t}_{22}}{1 - |t_{22}|^2} & 0 \\ * & 0 & \frac{\bar{t}_{33}}{1 - |t_{33}|^2} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then we get

$$\frac{\partial z^1}{\partial \zeta^1} = \frac{1}{1 - |t_{11}|^2} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial z^1}{\partial \bar{\zeta}^1} = -\frac{t_{11}}{1 - |t_{11}|^2}. \quad (4.11)$$

By (4.11), we calculate

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\partial}_t \omega_t^2 &= 2\sqrt{-1}^2 (\bar{\partial}_t(\mu e^{z^1}) \wedge d\zeta^1 \wedge d\zeta^2 \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^2 \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^3 \\ &\quad + \bar{\partial}_t(\lambda e^{-z^1}) \wedge d\zeta^1 \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^2 \wedge d\zeta^3 \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^3) \\ &= \frac{2\sqrt{-1}^2}{1 - |t_{11}|^2} (t_{31} e^{z^1} d\zeta^1 \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^1 \wedge d\zeta^2 \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^2 \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^3 \\ &\quad - t_{21} e^{-z^1} d\zeta^1 \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^1 \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^2 \wedge d\zeta^3 \wedge d\bar{\zeta}^3), \end{aligned}$$

which implies

$$\partial_t \bar{\partial}_t \omega_t^2 = 0,$$

i.e.,  $\omega_t$  is Gauduchon. While  $\omega_t$  is balanced if and only if  $t_{21} = t_{31} = 0$ .

**Proof of Proposition 2.1** Let  $X_0$  be the Nakamura manifold for this case and  $\{X_t\}_{t \in \Delta_\epsilon}$  be the Kuranishi family of  $X_0$ .

By (4.9) and (4.11), we get

$$\begin{pmatrix} g_t^{1\bar{1}} & \cdots & g_t^{3\bar{1}} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ g_t^{1\bar{3}} & \cdots & g_t^{3\bar{3}} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -\lambda e^{-z^1} & -\mu e^{z^1} \\ -\bar{\lambda} e^{-\bar{z}^1} & (1 + |\lambda|^2) e^{-(z^1 + \bar{z}^1)} & \mu \bar{\lambda} e^{z^1 - \bar{z}^1} \\ -\bar{\mu} e^{-\bar{z}^1} & \lambda \bar{\mu} e^{\bar{z}^1 - z^1} & (1 + |\mu|^2) e^{z^1 + \bar{z}^1} \end{pmatrix} \quad (4.12)$$

and

$$\partial_t g_t g_t^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} -\eta & (\lambda \eta - \alpha \bar{t}_{11}) e^{-z^1} & (\mu \eta + \beta \bar{t}_{11}) e^{z^1} \\ \bar{t}_{21} e^{z^1} & 1 - \bar{t}_{11} - \lambda \bar{t}_{21} & -\mu \bar{t}_{21} e^{2z^1} \\ -\bar{t}_{31} e^{-z^1} & \lambda \bar{t}_{31} e^{-2z^1} & -(1 - \bar{t}_{11} - \mu \bar{t}_{31}) \end{pmatrix} \frac{d\zeta^1}{1 - |t_{11}|^2},$$

where

$$\eta = -\lambda \bar{t}_{21} + \mu \bar{t}_{31}, \quad \alpha = t_{21} + (1 - t_{11})\lambda, \quad \beta = t_{31} + (1 - t_{11})\mu.$$

Since  $R_{\omega_t}^T = \bar{\partial}_t(\partial_t g_t g_t^{-1})$ , we obtain from (4.11) that

$$\begin{aligned} & R_{\omega_t}^T \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} \nu & (t_{21}\eta - \lambda\nu - t_{21}\bar{t}_{11})e^{-z^1} & -(t_{31}\eta + \mu\nu + t_{31}\bar{t}_{11})e^{z^1} \\ -t_{11}\bar{t}_{21}e^{z^1} & -|t_{21}|^2 e^{-t_{11}\bar{z}^1} & (t_{31} + t_{11}\mu)\bar{t}_{21}e^{2z^1} \\ -t_{11}\bar{t}_{31}e^{-z^1} & (t_{21} + t_{11}\lambda)\bar{t}_{31}e^{-2z^1} & -|t_{31}|^2 e^{t_{11}\bar{z}^1} \end{pmatrix} \frac{d\bar{\zeta}^1 \wedge d\zeta^1}{(1 - |t_{11}|^2)^2}, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\nu = |t_{21}|^2 e^{-t_{11}\bar{z}^1} + |t_{31}|^2 e^{t_{11}\bar{z}^1}.$$

By (4.12), the mean curvature  $K_{\omega_t} = \sqrt{-1}\Lambda_{\omega_t} R_{\omega_t}$  is

$$\begin{aligned} & K_{\omega_t}^T \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} \nu & (t_{21}\eta - \lambda\nu - t_{21}\bar{t}_{11})e^{-z^1} & -(t_{31}\eta + \mu\nu + t_{31}\bar{t}_{11})e^{z^1} \\ -t_{11}\bar{t}_{21}e^{z^1} & -|t_{21}|^2 e^{-t_{11}\bar{z}^1} & (t_{31} + t_{11}\mu)\bar{t}_{21}e^{2z^1} \\ -t_{11}\bar{t}_{31}e^{-z^1} & (t_{21} + t_{11}\lambda)\bar{t}_{31}e^{-2z^1} & -|t_{31}|^2 e^{t_{11}\bar{z}^1} \end{pmatrix} \frac{-1}{(1 - |t_{11}|^2)^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $K_{\omega_t}^* = K_{\omega_t}$ , direct calculation yields

$$|K_{\omega_t}|_{\omega_t}^2 = \text{tr}(K_{\omega_t} \circ K_{\omega_t}^*) = \frac{2(|t_{21}|^2 + |t_{31}|^2)(|t_{11}|^2 + |t_{21}|^2 + |t_{31}|^2)}{(1 - |t_{11}|^2)^4}.$$

Since  $R_{\omega_t}$  is skew-symmetric with respect to  $\omega_t$ :  $R_{\omega_t}^* = -R_{\omega_t}$ , we get

$$|R_{\omega_t}|_{\omega_t}^2 = -\frac{\text{tr}(R_{\omega_t} \wedge *_t R_{\omega_t})}{\frac{\omega_t^3}{3!}} = |K_{\omega_t}|_{\omega_t}^2.$$

The conclusion for this case is valid.

## Declarations

**Conflicts of interest** Jixiang Fu is an editorial board member for Chinese Annals of Mathematics Series B and was not involved in the editorial review or the decision to publish this article. The authors declare no conflicts of interest.

## References

- [1] Alessandrini, L. and Bassanelli, G., Small deformations of a class of compact non-Kähler manifolds, *Proc. Amer. Math. Soc.*, **109**, 1990, 1059–1062.
- [2] Andreas, B. and Garcia-Fernandez, M., Solutions of the Strominger system via stable bundles on Calabi-Yau threefolds, *Comm. Math. Phys.*, **315**, 2012, 153–168.
- [3] Angella, D., Calamai, S. and Spotti, C., Remarks on ChernEinstein Hermitian metrics, *Math. Z.*, **295**, 2020, 1707–1722.
- [4] Angella, D. and Ugarte, L., On small deformations of balanced manifolds, *Differential Geom. Appl.*, **54**, 2017, 464–474.
- [5] Collins, T., Picard, S. and Yau, S.-T., Stability of the tangent bundle through conifold transitions, *Comm. Pure Appl. Math.*, **77**, 2024, 284–371.
- [6] Dervan, R. and Sektnan, L., Hermitian Yang-Mills connections on blow-ups, *J. Geom. Anal.*, **31**, 2021, 516–542.
- [7] Fu, J. X., On non-Kähler Calabi-Yau threefolds with balanced metrics, Proceedings of the International Congress of Mathematicians, Volume II, Hindustan Book Agency, New Delhi, 2010, 705–716.
- [8] Fu, J. X., Li, J. and Yau, S.-T., Balanced metrics on non-Kähler Calabi-Yau threefolds, *J. Differential Geom.*, **90**, 2012, 81–129.
- [9] Fu, J. X., Wang, Z. Z. and Wu, D. M., Form-type Calabi-Yau equation, *Math. Res. Lett.*, **17**, 2010, 887–903.
- [10] Fu, J. X. and Yau, S.-T., The theory of superstring with flux on non-Kähler manifolds and the complex Monge-Ampère equation, *J. Differential Geom.*, **78**, 2008, 369–428.
- [11] Fu, J. X. and Yau, S.-T., A note on small deformations of balanced manifolds, *C. R. Math. Acad. Sci. Paris*, **349**, 2011, 793–796.
- [12] Kobayashi, S., Differential Geometry of Complex Vector Bundles, Princeton University Press, Princeton, NJ, 1987.
- [13] Li, J. and Yau, S.-T., The existence of supersymmetric string theory with torsion, *J. Differential Geom.*, **70**, 2005, 143–181.
- [14] Lübke, M. and Teleman, A., The Kobayashi-Hitchin Correspondence, World Scientific Publishing Co., Inc., River Edge, NJ, 1995.
- [15] Morrow, J. and Kodaira, K., Complex Manifolds, AMS Chelsea Publishing, Providence, RI, 2006.
- [16] Nakamura, I., Complex parallelisable manifolds and their small deformations, *J. Differential Geometry*, **10**, 1975, 85–112.
- [17] Phong, D. H., Picard, S. and Zhang, X. W., Anomaly flows, *Comm. Anal. Geom.*, **26**, 2018, 955–1008.
- [18] Popovici, D., Holomorphic deformations of balanced Calabi-Yau  $\partial\bar{\partial}$ -manifolds, *Ann. Inst. Fourier Grenoble*, **69**, 2019, 673–728.
- [19] Rao, S., Wan, X. Y. and Zhao, Q. T., Power series proofs for local stabilities of Kähler and balanced structures with mild  $\partial\bar{\partial}$ -lemma, *Nagoya Math. J.*, **246**, 2022, 305–354.
- [20] Rao, S. and Zhao, Q. T., Several special complex structures and their deformation properties, *J. Geom. Anal.*, **28**, 2018, 2984–3047.
- [21] Streets, J. and Tian, G., A parabolic flow of pluriclosed metrics, *Int. Math. Res. Not.*, **2010**(16), 2010, 3101–3133.
- [22] Székelyhidi, G., Tosatti, V. and Weinkove, B., Gauduchon metrics with prescribed volume form, *Acta Math.*, **219**, 2017, 181–211.
- [23] Tian, G., Smoothness of the universal deformation space of compact Calabi-Yau manifolds and its Petersson-Weil metric, *Adv. Ser. Math. Phys.*, **1**, 1987, 629–646.
- [24] Todorov, A., The Weil-Petersson geometry of the moduli space of  $SU(n \geq 3)$  (Calabi-Yau) manifolds I, *Comm. Math. Phys.*, **126**, 1989, 325–346.
- [25] Tosatti, V., Non-Kähler Calabi-Yau manifolds, *Contemp. Math.*, **644**, 2015, 261–277.
- [26] Tosatti, V. and Weinkove, B., On the evolution of a Hermitian metric by its Chern-Ricci form, *J. Differential Geom.*, **99**, 2015, 125–163.
- [27] Uhlenbeck, K. and Yau, S.-T., On the existence of Hermitian-Yang-Mills connections in stable vector bundles, *Comm. Pure Appl. Math.*, **39**, 1986, 257–293.

- [28] Wills, R. O., Differential Analysis on Complex Manifolds, Third edition, Graduate Texts in Mathematics 65, Springer-Verlag, New York, 2008.
- [29] Wu, C. C., On the geometry of superstrings with torsion, Ph.D. thesis, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, 2006.
- [30] Yau, S.-T., On the Ricci curvature of a compact Kähler manifold and the complex Monge-Ampère equation, I, *Comm. Pure Appl. Math.*, **31**, 1978, 339–411.