

## MOSTOW–SIU METRIC

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Let  $u, v$  be two real vectors in the complexified tangent space of a compact Kähler manifold  $M$ . We will compute the sectional curvature of the plane spanned by  $u$  and  $v$ . We may write  $u = 2\operatorname{Re}(\xi)$ , and  $v = 2\operatorname{Re}(\eta)$ , where  $\xi = \xi^\alpha \partial_{z^\alpha}$ , and  $\eta = \eta^\alpha \partial_{z^\alpha}$ . The sectional curvature of the plane spanned by  $u$  and  $v$  is

$$\frac{1}{\|u \wedge v\|^2} \sum_{i,j,k,\ell} R_{ijkl} u^i v^j u^k v^\ell.$$

We write  $\xi^{\bar{\alpha}} := \overline{\xi^\alpha}$ , and  $\eta^{\bar{\alpha}} = \overline{\eta^\alpha}$ . Then, since the only non-zero components of the curvature tensor are  $R_{\alpha\bar{\beta}\gamma\bar{\delta}}$ ,  $R_{\bar{\alpha}\beta,\bar{\gamma}\delta}$ ,  $R_{\alpha\bar{\beta}\gamma\delta}$  and  $R_{\bar{\alpha}\beta\gamma\bar{\delta}}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i,j,k,\ell} R_{ijkl} u^i v^j u^k v^\ell &= \sum_{\alpha,\beta,\gamma,\delta} \left( R_{\alpha\bar{\beta}\gamma\bar{\delta}} \xi^\alpha \eta^{\bar{\beta}} \xi^\gamma \eta^{\bar{\delta}} + R_{\alpha\bar{\beta}\gamma\delta} \xi^\alpha \eta^{\bar{\beta}} \xi^{\bar{\gamma}} \eta^\delta + R_{\bar{\alpha}\beta\gamma\bar{\delta}} \xi^{\bar{\alpha}} \eta^\beta \xi^\gamma \eta^{\bar{\delta}} + R_{\bar{\alpha}\beta\gamma\delta} \xi^{\bar{\alpha}} \eta^\beta \xi^{\bar{\gamma}} \eta^\delta \right) \\ &= \sum_{\alpha,\beta,\gamma,\delta} R_{\alpha\bar{\beta}\gamma\bar{\delta}} \left( \xi^\alpha \eta^{\bar{\beta}} - \eta^\alpha \xi^{\bar{\beta}} \right) \left( \eta^{\bar{\gamma}} \xi^\delta - \xi^{\bar{\gamma}} \eta^\delta \right) \\ &= - \sum_{\alpha,\beta,\gamma,\delta} R_{\alpha\bar{\beta}\gamma\bar{\delta}} \left( \xi^\alpha \eta^{\bar{\beta}} - \eta^\alpha \xi^{\bar{\beta}} \right) \overline{(\eta^{\bar{\gamma}} \xi^\delta - \xi^{\bar{\gamma}} \eta^\delta)}. \end{aligned}$$

**Definition.** A Kähler metric with curvature  $R$  is said to have negative sectional curvature if

$$\sum_{\alpha,\beta,\gamma,\delta} R_{\alpha\bar{\beta}\gamma\bar{\delta}} \left( \xi^\alpha \eta^{\bar{\beta}} - \eta^\alpha \xi^{\bar{\beta}} \right) \overline{(\eta^{\bar{\gamma}} \xi^\delta - \xi^{\bar{\gamma}} \eta^\delta)} > 0,$$

for all  $\xi, \eta$  with  $\operatorname{Re}(\xi) \wedge \operatorname{Re}(\eta) \neq 0$ .

**Sectional curvature of Kähler surfaces.** In the case of complex dimension  $n = 2$ , the sectional curvature affords the following description:

$$\begin{aligned} &\sum_{\alpha,\beta,\gamma,\delta} R_{\alpha\bar{\beta}\gamma\bar{\delta}} \left( \xi^\alpha \eta^{\bar{\beta}} - \eta^\alpha \xi^{\bar{\beta}} \right) \overline{(\eta^{\bar{\gamma}} \xi^\delta - \xi^{\bar{\gamma}} \eta^\delta)} \\ &= R_{1\bar{1}1\bar{1}} |\xi^1 \eta^{\bar{1}} - \eta^1 \xi^{\bar{1}}|^2 + 4\operatorname{Re} \left( R_{1\bar{1}1\bar{2}} (\xi^1 \eta^{\bar{1}} - \eta^1 \xi^{\bar{1}}) \overline{(\xi^2 \eta^{\bar{1}} - \eta^2 \xi^{\bar{1}})} \right) + R_{2\bar{2}2\bar{2}} |\xi^2 \eta^{\bar{2}} - \eta^2 \xi^{\bar{2}}|^2 \\ &\quad + 2R_{1\bar{1}2\bar{2}} \left( |\xi^1 \eta^{\bar{2}} - \eta^1 \xi^{\bar{2}}|^2 + \operatorname{Re}(\xi^1 \eta^{\bar{1}} - \eta^1 \xi^{\bar{1}}) \overline{(\xi^2 \eta^{\bar{2}} - \eta^2 \xi^{\bar{2}})} \right) \\ &\quad + 2\operatorname{Re} \left( R_{1\bar{2}1\bar{2}} \left( \xi^1 \eta^{\bar{2}} - \eta^1 \xi^{\bar{2}} \right) \overline{(\xi^2 \eta^{\bar{1}} - \eta^2 \xi^{\bar{1}})} \right) + 4\operatorname{Re} \left( R_{2\bar{2}1\bar{2}} \left( \xi^2 \eta^{\bar{2}} - \eta^2 \xi^{\bar{2}} \right) \overline{(\xi^2 \eta^{\bar{1}} - \eta^2 \xi^{\bar{1}})} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Moreover,

$$\|u \wedge v\|^2 = g_{1\bar{1}}^2 |\xi^1 \eta^{\bar{1}} - \eta^1 \xi^{\bar{1}}|^2 + 2g_{1\bar{1}}g_{2\bar{2}} \left( |\xi^1 \eta^{\bar{2}} - \eta^1 \xi^{\bar{2}}|^2 + |\xi^1 \eta^{\bar{2}} - \eta^1 \xi^{\bar{2}}|^2 \right) + g_{2\bar{2}}^2 |\xi^2 \eta^{\bar{2}} - \eta^2 \xi^{\bar{2}}|^2.$$

**Lemma.** Suppose  $g_{\alpha\bar{\beta}}$  is a Kähler metric in a neighbourhood of the origin in  $\mathbb{C}^2$  with  $g_{1\bar{2}}(0) = 0$ . Suppose that all components of  $R_{\alpha\bar{\beta}\gamma\bar{\delta}}$  are zero, except  $R_{1\bar{1}1\bar{1}}$ ,  $R_{1\bar{1}2\bar{2}}$ , and  $R_{2\bar{2}2\bar{2}}$ . Then the sectional curvatures at the origin are negative if and only if  $R_{1\bar{1}1\bar{1}} > 0$ ,  $R_{1\bar{1}2\bar{2}} > 0$ ,  $R_{2\bar{2}2\bar{2}} > 0$ , and  $(R_{1\bar{1}2\bar{2}})^2 < R_{1\bar{1}1\bar{1}}R_{2\bar{2}2\bar{2}}$ .

*Proof.* The assumptions on the curvature tensor permit us to write

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta} R_{\alpha\bar{\beta}\gamma\bar{\delta}} \left( \xi^\alpha \eta^{\bar{\beta}} - \eta^\alpha \xi^{\bar{\beta}} \right) \overline{(\eta^{\bar{\gamma}} \xi^\delta - \xi^{\bar{\gamma}} \eta^\delta)} \\ &= R_{1\bar{1}1\bar{1}} |\xi^1 \eta^{\bar{1}} - \eta^1 \xi^{\bar{1}}|^2 + R_{2\bar{2}2\bar{2}} |\xi^2 \eta^{\bar{2}} - \eta^2 \xi^{\bar{2}}|^2 \\ & \quad + 2R_{1\bar{1}2\bar{2}} \left( |\xi^1 \eta^{\bar{2}} - \eta^1 \xi^{\bar{2}}|^2 + \operatorname{Re}(\xi^1 \eta^{\bar{1}} - \eta^1 \xi^{\bar{1}}) \overline{(\xi^2 \eta^{\bar{2}} - \eta^2 \xi^{\bar{2}})} \right), \end{aligned}$$

which is negative if and only if this expression is some non-negative multiple of

$$|\xi^1 \eta^{\bar{1}} - \eta^1 \xi^{\bar{1}}|^2 + |\xi^1 \eta^{\bar{2}} - \eta^1 \xi^{\bar{2}}|^2 + |\xi^1 \eta^2 \eta^1 \xi^2|^2 + |\xi^2 \eta^2 - \eta^2 \xi^2|^2.$$

Necessity is established from special choices of  $\xi^\alpha$  and  $\eta^\alpha$ :

- $\xi^2 = \eta^2 = 0 \implies R_{1\bar{1}1\bar{1}} > 0$ ,
- $\xi^1 = \eta^1 = 0 \implies R_{2\bar{2}2\bar{2}} > 0$ ,
- $\xi^1 = \eta^2 = 0 \implies R_{1\bar{1}2\bar{2}} > 0$ ,
- $\xi^1 = a\sqrt{-1}$ ,  $\xi^2 = -\sqrt{-1}$ ,  $\eta^1 = a$ ,  $\eta^2 = 1$ , for  $a > 0$ , implies

$$R_{1\bar{1}1\bar{1}}4a^4 - 2R_{1\bar{1}2\bar{2}}4a^2 + 4R_{2\bar{2}2\bar{2}} > 0.$$

$$\text{Hence, } (R_{1\bar{1}2\bar{2}})^2 < R_{1\bar{1}1\bar{1}}R_{2\bar{2}2\bar{2}}.$$

To prove sufficiency: we simply note that

$$\begin{aligned} |2R_{1\bar{1}2\bar{2}}(\xi^1 \eta^{\bar{1}} - \eta^1 \xi^{\bar{1}}) \overline{(\xi^2 \eta^{\bar{2}} - \eta^2 \xi^{\bar{2}})}| &\leq |2(R_{1\bar{1}1\bar{1}}R_{2\bar{2}2\bar{2}})^{\frac{1}{2}}(\xi^1 \eta^{\bar{1}} - \eta^1 \xi^{\bar{1}}) \overline{(\xi^2 \eta^{\bar{2}} - \eta^2 \xi^{\bar{2}})}| \\ &\leq R_{1\bar{1}1\bar{1}} |\xi^1 \eta^{\bar{1}} - \eta^1 \xi^{\bar{1}}|^2 + R_{2\bar{2}2\bar{2}} |\xi^2 \eta^{\bar{2}} - \eta^2 \xi^{\bar{2}}|^2. \end{aligned}$$

Moreover,

$$\begin{aligned} |\xi^1 \eta^2 - \eta^1 \xi^2|^2 &= |\xi^1 \eta^{\bar{2}} - \eta^1 \xi^{\bar{2}}|^2 - (\xi^1 \eta^{\bar{1}} - \eta^1 \xi^{\bar{1}}) \overline{(\xi^2 \eta^{\bar{2}} - \eta^2 \xi^{\bar{2}})} \\ &\leq |\xi^1 \eta^{\bar{2}} - \eta^1 \xi^{\bar{2}}|^2 + \frac{1}{2} |\xi^1 \eta^{\bar{1}} - \eta^1 \xi^{\bar{1}}|^2 + \frac{1}{2} |\xi^2 \eta^{\bar{2}} - \eta^2 \xi^{\bar{2}}|^2. \end{aligned}$$

□

**Bergman Kernel.** Let  $D$  be the domain in  $\mathbb{C}^2$  defined by  $|z_1|^{2m} + |z_2|^2 < 1$ . For  $\alpha = 1, 2$ , let  $z_\alpha = r_\alpha e^{i\vartheta_\alpha}$ . The Euclidean volume form  $dV$  on  $\mathbb{C}^2$  is given by  $(r_1 dr_1 d\vartheta_1)(r_2 dr_2 d\vartheta_2)$ . The inner product of  $z_1^k z_2^\ell$  and  $z_1^p z_2^q$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned} (z_1^k z_2^\ell, z_1^p z_2^q) &= \int_D (z_1^k z_2^\ell) \overline{(z_1^p z_2^q)} dV \\ &= \int_{r_1^{2m} + r_2^2 < 1} \int_{0 \leq \vartheta_1 \leq 2\pi, 0 \leq \vartheta_2 \leq 2\pi} r_1^{k+p+1} r_2^{\ell+q+1} e^{i(k-p)\vartheta_1} e^{i(\ell-q)\vartheta_2} dr_1 dr_2 d\vartheta_1 d\vartheta_2, \end{aligned}$$

which is zero, unless  $(k, \ell) = (p, q)$ .

Consider therefore, the case  $(k, \ell) = (p, q)$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{4\pi^2} (z_1^p z_2^q, z_1^p z_2^q) &= \int_{r_1^{2m} + r_2^2 < 1, r_1 \geq 0, r_2 \geq 0} r_1^{2p+1} r_2^{2q+1} dr_1 dr_2 \\ &= \int_{r_1=0}^1 r_1^{2p+1} \int_{r_2=0}^{\sqrt{1-r_1^{2m}}} r_2^{2q+1} dr_2 dr_1 \\ &= \frac{1}{2(q+1)} \int_0^1 r_1^{2p+1} (1 - r_1^{2m})^{q+1} dr_1. \end{aligned}$$

Set  $u = r_1^2$ ; which yields

$$\frac{1}{4(q+1)} \int_0^1 u^p (1 - u^m)^{q+1} du = \frac{m^{q+1} q!}{4(p+1)(p+m+1) \cdots (p+(q+1)m+1)}.$$

The Bergman kernel is

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(z_1, z_2) &= \sum_{p,q=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{m^{p+1} \pi^2} \left( \frac{(p+1)(p+m+1) \cdots (p+(q+1)m+1)}{q!} \right) |z_1|^{2p} |z_2|^{2q} \\ &= \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} \left( \frac{(p+1)(p+m+1)}{m\pi^2} \right) \\ &\quad \cdot \left( \sum_{q=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{q!} \left( \frac{p+2m+1}{m} \right) \left( \frac{p+2m+1}{m} + 1 \right) \cdots \left( \frac{p+2m+1}{m} + q - 1 \right) |z_2|^{2q} \right) |z_1|^{2p}. \end{aligned}$$

**Claim.**

$$\frac{1}{(1 - |x|^2)^\alpha} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} \alpha(\alpha+1) \cdots (\alpha+q-1) x^{2k}.$$

Assuming the claim, and setting  $\alpha = \frac{p+2m+1}{m}$ , we see that

$$\begin{aligned}
\Phi(z_1, z_2) &= \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} \left( \frac{(p+1)(p+m+1)}{m\pi^2} \right) (1 - |z_2|^2)^{-\frac{1}{m}(p+2m+1)} |z_1|^{2p} \\
&= \frac{1}{m\pi^2} (1 - |z_2|^2)^{-\frac{1}{m}(2m+1)} \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} (p+1)(p+m+1) (1 - |z_2|^2)^{-\frac{p}{m}} |z_1|^{2p} \\
&= \frac{1}{m\pi^2} (1 - |z_2|^2)^{-\frac{1}{m}(2m+1)} \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} (p+1)(p+2) \left( (1 - |z_2|^2)^{-\frac{1}{m}} |z_1|^2 \right)^p \\
&\quad + \frac{1}{m\pi^2} (1 - |z_2|^2)^{-\frac{1}{m}(2m+1)} \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} (p+1)(m-1) \left( (1 - |z_2|^2)^{-\frac{1}{m}} |z_1|^2 \right)^p.
\end{aligned}$$

**Claim.**

$$\left( 1 - \frac{|z_1|^2}{(1 - |z_2|^2)^{\frac{1}{m}}} \right)^{-\alpha} = \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-\alpha) \cdots (-\alpha - p + 1)}{p!} \left( -(1 - |z_2|^2)^{-\frac{1}{m}} |z_1|^2 \right)^p.$$

From the claim, it follows that

$$\Phi(z_1, z_2) = \frac{1}{m\pi^2} \frac{(m+1)(1 - |z_2|^2)^{\frac{1}{m}} - (m-1)|z_1|^2}{(1 - |z_2|^2)^{2-\frac{1}{m}} \left( (1 - |z_2|^2)^{\frac{1}{m}} - |z_1|^2 \right)^3}$$

**Construction of the Mostow–Siu metric.** Let us first remark on the construction of the surface. We first construct a subgroup  $\Gamma \subset \text{Aut}(\mathbb{B}^2)$  generated by three complex reflections. This subgroup  $\Gamma$  is not discrete, but is almost discrete in the sense that there is a complex surface  $Y$  and a holomorphic map  $\sigma : Y \rightarrow \mathbb{B}^2$  such that  $\Gamma$  lifts to a discrete subgroup  $\tilde{\Gamma} \subset \text{Aut}(Y)$ , and the only kind of singularity of  $\sigma$  is simple winding singularity along an infinite number of disjoint complex curves whose images are complex lines in  $\mathbb{B}^2$ . The complex surface is the quotient of  $Y$  by  $\tilde{\Gamma}_0$ , for some subgroup  $\tilde{\Gamma}_0 \subset \tilde{\Gamma}$  of finite index, chosen solely for the purpose of making  $Y/\tilde{\Gamma}_0$  non-singular.

Let  $E$  be the set of all points of  $Y$  where the Jacobian determinant of  $\sigma : Y \rightarrow \mathbb{B}^2$  is zero. Then  $E$  is the disjoint union of a countable number of non-singular complex curves  $E_i$ . Each  $E_i$  is biholomorphic onto its image  $\sigma(E_i)$ .

For each  $i$ , there is an open neighbourhood  $Q_i$  of  $E_i$  in  $Y$ , and an open neighbourhood  $U_i$  of  $\sigma(E_i)$  in  $\mathbb{B}^2$  such that we have the following commutative diagram

(see page 339 of Mostow–Siu).

where  $\sigma(Q_i) = U_i$ , the map  $\vartheta$  is a biholomorphism,  $\tau \in \text{Aut}(\mathbb{B}^2)$  sends  $\sigma(E_i)$  to the complex line  $\{w_1 = 0\} \cap B$  with  $B$  realized as  $\{(w_1, w_2) : |w_1|^2 + |w_2|^2 < 1\}$ . The Thullen domain  $D$  is described by  $D = \{(z_1, z_2) : |z_1|^{14} + |z_2|^2 < 1\}$ , and  $\pi(w_1, w_2) := (w_1^7, w_2)$ .

Let  $\kappa : Y \rightarrow M := Y/\widetilde{\Gamma_0}$  be the quotient map. Then  $\kappa(E)$  is the disjoint union of a finite number of non-singular complex curves  $C_\nu$  ( $1 \leq \nu \leq \ell$ ) in  $M$ . Let  $\{E_i^{(\nu)}\}$  be the set of all  $E_i$  such that  $\kappa(E_i) = C_\nu$ . Each  $E_i^{(\nu)}$  is a universal covering of  $C_\nu$ . Let  $\Gamma_i^{(\nu)} \subset \Gamma_0^*$  be the stabilizer of  $E_i^{(\nu)}$ ; then  $C_\nu = E_i^{(\nu)}/\Gamma_i^{(\nu)}$ .

## EXTENSIONS

Recall that (see, e.g., [?, Proposition 7.3]) that the holomorphic sectional curvature of a Kähler metric  $g$  is constant, equal to  $\lambda$ , if and only if

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{4}{\lambda} R(X, Y, Z, W) &= g(X, W)g(Y, Z) - g(X, Z)g(Y, W) + g(X, JW)g(Y, JZ) \\ &\quad - g(X, JZ)g(Y, JW) + 2g(X, JY)g(W, JZ). \end{aligned}$$

In terms of Siu's notation, the curvature of a Kähler metric  $g_{\alpha\bar{\beta}}$  reads:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i,j,k,\ell} R_{ijkl} u^i v^j p^k q^\ell &= \sum_{\alpha,\beta,\gamma,\delta} \left( R_{\alpha\bar{\beta}\gamma\bar{\delta}} \xi^\alpha \eta^{\bar{\beta}} \mu^\gamma \nu^{\bar{\delta}} + R_{\alpha\bar{\beta}\gamma\delta} \xi^\alpha \eta^{\bar{\beta}} \mu^{\bar{\gamma}} \nu^\delta + R_{\alpha\bar{\beta}\gamma\bar{\delta}} \xi^{\bar{\alpha}} \eta^\beta \mu^\gamma \nu^{\bar{\delta}} + R_{\alpha\bar{\beta}\gamma\delta} \xi^{\bar{\alpha}} \eta^\beta \mu^{\bar{\gamma}} \nu^\delta \right) \\ &= \sum_{\alpha,\beta,\gamma,\delta} R_{\alpha\bar{\beta}\gamma\bar{\delta}} \left( \xi^\alpha \eta^{\bar{\beta}} \mu^\gamma \nu^{\bar{\delta}} - \xi^\alpha \eta^{\bar{\beta}} \nu^\gamma \mu^{\bar{\delta}} - \eta^\alpha \xi^{\bar{\beta}} \mu^\gamma \nu^{\bar{\delta}} + \eta^\alpha \xi^{\bar{\beta}} \nu^\gamma \mu^{\bar{\delta}} \right) \\ &= \sum_{\alpha,\beta,\gamma,\delta} R_{\alpha\bar{\beta}\gamma\bar{\delta}} \left( \xi^\alpha \eta^{\bar{\beta}} - \eta^\alpha \xi^{\bar{\beta}} \right) \left( \mu^\gamma \nu^{\bar{\delta}} - \nu^\gamma \mu^{\bar{\delta}} \right) \end{aligned}$$

where  $u = 2\text{Re}(\xi)$ ,  $v = 2\text{Re}(\eta)$ ,  $p = 2\text{Re}(\mu)$ , and  $q = 2\text{Re}(\nu)$ .

**Further work.**

- (i) Use Siu's computations to produce examples of complex surfaces with metrics of negative holomorphic sectional curvature.

## CURVATURE OF FUBINI-STUDY METRIC

Let  $[z_0 : \cdots : z_n]$  be homogeneous coordinates on  $\mathbb{P}^n$ . In the open affine chart  $\mathcal{U}_0 = \{z_0 = 1\} \simeq \mathbb{C}^n$ , the Fubini-Study metric affords the coordinate description

$$g_{i\bar{j}} = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z_i \partial \bar{z}_j} \log \left( 1 + \sum_{i=1}^n |z_i|^2 \right).$$

We will compute the curvature of  $g$  in these coordinates at the origin in  $\mathcal{U}_0$ . Indeed, we have

$$\begin{aligned} -\partial_k \partial_{\bar{\ell}} g_{i\bar{j}} &= -\partial_k \partial_{\bar{\ell}} \partial_i \partial_{\bar{j}} \log \left( 1 + \sum_{i=1}^n |z_i|^2 \right) \\ &= -\partial_k \partial_{\bar{\ell}} \left[ \frac{(1 + \sum_{i=1}^n |z_i|^2) \delta_{ij} - z_j \bar{z}_i}{(1 + \sum_{i=1}^n |z_i|^2)} \right] \\ &= \delta_{ij} \delta_{k\bar{\ell}} + \delta_{i\bar{\ell}} \delta_{jk} \end{aligned}$$

## CHEUNG'S THEOREM

**Theorem.** Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a holomorphic map of a compact complex manifold  $X$  into a complex manifold  $Y$  which has a Hermitian metric of negative holomorphic sectional curvature. Assume that  $f$  is everywhere of maximal rank, and that there exists a smooth family of Hermitian metrics on the fibers, which all have negative holomorphic sectional curvature. Then there is a Hermitian metric on  $X$  with negative holomorphic sectional curvature.

Let  $\omega_Y$  be the Hermitian metric on  $Y$  with negative holomorphic sectional curvature. Let  $\omega_t$  be the Hermitian metric on the fiber  $f^{-1}(t)$  with negative holomorphic sectional curvature. Define  $\Phi$  to be the Hermitian metric on  $X$  which restricts to  $\omega_t$  on  $f^{-1}(t)$  for each  $t \in Y$ . The desired metric is given by  $\Psi_\lambda := \Phi + \lambda f^* \omega_Y$  for  $\lambda > 0$  sufficiently large.

Let  $p \in X$  be a point, and assume that  $p$  sits inside some fiber  $X_0$ . Since  $f$  is everywhere of maximal rank, we can choose a neighbourhood  $U$  of  $p$  and local product coordinates  $(z^1, \dots, z^s, z^{s+1}, \dots, z^n) \in U = V \times W$ , where  $(V, (z^{s+1}, \dots, z^n))$  is a coordinate neighbourhood of  $f(p) \in Y$ , and  $(W, (z^1, \dots, z^s))$  is a neighbourhood of  $p$  in the fiber  $X_0$ . Choose  $\{z^{s+1}, \dots, z^n\}$  such that  $\partial_{z^{s+1}}, \dots, \partial_{z^n}$  are  $\omega_Y$ -orthonormal at  $f(p)$ .

Set  $\Phi = \sqrt{-1} \sum_{i,j=1}^n g_{i\bar{j}} dz^i \wedge d\bar{z}^j$ , and

$$\omega_Y = \sqrt{-1} \sum_{\alpha,\beta=s+1}^n \tilde{g}_{\alpha\bar{\beta}} dz^\alpha \wedge d\bar{z}^\beta, \quad \tilde{g}_{\alpha\bar{\beta}}(p) = \delta_{\alpha\beta}.$$

If  $\Psi_\lambda = \sqrt{-1} \sum_{i,j=1}^n h_{i\bar{j}} dz^i \wedge d\bar{z}^j$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{-1} \sum_{i,j=1}^n h_{i\bar{j}} dz^i \wedge d\bar{z}^j &= \sqrt{-1} \sum_{i,j=1}^s g_{i\bar{j}} dz^i \wedge d\bar{z}^j + \sqrt{-1} \sum_{i=1}^s \sum_{\alpha=s+1}^n g_{i\bar{\alpha}} dz^i \wedge d\bar{z}^\alpha \\ &\quad + \sqrt{-1} \sum_{j=1}^s \sum_{\beta=s+1}^n g_{\beta\bar{j}} dz^\beta \wedge d\bar{z}^j + \sqrt{-1} \sum_{\alpha,\beta=s+1}^n (g_{\alpha\bar{\beta}} + \lambda \tilde{g}_{\alpha\bar{\beta}}) dz^\alpha \wedge d\bar{z}^\beta. \end{aligned}$$

Write  $A$  for the  $s \times s$  matrix with coefficients  $(g_{a\bar{b}}(p))$ , with  $a, b \leq s$ , and let  $A_{ab}$  denote the  $(a, b)$ th cofactor of  $A$ . Direct calculation yields

$$h^{a\bar{b}}(p) = \frac{\lambda^{n-s} \det(A_{ab}) + O(\lambda^{n-s-1})}{\lambda^{n-s} \det(A) + O(\lambda^{n-s-1})},$$

$$h^{\eta\bar{\eta}}(p) = \frac{\lambda^{n-s-1} \det(A) + O(\lambda^{n-s-2})}{\lambda^{n-s} \det(A) + O(\lambda^{n-s-1})},$$

$h^{a\bar{\eta}}(p) = O(\lambda^{-1})$ ,  $h^{\eta\bar{b}}(p) = O(\lambda^{-1})$ , and  $h^{\mu\bar{\eta}}(p) = O(\lambda^{-2})$ , where  $a, b \leq s$ , and  $\mu \neq \eta \geq s+1$ .

The main computation is guided by the following lemma:

**Lemma.** Let  $(M^n, g)$  be a Hermitian manifold. Suppose that at a point  $p$ ,

(i)

$$\sum_{i,j,k,\ell=1}^s R_{i\bar{j}k\bar{\ell}}(p) \zeta^i \bar{\zeta}^j \zeta^k \bar{\zeta}^\ell \leq -K_0 \sum_{i,j=1}^s \zeta^i \bar{\zeta}^i \zeta^j \bar{\zeta}^j,$$

for all  $\zeta^i \in \mathbb{C}$ , where  $i = 1, \dots, s$ .

(ii) For  $\min(i, j, k, \ell) \leq s$ , we have

$$|R_{i\bar{j}k\bar{\ell}}(p)| < K_1.$$

(iii)

$$\sum_{\alpha,\beta,\gamma,\delta=s+1}^n R_{\alpha\bar{\beta}\gamma\bar{\delta}}(p) \zeta^\alpha \bar{\zeta}^\beta \zeta^\gamma \bar{\zeta}^\delta \leq -K_2 \sum_{\alpha,\beta=s+1}^n \zeta^\alpha \bar{\zeta}^\alpha \zeta^\beta \bar{\zeta}^\beta,$$

for any  $\zeta^\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$ , where  $\alpha = 1, \dots, n$ .

Then there exists a positive constant  $K$ , depending only on  $K_0/K_1$ , such that if  $K_2/K_1 \geq K$ , the metric  $g$  has negative holomorphic sectional curvature at  $p$ .

**Explicit formula for the curvature tensor.** Recall that

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{-1} \sum_{i,j=1}^n h_{i\bar{j}} dz^i \wedge d\bar{z}^j &= \sqrt{-1} \sum_{i,j=1}^s g_{i\bar{j}} dz^i \wedge d\bar{z}^j + \sqrt{-1} \sum_{i=1}^s \sum_{\alpha=s+1}^n g_{i\bar{\alpha}} dz^i \wedge d\bar{z}^\alpha \\ &\quad + \sqrt{-1} \sum_{j=1}^s \sum_{\beta=s+1}^n g_{\beta\bar{j}} dz^\beta \wedge d\bar{z}^j + \sqrt{-1} \sum_{\alpha,\beta=s+1}^n (g_{\alpha\bar{\beta}} + \lambda \tilde{g}_{\alpha\bar{\beta}}) dz^\alpha \wedge d\bar{z}^\beta. \end{aligned}$$

The curvature tensor of  $h$  is

$$\sum_{i,j,k,\ell=1}^n R_{i\bar{j}k\bar{\ell}} = - \sum_{i,j,k,\ell=1}^n \frac{\partial^2 h_{i\bar{j}}}{\partial z_k \partial \bar{z}_\ell} + \sum_{i,j,k,\ell,p,q=1}^n h^{p\bar{\ell}} h^{k\bar{q}} \frac{\partial h_{i\bar{q}}}{\partial z_k} \frac{\partial h_{p\bar{j}}}{\partial \bar{z}_\ell}.$$

The second-order term expands to

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i,j=1}^n \frac{\partial^2 h_{i\bar{j}}}{\partial z_k \partial \bar{z}_\ell} &= \sum_{i,j=1}^s \frac{\partial^2 g_{i\bar{j}}}{\partial z_k \partial \bar{z}_\ell} + \sum_{i=1}^s \sum_{\alpha=s+1}^n \frac{\partial^2 g_{i\bar{\alpha}}}{\partial z_k \partial \bar{z}_\ell} + \sum_{j=1}^s \sum_{\beta=s+1}^n \frac{\partial^2 g_{\beta\bar{j}}}{\partial z_k \partial \bar{z}_\ell} \\ &\quad + \sum_{\alpha,\beta=s+1}^n \frac{\partial^2 g_{\alpha\bar{\beta}}}{\partial z_k \partial \bar{z}_\ell} + \lambda \sum_{\alpha,\beta=s+1}^n \frac{\partial^2 \tilde{g}_{\alpha\bar{\beta}}}{\partial z_k \partial \bar{z}_\ell}. \end{aligned}$$

If  $\min(k, \ell) \leq s$ , then this last term involving  $\lambda$  vanishes.