

On the p -biharmonic maps, conformal deformation and the warped product

Smail Chemikh

Faculty of Mathematics, U.S.T.H.B - Algiers

Algeria

sm.chemikh@gmail.com

Seddik Ouakkas*

University of Saida

Dr Moulay Tahar Algeria

Laboratory of Geometry, Analysis, Control and Applications

Algeria

seddik.ouakkas@univ-saida.dz

Abstract. In this paper we present some constructions of the p -biharmonic maps by conformal deformation, we characterize a p -biharmonicity of the first projection and we give many examples of p -biharmonic maps.

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1. Introduction

Let $\phi : (M^m, g) \longrightarrow (N^n, h)$ be a smooth map between two Riemannian manifolds. A map ϕ is called p -harmonic if it is a critical point of the p -energy functional

$$E_p(\phi) = \frac{1}{p} \int_D |d\phi|^p dv_g, \quad p \geq 1,$$

for every compact domain $D \subset M$ and is characterized by the vanishing of the p -tension field

$$\tau_p(\phi) = |d\phi|^{p-2} (\tau(\phi) + (p-2) d\phi(\operatorname{grad} \ln |d\phi|)) = 0,$$

where

$$\tau(\phi) = \operatorname{Tr}_g \nabla d\phi$$

is the tension field of ϕ . The p -bi-energy of $\phi : (M^m, g) \longrightarrow (N^n, h)$ is defined by

$$E_{p,2}(\phi) = \frac{1}{p} \int_D |\tau(\phi)|^p dv_g.$$

*. Corresponding author

Then, the map ϕ is called p -biharmonic map if it is a critical point of the p -bi-energy functional, the first variation formula for the p -bi-energy shows that the Euler-Lagrange equation for p -bi-energy is

$$\tau_{p,2}(\phi) = -\frac{2}{p}\Delta\left(|\tau(\phi)|^{p-2}\tau(\phi)\right) - \frac{2}{p}|\tau(\phi)|^{p-2}Tr_g R^N(\tau(\phi), d\phi)d\phi = 0.$$

$\tau_{p,2}(\phi)$ is called the p -bi-tension field of the map ϕ . A simple calculation gives

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta\left(|\tau(\phi)|^{p-2}\tau(\phi)\right) &= |\tau(\phi)|^{p-2}Tr_g\left(\nabla^\phi\right)^2\tau(\phi) \\ &+ \frac{(p-2)}{2}|\tau(\phi)|^{p-4}\Delta\left(|\tau(\phi)|^2\right)\tau(\phi) \\ &+ \frac{(p-2)(p-4)}{4}|\tau(\phi)|^{p-6}\left|\text{grad}\left(|\tau(\phi)|^2\right)\right|^2\tau(\phi) \\ &+ (p-2)|\tau(\phi)|^{p-4}\nabla_{\text{grad}(|\tau(\phi)|^2)}^\phi\tau(\phi),\end{aligned}$$

then, the p -bi-tension field of the map ϕ is given by

$$\begin{aligned}(1) \quad \tau_{p,2}(\phi) &= \frac{2}{p}|\tau(\phi)|^{p-2}\tau_2(\phi) - \frac{p-2}{p}|\tau(\phi)|^{p-4}\Delta\left(|\tau(\phi)|^2\right)\tau(\phi) \\ &- \frac{(p-2)(p-4)}{2p}|\tau(\phi)|^{p-6}\left|\text{grad}\left(|\tau(\phi)|^2\right)\right|^2\tau(\phi) \\ &- \frac{2(p-2)}{p}|\tau(\phi)|^{p-4}\nabla_{\text{grad}(|\tau(\phi)|^2)}^\phi\tau(\phi) = 0,\end{aligned}$$

where $\tau_2(\phi)$ is the bi-tension field of ϕ defined by

$$\tau_2(\phi) = -Tr_g\left(\nabla^\phi\right)^2\tau(\phi) - Tr_g R^N((\phi), d\phi)d\phi = 0.$$

The map ϕ is p -biharmonic if and only if

$$\begin{aligned}(2) \quad &|\tau(\phi)|^4\tau_2(\phi) - (p-2)|\tau(\phi)|^2\nabla_{\text{grad}(|\tau(\phi)|^2)}^\phi\tau(\phi) \\ &- \frac{(p-2)(p-4)}{4}\left|\text{grad}\left(|\tau(\phi)|^2\right)\right|^2\tau(\phi) \\ &- \frac{(p-2)}{2}|\tau(\phi)|^2\Delta\left(|\tau(\phi)|^2\right)\tau(\phi) = 0.\end{aligned}$$

The construction of harmonic maps and biharmonic maps has been the subject of several papers. In [1], [3] and [9], the authors present some methods for constructing biharmonic maps by conformally deformation of the metrics and they give several examples of biharmonic non-harmonic maps. In [4], the authors give some properties of the f -biharmonic maps and they characterize the p -biharmonicity of some particular cases. The authors in [5] investigate p -biharmonic maps from a Riemannian manifold into a Riemannian manifold with

non-positive sectional curvature. In [6], the authors introduce an intrinsic version of the p -biharmonic energy functional for maps and they prove, by means of the direct method, existence of minimizers of the p -bi-energy within the corresponding intrinsic Sobolev space. This paper is composed of two sections, in the first and by conformal deformation of the metric g , we give a necessary and sufficient condition of the p -biharmonicity for $Id : (M^m, \tilde{g} = e^{2\gamma}g) \rightarrow (M^m, g)$ and $Id : (M^m, g) \rightarrow (M^m, \tilde{g} = e^{2\gamma}g)$ and we construct some examples of p -biharmonic maps. In the last section, we present other examples where we study the p -biharmonicity of some smooth maps.

2. The conformal deformation and the p -biharmonic maps

Let (M^m, g) be a smooth manifold and let $\tilde{g} = e^{2\gamma}g$ be a metric conformally equivalent to g , $\gamma \in C^\infty(M)$. The relation between $\tilde{\nabla}$ and ∇ is given by the following equation (see [2])

$$(3) \quad \tilde{\nabla}_X Y = \nabla_X Y + X(\gamma)Y + Y(\gamma)X - g(X, Y) \text{grad } \gamma,$$

where ∇ et $\tilde{\nabla}$ are respectively the connections on M associated with g and $\tilde{g}$. Let us choose $\{e_i\}_{i=1}^m$ to be an orthonormal frame on (M^m, g) , then an orthonormal frame on $(M^m, \tilde{g} = e^{2\gamma}g)$ is given by $\{\tilde{e}_i = e^{-\gamma}e_i\}_{i=1}^m$. We have

$$\tilde{\nabla}_{e_i} e_i = \nabla_{e_i} e_i - (m-2) \text{grad } \gamma$$

and

$$\tilde{\nabla}_{\tilde{e}_i} \tilde{e}_i = e^{-2\gamma} (\nabla_{e_i} e_i - (m-1) \text{grad } \gamma).$$

Let $\phi : (M^m, g) \rightarrow (N^n, h)$ be a smooth map, we have

$$\tilde{\tau}(\phi) = e^{-2\gamma} (\tau(\phi) + (m-2)d\phi(\text{grad } \gamma)),$$

where $\tilde{\tau}(\phi)$ denotes the tension field of the map ϕ with respect to $\tilde{g}$. In a first result, we will study the p -biharmonicity of $Id : (M^m, \tilde{g} = e^{2\gamma}g) \rightarrow (M^m, g)$ where $m \neq 2$. We obtain the following result

Theorem 1. *The identity map $Id : (M^m, \tilde{g} = e^{2\gamma}g) \rightarrow (M^m, g)$ ($m \neq 2$) is p -biharmonic if and only if*

$$(4) \quad \begin{aligned} & |\text{grad } \gamma|^4 \text{grad } \Delta \gamma + \frac{(m-4p+2)}{2} |\text{grad } \gamma|^4 \text{grad } (|\text{grad } \gamma|^2) \\ & + \frac{(p-2)(m-4p+2)}{2} |\text{grad } \gamma|^2 d\gamma \left(\text{grad } (|\text{grad } \gamma|^2) \right) \text{grad } \gamma \\ & + \frac{(p-2)(p-4)}{4} \left| \text{grad } (|\text{grad } \gamma|^2) \right|^2 \text{grad } \gamma \\ & + (p-2) |\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \nabla_{\text{grad } (|\text{grad } \gamma|^2)} \text{grad } \gamma \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& + \frac{(p-2)}{2} |\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \Delta \left(|\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \right) \text{grad } \gamma \\
& - 2(p-1)(m-2p) |\text{grad } \gamma|^6 \text{grad } \gamma \\
& - 2(p-1) |\text{grad } \gamma|^4 (\Delta \gamma) \text{grad } \gamma \\
& + 2 |\text{grad } \gamma|^4 \text{Ricci}(\text{grad } \gamma) = 0.
\end{aligned}$$

Proof of Theorem 1. By equation (2), the identity map

$$Id : (M^m, \tilde{g} = e^{2\gamma} g) \longrightarrow (M^m, g)$$

is p -biharmonic if and only if

$$\begin{aligned}
(5) \quad & |\tilde{\tau}(Id)|^4 \tilde{\tau}_2(Id) - (p-2) |\tilde{\tau}(Id)|^2 \nabla_{\widetilde{\text{grad}}(|\tilde{\tau}(Id)|^2)} \tilde{\tau}(Id) \\
& - \frac{(p-2)(p-4)}{4} \left| \widetilde{\text{grad}} \left(|\tilde{\tau}(Id)|^2 \right) \right|_{\tilde{g}}^2 \tilde{\tau}(Id) \\
& - \frac{(p-2)}{2} |\tilde{\tau}(Id)|^2 \tilde{\Delta} \left(|\tilde{\tau}(Id)|^2 \right) \tilde{\tau}(Id) = 0,
\end{aligned}$$

where

$$\tilde{\tau}(Id) = (m-2) e^{-2\gamma} \text{grad } \gamma.$$

A rigorous calculation gives us the following formulas

$$\begin{aligned}
|\tilde{\tau}(Id)|^2 &= (m-2)^2 e^{-4\gamma} |\text{grad } \gamma|^2, \\
\widetilde{\text{grad}} \left(|\tilde{\tau}(Id)|^2 \right) &= (m-2)^2 \widetilde{\text{grad}} \left(e^{-4\gamma} |\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \right) \\
&= (m-2)^2 \tilde{e}_i \left(e^{-4\gamma} |\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \right) \tilde{e}_i \\
&= (m-2)^2 e^{-2\gamma} e_i \left(e^{-4\gamma} |\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \right) e_i \\
&= (m-2)^2 e^{-4\gamma} e^{-2\gamma} e_i \left(|\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \right) e_i \\
&+ (m-2)^2 e^{-2\gamma} |\text{grad } \gamma|^2 e_i \left(e^{-4\gamma} \right) e_i \\
&= (m-2)^2 e^{-6\gamma} \text{grad} \left(|\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \right) \\
&- 4(m-2)^2 e^{-6\gamma} |\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \text{grad } \gamma, \\
\left| \widetilde{\text{grad}} \left(|\tilde{\tau}(Id)|^2 \right) \right|_{\tilde{g}}^2 &= \tilde{g} \left(\widetilde{\text{grad}} \left(|\tilde{\tau}(Id)|^2 \right), \widetilde{\text{grad}} \left(|\tilde{\tau}(Id)|^2 \right) \right) \\
&= (m-2)^4 e^{-10\gamma} g \left(\text{grad} \left(|\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \right), \text{grad} \left(|\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \right) \right) \\
&+ 16(m-2)^4 e^{-10\gamma} g \left(|\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \text{grad } \gamma, |\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \text{grad } \gamma \right) \\
&- 8(m-2)^4 e^{-10\gamma} g \left(\text{grad} \left(|\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \right), |\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \text{grad } \gamma \right) \\
&= (m-2)^4 e^{-10\gamma} \left| \text{grad} \left(|\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \right) \right|^2 + 16(m-2)^4 e^{-10\gamma} |\text{grad } \gamma|^6 \\
&- 8(m-2)^4 e^{-10\gamma} |\text{grad } \gamma|^2 d\gamma \left(\text{grad} \left(|\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \right) \right),
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{\tau}_2(Id) = & -(m-2)e^{-4\gamma} \left\{ \text{grad } \Delta\gamma + \frac{(m-6)}{2} \text{grad} \left(|\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \right) \right\} \\ & + 2(m-2)e^{-4\gamma} \left((\Delta\gamma) + (m-4) |\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \right) \text{grad } \gamma \\ & - 2(m-2)e^{-4\gamma} \text{Ricci}(\text{grad } \gamma)\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla_{\widetilde{\text{grad}(|\tilde{\tau}(Id)|^2)}} \tilde{\tau}(Id) = & (m-2)^3 e^{-6\gamma} \nabla_{\text{grad}(|\text{grad } \gamma|^2)} e^{-2\gamma} \text{grad } \gamma \\ & - 4(m-2)^3 e^{-6\gamma} |\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \nabla_{\text{grad } \gamma} e^{-2\gamma} \text{grad } \gamma, \\ = & (m-2)^3 e^{-8\gamma} \nabla_{\text{grad}(|\text{grad } \gamma|^2)} \text{grad } \gamma \\ & + 8(m-2)^3 e^{-8\gamma} |\text{grad } \gamma|^4 \text{grad } \gamma \\ & - 2(m-2)^3 e^{-8\gamma} d\gamma \left(\text{grad} \left(|\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \right) \right) \text{grad } \gamma \\ & - 2(m-2)^3 e^{-8\gamma} |\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \text{grad} \left(|\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \right)\end{aligned}$$

Finally, for the term $\tilde{\Delta}(|\tilde{\tau}(Id)|^2)$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{\Delta} \left(|\tilde{\tau}(Id)|^2 \right) = & (m-2)^2 \tilde{\Delta} \left(e^{-4\gamma} |\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \right) \\ = & (m-2)^2 e^{-4\gamma} \tilde{\Delta} \left(|\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \right) + (m-2)^2 |\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \tilde{\Delta} \left(e^{-4\gamma} \right) \\ & + 2(m-2)^2 \tilde{g} \left(\widetilde{\text{grad}} \left(|\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \right), \widetilde{\text{grad}} \left(e^{-4\gamma} \right) \right) \\ = & (m-2)^2 e^{-6\gamma} \left(\Delta \left(|\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \right) + (m-2) d\gamma \left(\text{grad} \left(|\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \right) \right) \right) \\ & + (m-2)^2 e^{-2\gamma} |\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \left(\Delta \left(e^{-4\gamma} \right) + (m-2) d\gamma \left(\text{grad} \left(e^{-4\gamma} \right) \right) \right) \\ & - 8(m-2)^2 e^{-6\gamma} g \left(\text{grad} \left(|\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \right), \text{grad } \gamma \right) \\ = & (m-2)^2 e^{-6\gamma} \Delta \left(|\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \right) + (m-2)^3 e^{-6\gamma} d\gamma \left(\text{grad} \left(|\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \right) \right) \\ & + (m-2)^2 e^{-2\gamma} |\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \Delta \left(e^{-4\gamma} \right) \\ & + (m-2)^3 e^{-2\gamma} |\text{grad } \gamma|^2 d\gamma \left(\text{grad} \left(e^{-4\gamma} \right) \right) \\ & - 8(m-2)^2 e^{-6\gamma} d\gamma \left(\text{grad} \left(|\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \right) \right) \\ = & (m-2)^2 e^{-6\gamma} \Delta \left(|\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \right) - 4(m-2)^3 e^{-6\gamma} |\text{grad } \gamma|^4 \\ & + (m-2)^2 e^{-2\gamma} |\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \left(-4e^{-4\gamma} (\Delta\gamma) + 16e^{-4\gamma} |\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \right) \\ & + (m-2)^2 (m-10) e^{-6\gamma} d\gamma \left(\text{grad} \left(|\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \right) \right) \\ = & (m-2)^2 e^{-6\gamma} \Delta \left(|\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \right) - 4(m-2)^3 e^{-6\gamma} |\text{grad } \gamma|^4 \\ & - 4(m-2)^2 e^{-6\gamma} |\text{grad } \gamma|^2 (\Delta\gamma) + 16(m-2)^2 e^{-6\gamma} |\text{grad } \gamma|^4 \\ & + (m-2)^2 (m-10) e^{-6\gamma} d\gamma \left(\text{grad} \left(|\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \right) \right),\end{aligned}$$

which gives us

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{\Delta} \left(|\tilde{\tau}(Id)|^2 \right) &= (m-2)^2 e^{-6\gamma} \Delta \left(|\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \right) - 4(m-2)^2 e^{-6\gamma} |\text{grad } \gamma|^2 (\Delta \gamma) \\ &\quad + (m-2)^2 (m-10) e^{-6\gamma} d\gamma \left(\text{grad} \left(|\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \right) \right) \\ &\quad - 4(m-2)^2 (m-6) e^{-6\gamma} |\text{grad } \gamma|^4.\end{aligned}$$

Substituting these formulas into equation (5), we deduce that

$$Id : (M^m, \tilde{g} = e^{2\gamma} g) \longrightarrow (M^m, g)$$

is p -biharmonic if and only if

$$\begin{aligned}& |\text{grad } \gamma|^4 \text{grad } \Delta \gamma + \frac{(m-4p+2)}{2} |\text{grad } \gamma|^4 \text{grad} \left(|\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \right) \\ &+ \frac{(p-2)(m-4p+2)}{2} |\text{grad } \gamma|^2 d\gamma \left(\text{grad} \left(|\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \right) \right) \text{grad } \gamma \\ &+ \frac{(p-2)(p-4)}{4} \left| \text{grad} \left(|\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \right) \right|^2 \text{grad } \gamma \\ &+ (p-2) |\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \nabla_{\text{grad}(|\text{grad } \gamma|^2)} \text{grad } \gamma \\ &+ \frac{(p-2)}{2} |\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \Delta \left(|\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \right) \text{grad } \gamma \\ &- 2(p-1)(m-2p) |\text{grad } \gamma|^6 \text{grad } \gamma \\ &- 2(p-1) |\text{grad } \gamma|^4 (\Delta \gamma) \text{grad } \gamma \\ &+ 2 |\text{grad } \gamma|^4 \text{Ricci}(\text{grad } \gamma) = 0.\end{aligned}$$

Example 1. Let $Id : (\mathbb{R}_+^* \times \mathbb{R}^{m-1}, g) \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}_+^* \times \mathbb{R}^{m-1}, g)$, ($m > 2$) the identity map defined by

$$Id(t, x_2, \dots, x_m) = (t, x_2, \dots, x_m),$$

where g is the Euclidean metric given by

$$g = dt^2 + dx_2^2 + \dots + dx_m^2.$$

Let $\tilde{g} = e^{2\gamma} g$ where the function γ depends only on t . By Theorem 1 and by using the fact that $p \geq 2$, we deduce that $Id : (\mathbb{R}_+^* \times \mathbb{R}^{m-1}, \tilde{g}) \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}_+^* \times \mathbb{R}^{m-1}, g)$ is p -biharmonic if and only if $\beta = \gamma'$ satisfies the following differential equation

$$\begin{aligned}(p-1)\beta\beta'' + (p-1)(p-2)(\beta')^2 + (m-4p)(p-1)\beta^2\beta' \\ - 2(p-1)(m-2p)\beta^4 = 0.\end{aligned}$$

We deduce the particular solutions of the form $\beta = \frac{a}{t}$ where $a \neq 0$. We obtain

$$2(m-2p)a^2 + (m-4p)a - p = 0.$$

There are two solutions of this type:

1. If $p = \frac{m}{2}$, $m \geq 4$, then $a = -\frac{1}{2}$ and $\gamma(t) = \ln \frac{1}{\sqrt{t}}$, we obtain the metric (up to a constant multiple) $\tilde{g} = \frac{1}{t}g$. On substituting $u = 2\sqrt{t}$, this takes the form

$$\tilde{g} = du^2 + \frac{4}{u^2}dx_2^2 + \frac{4}{u^2}dx_3^2 + \dots + \frac{4}{u^2}dx_m^2.$$

So, we conclude that the identity map

$$Id : (\mathbb{R}_+^* \times \mathbb{R}^{m-1}, \tilde{g}) \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}_+^* \times \mathbb{R}^{m-1}, g)$$

is a p -biharmonic map, where $p = \frac{m}{2}$.

2. If $p \neq \frac{m}{2}$, we obtain $a = \frac{p}{m-2p}$ or $a = -\frac{1}{2}$ then $\tilde{g} = t^{\frac{2p}{m-2p}}g$ or $\tilde{g} = \frac{1}{t}g$. In this cases, the identity map $Id : (\mathbb{R}_+^* \times \mathbb{R}^{m-1}, \tilde{g}) \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}_+^* \times \mathbb{R}^{m-1}, g)$ is a p -biharmonic map.

Remark 1. If we consider $Id : (\mathbb{R}^m, g) \longrightarrow (\mathbb{R}^m, g)$ ($m \neq 2$) where we suppose that the function γ is radial ($\gamma = \gamma(r)$, $r = |x|$, $x \in \mathbb{R}^m$), then the p -biharmonicity of $Id : (\mathbb{R}^m, \tilde{g} = e^{2\gamma}g) \longrightarrow (\mathbb{R}^m, g)$ is equivalent to an ordinary differential equation:

$$(6) \quad \begin{aligned} & (p-1)\beta\beta'' + (p-2)(p-1)(\beta')^2 + \frac{(p-1)(m-1)}{r}\beta\beta' \\ & + (p-1)(m-4p)\beta^2\beta' - \frac{2(p-1)(m-1)}{r}\beta^3 \\ & - \frac{(m-1)}{r^2}\beta^2 - 2(p-1)(m-2p)\beta^4 = 0, \end{aligned}$$

where $\beta = \gamma'$.

Example 2. If we consider $Id : (\mathbb{R}^m \setminus \{0\}, g) \longrightarrow (\mathbb{R}^m \setminus \{0\}, g)$ ($m \neq 2$) where we suppose $\beta = \frac{a}{r}$, $a \in \mathbb{R}^*$. By equation (9), we deduce that

$$Id : (\mathbb{R}^m \setminus \{0\}, \tilde{g} = e^{2\gamma}g) \longrightarrow (\mathbb{R}^m \setminus \{0\}, g)$$

is p -biharmonic if and only if

$$2(p-1)(m-2p)a^2 + (p-1)(3m-4p-2)a + p(m-p) = 0.$$

For the resolution of this last equation, we will present several cases ($p \geq 2$ and $m \geq 3$).

- *First case:* $p = m, m \geq 3$, we obtain $a = -\frac{m+2}{2m}$, then

$$\gamma = \ln r^{-\frac{m+2}{2m}} = \ln \frac{1}{r^{\frac{m+2}{2m}}}$$

and

$$\tilde{g} = \frac{1}{r^{\frac{m+2}{m}}}g.$$

- *Second case:* $p = \frac{m}{2}, m \geq 4$, then $a = -\frac{m^2}{2(m-2)^2}$, which gives us

$$\gamma = \ln \frac{1}{r^{\frac{m^2}{2(m-2)^2}}}$$

and

$$\tilde{g} = \frac{1}{r^{\frac{m^2}{(m-2)^2}}} g.$$

- *Third case:* $p = \frac{3m-2}{4}, m \geq 4$, then

$$a = \pm \frac{\sqrt{3}}{6} \frac{\sqrt{3m^2 + 4m - 4}}{(m-2)}$$

and

$$\gamma = \ln r^{\pm \frac{\sqrt{3}}{6} \frac{\sqrt{3m^2 + 4m - 4}}{(m-2)}}.$$

It follows that $\tilde{g} = r^{\frac{\sqrt{3}\sqrt{3m^2+4m-4}}{3(m-2)}} g$ or $\tilde{g} = \frac{1}{r^{\frac{\sqrt{3}\sqrt{3m^2+4m-4}}{3(m-2)}}} g$.

- *Fourth case:* $p \neq \frac{m}{2}$, then $\tilde{g} = r^{2a} g$, where $a = \frac{1}{4(m-2p)}(4p - 3m + 2 - \sqrt{H(m,p)})$ or

$$a = \frac{1}{4(m-2p)}(4p - 3m + 2 + \sqrt{H(m,p)})$$

and

$$H(m,p) = \frac{12m - 12p + m^2p + 12mp - 9m^2 - 4}{p-1}.$$

Now, let's look the p -biharmonicity of the identity map

$$Id : (M^m, g) \longrightarrow (M^m, \tilde{g} = e^{2\gamma} g),$$

where $m \neq 2$.

Theorem 2. *The identity map $Id : (M^m, g) \longrightarrow (M^m, \tilde{g} = e^{2\gamma} g)$ ($m \neq 2$) is p -biharmonic if and only if*

$$\begin{aligned}
& |\text{grad } \gamma|^4 \text{grad } (\Delta \gamma) + (p-2)^2 |\text{grad } \gamma|^2 d\gamma \left(\text{grad } (|\text{grad } \gamma|^2) \right) \text{grad } \gamma \\
& + \frac{(p-2)(p-4)}{4} \left| \text{grad } (|\text{grad } \gamma|^2) \right|^2 \text{grad } \gamma + (p-4) |\text{grad } \gamma|^4 (\Delta \gamma) \text{grad } \gamma \\
& - (m+2p-p^2-2) |\text{grad } \gamma|^6 \text{grad } \gamma \\
(7) \quad & - \frac{(m-4p+2)}{2} |\text{grad } \gamma|^4 \text{grad } (|\text{grad } \gamma|^2) \\
& + (p-2) |\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \nabla_{\text{grad } (|\text{grad } \gamma|^2)} \text{grad } \gamma \\
& + \frac{(p-2)}{2} |\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \Delta (|\text{grad } \gamma|^2) \text{grad } \gamma \\
& + 2 |\text{grad } \gamma|^4 \text{Ricci } (\text{grad } \gamma) = 0.
\end{aligned}$$

Proof of Theorem 2. By equation (2), the identity map

$$Id : (M^m, g) \longrightarrow (M^m, \tilde{g} = e^{2\gamma} g)$$

is p -biharmonic if and only if

$$(8) \quad \begin{aligned} & |\tilde{\tau}(Id)|^4 \tilde{\tau}_2(Id) - \frac{(p-2)(p-4)}{4} \left| \text{grad} \left(|\tilde{\tau}(Id)|^2 \right) \right|^2 \tilde{\tau}(Id) \\ & - (p-2) |\tilde{\tau}(Id)|^2 \tilde{\nabla}_{\text{grad}(|\tilde{\tau}(Id)|^2)} \tilde{\tau}(Id) \\ & - \frac{(p-2)}{2} |\tilde{\tau}(Id)|^2 \Delta \left(|\tilde{\tau}(Id)|^2 \right) \tilde{\tau}(Id) = 0, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\tilde{\tau}(Id) = (2-m) \text{grad } \gamma.$$

A long calculation gives us

$$\begin{aligned} & \tilde{\tau}(Id) = (2-m) \text{grad } \gamma, \\ & |\tau(Id)|^2 = (2-m)^2 e^{2\gamma} |\text{grad } \gamma|^2, \\ & \text{grad} \left(|\tilde{\tau}(Id)|^2 \right) = (2-m)^2 e^{2\gamma} \text{grad} \left(|\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \right) \\ & \quad + 2(2-m)^2 e^{2\gamma} |\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \text{grad } \gamma, \\ & \left| \text{grad} \left(|\tilde{\tau}(Id)|^2 \right) \right|^2 \\ & = (2-m)^4 e^{4\gamma} \left| \text{grad} \left(|\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \right) \right|^2 + 4(2-m)^4 e^{4\gamma} |\text{grad } \gamma|^6 \\ & \quad + 4(2-m)^4 e^{4\gamma} |\text{grad } \gamma|^2 d\gamma \left(\text{grad} \left(|\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \right) \right), \\ & \Delta \left(|\tilde{\tau}(Id)|^2 \right) \\ & = (2-m)^2 e^{2\gamma} \Delta \left(|\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \right) + 4(2-m)^2 e^{2\gamma} d\gamma \left(\text{grad} \left(|\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \right) \right) \\ & \quad + 2(2-m)^2 e^{2\gamma} |\text{grad } \gamma|^2 (\Delta \gamma) + 4(2-m)^2 e^{2\gamma} |\text{grad } \gamma|^4 \\ & \tilde{\nabla}_{\text{grad}(|\tilde{\tau}(Id)|^2)} \tilde{\tau}(Id) \\ & = (2-m)^3 e^{2\gamma} \nabla_{\text{grad}(|\text{grad } \gamma|^2)} \text{grad } \gamma + 2(2-m)^3 e^{2\gamma} |\text{grad } \gamma|^4 \text{grad } \gamma \\ & \quad + 2(2-m)^3 e^{2\gamma} |\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \text{grad} \left(|\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \right) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\tau}_2(Id) & = -(2-m) \text{grad}(\Delta \gamma) + \frac{(2-m)(m-6)}{2} \text{grad} \left(|\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \right) \\ & \quad + 2(2-m) (\Delta \gamma) \text{grad } \gamma - (2-m)^2 \left(|\text{grad } \gamma|^2 \text{grad } \gamma \right) \\ & \quad - 2(2-m) \text{Ricci}(\text{grad } \gamma). \end{aligned}$$

Substituting these obtained formulas into the equation (8), we conclude that $Id : (M^m, g) \longrightarrow (M^m, \tilde{g} = e^{2\gamma}g)$ is p -biharmonic if and only if

$$\begin{aligned} & |\tilde{\tau}(Id)|^4 \tilde{\tau}_2(Id) - \frac{(p-2)(p-4)}{4} \left| \text{grad} \left(|\tilde{\tau}(Id)|^2 \right) \right|^2 \tilde{\tau}(Id) \\ & - (p-2) |\tilde{\tau}(Id)|^2 \tilde{\nabla}_{\text{grad}(|\tilde{\tau}(Id)|^2)} \tilde{\tau}(Id) \\ & - \frac{(p-2)}{2} |\tilde{\tau}(Id)|^2 \Delta \left(|\tilde{\tau}(Id)|^2 \right) \tilde{\tau}(Id) = 0, \end{aligned}$$

Example 3. Let $Id : (\mathbb{R}_+^* \times \mathbb{R}^{m-1}, g) \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}_+^* \times \mathbb{R}^{m-1}, g)$, ($m > 2$) the identity map defined by

$$Id(t, x_2, \dots, x_m) = (t, x_2, \dots, x_m),$$

where g is the Euclidean metric given by

$$g = dt^2 + dx_2^2 + \dots + dx_m^2.$$

Let $\tilde{g} = e^{2\gamma}g$ where the function γ depends only on t . By Theorem 2 and by using the fact that $p \geq 2$, we deduce that $Id : (\mathbb{R}_+^* \times \mathbb{R}^{m-1}, g) \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}_+^* \times \mathbb{R}^{m-1}, \tilde{g})$ is p -biharmonic if and only if $\beta = \gamma'$ satisfies the following differential equation

$$\begin{aligned} & (p-1)\beta\beta'' + (p-2)(p-1)(\beta')^2 \\ & + (2p^2 - 3p - m + 2)\beta^2\beta' \\ & - (m + 2p - p^2 - 2)\beta^4 = 0. \end{aligned}$$

We deduce the particular solutions of the form $\beta = \frac{a}{t}$ where $a \neq 0$. We obtain

$$(m + 2p - p^2 - 2)a^2 + (2p^2 - 3p - m + 2)a - p(p-1) = 0.$$

There are two solutions of this type:

1. If $m + 2p - p^2 - 2 = 0$, then $p = \sqrt{m-1} + 1$, $m \geq 3$ and $a = 1$. It follows that and $\gamma(t) = \ln t$, we obtain the metric $\tilde{g} = t^2g$. So, we conclude that the identity map $Id : (\mathbb{R}_+^* \times \mathbb{R}^{m-1}, \tilde{g}) \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}_+^* \times \mathbb{R}^{m-1}, g)$ is a p -biharmonic map, where $p = \sqrt{m-1} + 1$. For example, if $m = 5$, we obtain $p = 3$
2. If $m + 2p - p^2 - 2 \neq 0$, we obtain $a = \frac{p-p^2}{m+2p-p^2-2}$ or $a = 1$ then

$$\tilde{g} = t^{\frac{2(p-p^2)}{m+2p-p^2-2}}g \text{ or } \tilde{g} = t^2g.$$

In this cases, the identity map $Id : (\mathbb{R}_+^* \times \mathbb{R}^{m-1}, g) \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}_+^* \times \mathbb{R}^{m-1}, \tilde{g})$ is a p -biharmonic map. For example, if $p = m = 4$, we obtain $a = 1$ or $a = 2$ and if $p = m = 3$, we obtain $a = 1$ or $a = 3$.

Remark 2. If we consider $Id : (\mathbb{R}^m, g) \longrightarrow (\mathbb{R}^m, g)$ ($m \neq 2$) where we suppose that the function γ is radial ($\gamma = \gamma(r)$, $r = |x|$, $x \in \mathbb{R}^m$), then the p -biharmonicity of $Id : (\mathbb{R}^m, g) \longrightarrow (\mathbb{R}^m, \tilde{g} = e^{2\gamma}g)$ is equivalent to an ordinary differential equation:

$$(9) \quad \begin{aligned} & (p-1)\beta\beta'' + (2p^2 - 3p - m + 2)\beta^2\beta' + \frac{(p-1)(m-1)}{r}\beta\beta' \\ & + (p-2)(p-1)(\beta')^2 - \frac{(m-1)}{r^2}\beta^2 + \frac{(p-4)(m-1)}{r}\beta^3 \\ & - (m+2p-p^2-2)\beta^4 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

where $\beta = \gamma'$.

Example 4. If we consider $Id : (\mathbb{R}^m \setminus \{0\}, g) \longrightarrow (\mathbb{R}^m \setminus \{0\}, g)$ ($m \neq 2$) where we suppose $\beta = \frac{a}{r}$, $a \in \mathbb{R}^*$. By equation (9), we deduce that $Id : (\mathbb{R}^m \setminus \{0\}, g) \longrightarrow (\mathbb{R}^m \setminus \{0\}, \tilde{g} = e^{2\gamma}g)$ is p -biharmonic if and only if

$$(m+2p-p^2-2)a^2 + (3m-2p-mp+2p^2-2)a + p(m-p) = 0.$$

For the resolution of this last equation, we will present several cases ($p \geq 2$ and $m \geq 3$).

- *First case:* $p = m$, $m \geq 3$, we obtain $a = \frac{m+2}{m-2}$, then

$$\gamma = \ln r^{\frac{m+2}{m-2}}$$

and

$$\tilde{g} = r^{\frac{2(m+2)}{m-2}}g.$$

- *Second case:* $p = \sqrt{m-1} + 1$, $m \geq 3$, then $a = \frac{m-2}{m-2-4\sqrt{m-1}}$, which gives us

$$\tilde{g} = r^{\frac{2(m-2)}{m-2-4\sqrt{m-1}}}g.$$

For example, if $m = 10$, we obtain $p = 4$ and $a = -4$

- *Third case:* $p = \frac{3m-2}{4}$, $m \geq 4$, then

$$a = \pm \frac{\sqrt{3}}{6} \frac{\sqrt{3m^2 + 4m - 4}}{(m-2)}$$

and

$$\gamma = \ln r^{\pm \frac{\sqrt{3}}{6} \frac{\sqrt{3m^2 + 4m - 4}}{(m-2)}}.$$

It follows that

$$\tilde{g} = r^{\frac{\sqrt{3}\sqrt{3m^2 + 4m - 4}}{3(m-2)}}g$$

or

$$\tilde{g} = \frac{1}{r^{\frac{\sqrt{3}\sqrt{3m^2 + 4m - 4}}{3(m-2)}}}g.$$

- *Fourth case:* $p \neq \sqrt{m-1} + 1$, then

$$\tilde{g} = r^{2a} g,$$

where

$$a = \frac{1}{-2m - 4p + 2p^2 + 4} (3m - 2p - mp + 2p^2 - 2 + A(m, p))$$

or

$$a = -\frac{1}{-2m - 4p + 2p^2 + 4} (-3m + 2p + mp - 2p^2 + 2 + A(m, p))$$

and

$$A(m, p) = \sqrt{-12m + 8p + 12mp^2 - 10m^2p + m^2p^2 + 9m^2 - 12p^2 + 4}.$$

Note that, if $m = 1$, we obtain the following equation:

$$(p-1)a^2 - (2p-1)a + p = 0.$$

The solutions for this equation are $a = 1$ and $a = \frac{p}{p-1}$, $p \geq 2$.

In a following section, we present other examples where we give the p -biharmonicity condition of some maps.

3. Other examples

Example 5. Let the map $\phi : (\mathbb{R}^3, g_{\mathbb{R}^3}) \longrightarrow (\mathbb{R}^2, g_{\mathbb{R}^2})$ defined by

$$\phi(x_1, x_2, x_3) = \left(\sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2}, x_3 \right).$$

Using cylindrical coordinates (r, θ, x_3) in $\mathbb{R}^3$ and the standard Euclidean coordinates in $\mathbb{R}^2$, the map ϕ is written in the form

$$\phi(r \cos \theta, r \sin \theta, x_3) = (y_1, y_2),$$

where $y_1 = r = \sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2}$ et $y_2 = x_3$. The metrics on $\mathbb{R}^3$ and $\mathbb{R}^2$ have respectively the expressions

$$g_{\mathbb{R}^3} = dr^2 + r^2 d\theta^2 + dx_3^2$$

and

$$g_{\mathbb{R}^2} = dy_1^2 + dy_2^2.$$

A rigorous calculation give

$$\tau(\phi) = \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial y_1}, \quad |\tau(\phi)|^2 = \frac{1}{r^2}, \quad \tau_2(\phi) = -\frac{3}{r^3} \frac{\partial}{\partial y_1},$$

$$\operatorname{grad} \left(|\tau(\phi)|^2 \right) = -\frac{2}{r^3} \frac{\partial}{\partial r}, \quad \left| \operatorname{grad} \left(|\tau(\phi)|^2 \right) \right|^2 = \frac{4}{r^6}$$

and

$$\nabla_{\operatorname{grad}(|\tau(\phi)|^2)}^\phi \tau(\phi) = \frac{2}{r^5} \frac{\partial}{\partial y_1}, \quad \Delta \left(|\tau(\phi)|^2 \right) = \frac{4}{r^4}.$$

Then, we conclude the the map $\phi : (\mathbb{R}^3, g_{\mathbb{R}^3}) \longrightarrow (\mathbb{R}^2, g_{\mathbb{R}^2})$ is p -biharmonic if and only if $p = 1$.

Example 6. We consider the inversion $\phi : \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}$ ($n \geq 3$) defined by $\phi(x) = \frac{x}{|x|^2}$. Note that this map is p -harmonic if and only if $p = n$. A long calculation gives us

$$\tau(\phi) = \frac{2(n-2)}{r^3} \frac{\partial}{\partial r}, \quad |\tau(\phi)|^2 = \frac{4(n-2)^2}{r^6}, \quad \tau_2(\phi) = \frac{8(n-2)(n-4)}{r^5} \frac{\partial}{\partial r},$$

$$\operatorname{grad} \left(|\tau(\phi)|^2 \right) = -\frac{24(n-2)^2}{r^7} \frac{\partial}{\partial r}, \quad \left| \operatorname{grad} \left(|\tau(\phi)|^2 \right) \right|^2 = \frac{576(n-2)^4}{r^{14}}$$

and

$$\nabla_{\operatorname{grad}(|\tau(\phi)|^2)}^\phi \tau(\phi) = \frac{144(n-2)^3}{r^{11}} \frac{\partial}{\partial r}, \quad \Delta \left(|\tau(\phi)|^2 \right) = -\frac{24(n-2)^2(n-8)}{r^8},$$

where $r = |x|$, $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$. Then, the inversion $\phi : \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}$ is p -biharmonic non- p -harmonic if and only if $p = \frac{n+2}{3}$. A class of solutions is given by the case where $n = 3k + 1$, $k \in \mathbb{N}^*$, which gives us $p = k + 1$. For example, if we take $n = 7$, we find $p = 3$.

Example 7. Let $\phi : \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{S}^{n-1}$ given in polar coordinates by

$$\phi(r\theta) = (\ln r, \theta), \quad r > 0, \quad \theta \in \mathbb{S}^{n-1} \subset \mathbb{R}^n.$$

The same calculation method gives us

$$\tau(\phi) = \frac{(n-2)}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r}, \quad |\tau(\phi)|^2 = \frac{(n-2)^2}{r^4}, \quad \tau_2(\phi) = \frac{2(n-2)(n-4)}{r^4} \frac{\partial}{\partial r},$$

$$\operatorname{grad} \left(|\tau(\phi)|^2 \right) = -\frac{4(n-2)^2}{r^5} \frac{\partial}{\partial r}, \quad \left| \operatorname{grad} \left(|\tau(\phi)|^2 \right) \right|^2 = \frac{16(n-2)^4}{r^{10}}$$

and

$$\nabla_{\operatorname{grad}(|\tau(\phi)|^2)}^\phi \tau(\phi) = \frac{8(n-2)^3}{r^8} \frac{\partial}{\partial r}, \quad \Delta \left(|\tau(\phi)|^2 \right) = -\frac{4(n-2)^2(n-6)}{r^6}.$$

We conclude that ϕ is p -biharmonic if and only if $p = \frac{n}{2}$, $n \geq 3$ or $p = 1$.

4. The warped product and the p -biharmonic maps

Let (M^m, g) and (N^n, h) two Riemannian manifolds and let $f \in C^\infty(M)$ be a positive function. The warped product $M \times_f N$ is the product manifolds $M \times N$ endowed with the Riemannian metric G_f defined, for $X, Y \in \Gamma(T(M \times N))$, by

$$G_f(X, Y) = g(d\pi(X), d\pi(Y)) + (f \circ \pi)^2 h(d\eta(X), d\eta(Y)),$$

where $\pi : M \times N \rightarrow M$ and $\eta : M \times N \rightarrow N$ are respectively the first and the second projection. The function f is called the warping function of the warped product. Let $X, Y \in \Gamma(T(M \times N))$, $X = (X_1, X_2)$, $Y = (Y_1, Y_2)$. Denote by ∇ the Levi-Civita connection on the Riemannian product $M \times N$. The Levi-Civita connection $\tilde{\nabla}$ of the warped product $M \times_f N$ is given by

$$(10) \quad \begin{aligned} \tilde{\nabla}_X Y &= \nabla_X Y + X_1 (\ln f) (0, Y_2) + Y_1 (\ln f) (0, X_2) \\ &\quad - f^2 h(X_2, Y_2) (\text{grad } \ln f, 0). \end{aligned}$$

There are several methods to give the relation between the curvature tensor fields of G_f and G , we are going to prove one of these methods.

Proposition 1. *The relation between the curvature tensor fields of G_f and G is given by*

$$(11) \quad \begin{aligned} \tilde{R}(X, Y)Z &= R(X, Y)Z - f^2 h(Y_2, Z_2) (\nabla_{X_1} \text{grad } \ln f, 0) \\ &\quad + f^2 h(X_2, Z_2) (\nabla_{Y_1} \text{grad } \ln f, 0) \\ &\quad - f^2 h(Y_2, Z_2) X_1 (\ln f) (\text{grad } \ln f, 0) \\ &\quad + f^2 h(X_2, Z_2) Y_1 (\ln f) (\text{grad } \ln f, 0) \\ &\quad - f^2 h(Y_2, Z_2) |\text{grad } \ln f|^2 (0, X_2) \\ &\quad + f^2 h(X_2, Z_2) |\text{grad } \ln f|^2 (0, Y_2) \\ &\quad - g(\nabla_{Y_1} \text{grad } \ln f, Z_1) (0, X_2) \\ &\quad + g(\nabla_{X_1} \text{grad } \ln f, Z_1) (0, Y_2) \\ &\quad + X_1 (\ln f) Z_1 (\ln f) (0, Y_2) \\ &\quad - Y_1 (\ln f) Z_1 (\ln f) (0, X_2) \end{aligned}$$

for all $X, Y, Z \in \Gamma(T(M \times N))$.

Proof of Proposition 1. By definition, we have

$$\tilde{R}(X, Y)Z = \tilde{\nabla}_X \tilde{\nabla}_Y Z - \tilde{\nabla}_Y \tilde{\nabla}_X Z - \tilde{\nabla}_{[X, Y]} Z.$$

Using equation (10), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\nabla}_Y Z &= \nabla_Y Z + Y_1 (\ln f) (0, Z_2) + Z_1 (\ln f) (0, Y_2) \\ &\quad - f^2 h(Y_2, Z_2) (\text{grad } \ln f, 0), \end{aligned}$$

then

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{\nabla}_X \tilde{\nabla}_Y Z &= \tilde{\nabla}_X \nabla_Y Z + \tilde{\nabla}_X Y_1 (\ln f) (0, Z_2) + \tilde{\nabla}_X Z_1 (\ln f) (0, Y_2) \\ &\quad - \tilde{\nabla}_X f^2 h (Y_2, Z_2) (\text{grad } \ln f, 0).\end{aligned}$$

A long calculation gives us

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{\nabla}_X \nabla_Y Z &= \nabla_X \nabla_Y Z + X_1 (\ln f) (0, \nabla_{Y_2} Z_2) + (\nabla_{Y_1} Z_1) (\ln f) (0, X_2) \\ &\quad - f^2 h (X_2, \nabla_{Y_2} Z_2) (\text{grad } \ln f, 0),\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{\nabla}_X Y_1 (\ln f) (0, Z_2) &= X_1 (\ln f) Y_1 (\ln f) (0, Z_2) + X_1 (Y_1 (\ln f)) (0, Z_2) \\ &\quad - f^2 h (X_2, Z_2) Y_1 (\ln f) (\text{grad } \ln f, 0) \\ &\quad + Y_1 (\ln f) (0, \nabla_{X_2} Z_2),\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{\nabla}_X Z_1 (\ln f) (0, Y_2) &= X_1 (\ln f) Z_1 (\ln f) (0, Y_2) + X_1 (Z_1 (\ln f)) (0, Y_2) \\ &\quad - f^2 h (X_2, Y_2) Z_1 (\ln f) (\text{grad } \ln f, 0) \\ &\quad + Z_1 (\ln f) (0, \nabla_{X_2} Y_2)\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{\nabla}_X f^2 h (Y_2, Z_2) (\text{grad } \ln f, 0) &= f^2 h (Y_2, Z_2) (\nabla_{X_1} \text{grad } \ln f, 0) \\ &\quad + 2f^2 X_1 (\ln f) h (Y_2, Z_2) (\text{grad } \ln f, 0) \\ &\quad + f^2 h (Y_2, Z_2) |\text{grad } \ln f|^2 (0, X_2) \\ &\quad + f^2 h (\nabla_{X_2} Y_2, Z_2) (\text{grad } \ln f, 0) \\ &\quad + f^2 h (Y_2, \nabla_{X_2} Z_2) (\text{grad } \ln f, 0).\end{aligned}$$

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{\nabla}_X \tilde{\nabla}_Y Z &= \nabla_X \nabla_Y Z - f^2 h (X_2, \nabla_{Y_2} Z_2) (\text{grad } \ln f, 0) - f^2 h (Y_2, Z_2) (\nabla_{X_1} \text{grad } \ln f, 0) \\ &\quad - f^2 h (X_2, Y_2) Z_1 (\ln f) (\text{grad } \ln f, 0) - f^2 h (\nabla_{X_2} Y_2, Z_2) (\text{grad } \ln f, 0) \\ &\quad - 2f^2 X_1 (\ln f) h (Y_2, Z_2) (\text{grad } \ln f, 0) - f^2 h (Y_2, \nabla_{X_2} Z_2) (\text{grad } \ln f, 0) \\ &\quad - f^2 h (X_2, Z_2) Y_1 (\ln f) (\text{grad } \ln f, 0) - f^2 h (Y_2, Z_2) |\text{grad } \ln f|^2 (0, X_2) \\ &\quad + (\nabla_{Y_1} Z_1) (\ln f) (0, X_2) + X_1 (Z_1 (\ln f)) (0, Y_2) + X_1 (\ln f) Z_1 (\ln f) (0, Y_2) \\ &\quad + X_1 (\ln f) Y_1 (\ln f) (0, Z_2) + X_1 (Y_1 (\ln f)) (0, Z_2) + X_1 (\ln f) (0, \nabla_{Y_2} Z_2) \\ &\quad + Y_1 (\ln f) (0, \nabla_{X_2} Z_2) + Z_1 (\ln f) (0, \nabla_{X_2} Y_2).\end{aligned}$$

A similar calculation gives

$$\begin{aligned}
& \widetilde{\nabla}_Y \widetilde{\nabla}_X Z \\
&= \nabla_Y \nabla_X Z - f^2 h(Y_2, \nabla_{X_2} Z_2) (\text{grad } \ln f, 0) - f^2 h(X_2, Z_2) (\nabla_{Y_1} \text{grad } \ln f, 0) \\
&- f^2 h(X_2, Y_2) Z_1 (\ln f) (\text{grad } \ln f, 0) - f^2 h(\nabla_{Y_2} X_2, Z_2) (\text{grad } \ln f, 0) \\
&- 2f^2 Y_1 (\ln f) h(X_2, Z_2) (\text{grad } \ln f, 0) - f^2 h(X_2, \nabla_{Y_2} Z_2) (\text{grad } \ln f, 0) \\
&- f^2 h(Y_2, Z_2) X_1 (\ln f) (\text{grad } \ln f, 0) - f^2 h(X_2, Z_2) |\text{grad } \ln f|^2(0, Y_2) \\
&+ (\nabla_{X_1} Z_1) (\ln f) (0, Y_2) + Y_1 (Z_1 (\ln f)) (0, X_2) + Y_1 (\ln f) Z_1 (\ln f) (0, X_2) \\
&+ Y_1 (\ln f) X_1 (\ln f) (0, Z_2) + Y_1 (X_1 (\ln f)) (0, Z_2) + Y_1 (\ln f) (0, \nabla_{X_2} Z_2) \\
&+ X_1 (\ln f) (0, \nabla_{Y_2} Z_2) + Z_1 (\ln f) (0, \nabla_{Y_2} X_2)
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
\widetilde{\nabla}_{[X,Y]} Z &= \nabla_{[X,Y]} Z + ([X_1, Y_1]) (\ln f) (0, Z_2) + Z_1 (\ln f) (0, [X_2, Y_2]) \\
&- f^2 h(X_2, [X_2, Y_2]) (\text{grad } \ln f, 0),
\end{aligned}$$

which leads us to the following formula

$$\begin{aligned}
\widetilde{R}(X, Y) Z &= R(X, Y) Z - f^2 h(Y_2, Z_2) (\nabla_{X_1} \text{grad } \ln f, 0) \\
&+ f^2 h(X_2, Z_2) (\nabla_{Y_1} \text{grad } \ln f, 0) \\
&- f^2 h(Y_2, Z_2) X_1 (\ln f) (\text{grad } \ln f, 0) \\
&+ f^2 h(X_2, Z_2) Y_1 (\ln f) (\text{grad } \ln f, 0) \\
&- f^2 h(Y_2, Z_2) |\text{grad } \ln f|^2(0, X_2) \\
&+ f^2 h(X_2, Z_2) |\text{grad } \ln f|^2(0, Y_2) \\
&- g(\nabla_{Y_1} \text{grad } \ln f, Z_1) (0, X_2) \\
&+ g(\nabla_{X_1} \text{grad } \ln f, Z_1) (0, Y_2) \\
&+ X_1 (\ln f) Z_1 (\ln f) (0, Y_2) \\
&- Y_1 (\ln f) Z_1 (\ln f) (0, X_2)
\end{aligned}$$

As consequence, we obtain

Proposition 2.

$$\begin{aligned}
\widetilde{Ricci}(X) &= (Ricci(X_1), 0) - n(\nabla_{X_1} \text{grad } \ln f, 0) - nX_1 (\ln f) (\text{grad } \ln f, 0) \\
&+ \frac{1}{f^2} (0, Ricci(X_2)) - (\Delta \ln f) (0, X_2) - n|\text{grad } \ln f|^2(0, X_2),
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\widetilde{Ric}(X, Y) &= Ric(X_1, Y_1) + Ric(X_2, Y_2) - ng(\nabla_{X_1} \text{grad } \ln f, Y_1) \\
&- nX_1 (\ln f) Y_1 (\ln f) - f^2 (\Delta \ln f) h(X_2, Y_2) \\
&- nf^2 |\text{grad } \ln f|^2 h(X_2, Y_2)
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$S_{G_f} = S_g + \frac{1}{f^2} S_h - 2n (\Delta \ln f) - n(n+1) |\text{grad} \ln f|^2.$$

Using the fact that

$$\Delta (f^k) = k f^k (\Delta \ln f + k |\text{grad} \ln f|^2),$$

we obtain the following result. If $S_g = S_h = 0$, then

$$S_{G_f} = 0 \text{ if and only if the function } f^{\frac{n+1}{2}} \text{ is harmonic.}$$

In the first, we study the p -biharmonicity of the first projection, we obtain the following result:

Theorem 3. *The first projection $\pi : M^m \times_f N^n \longrightarrow M^m$ is p -biharmonic if and only if*

$$(12) \quad \begin{aligned} & |\text{grad} \ln f|^4 \text{grad} (\Delta \ln f) + \frac{(p-2)}{2} |\text{grad} \ln f|^2 \Delta (|\text{grad} \ln f|^2) \text{grad} \ln f \\ & + \frac{n}{2} |\text{grad} \ln f|^4 \text{grad} (|\text{grad} \ln f|^2) + 2 |\text{grad} \ln f|^4 \text{Ricci}(\text{grad} \ln f) \\ & + (p-2) |\text{grad} \ln f|^2 \nabla_{\text{grad}(|\text{grad} \ln f|^2)} \text{grad} \ln f \\ & + \frac{(p-2)(p-4)}{4} \left| \text{grad} (|\text{grad} \ln f|^2) \right|^2 \text{grad} \ln f = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Proof of Theorem 3. By equation (2), the first projection

$$\pi : M^m \times_f N^n \longrightarrow M^m$$

is p -biharmonic if and only if

$$\begin{aligned} & |\tilde{\tau}(\pi)|^4 \tilde{\tau}_2(\pi) - (p-2) |\tilde{\tau}(\pi)|^2 \nabla_{\text{grad}(|\tilde{\tau}(\pi)|^2)}^\pi \tilde{\tau}(\pi) \\ & - \frac{(p-2)(p-4)}{4} \left| \text{grad} (|\tilde{\tau}(\pi)|^2) \right|^2 \tilde{\tau}(\pi) \\ & - \frac{(p-2)}{2} |\tilde{\tau}(\pi)|^2 \Delta (|\tilde{\tau}(\pi)|^2) \tilde{\tau}(\pi) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

A long and rigorous calculation gives us the following formulas:

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\tau}(\pi) &= n (\text{grad} \ln f) \circ \pi, \quad |\tilde{\tau}(\pi)|^2 = n^2 |\text{grad} \ln f|^2, \\ \Delta (|\tilde{\tau}(\pi)|^2) &= n^2 \Delta (|\text{grad} \ln f|^2), \quad |\tilde{\tau}(\pi)|^4 = n^4 |\text{grad} \ln f|^4, \\ \text{grad} (|\tilde{\tau}(\pi)|^2) &= n^2 \text{grad} (|\text{grad} \ln f|^2) \circ \pi, \\ \left| \text{grad} (|\tilde{\tau}(\pi)|^2) \right|^2 &= n^4 \left| \text{grad} (|\text{grad} \ln f|^2) \right|^2, \end{aligned}$$

$$\nabla_{\text{grad}(|\tilde{\tau}(\pi)|^2)}^\pi \tilde{\tau}(\pi) = n^3 \left(\nabla_{\text{grad}(|\text{grad} \ln f|^2)} \text{grad} \ln f \right) \circ \pi$$

and

$$\tilde{\tau}_2(\pi) = -n \left(\text{grad}(\Delta \ln f) + 2\text{Ricci}(\text{grad} \ln f) + \frac{n}{2} \text{grad}(|\text{grad} \ln f|^2) \right) \circ \pi.$$

Then, we deduce that the first projection π is p -biharmonic if and only if

$$\begin{aligned} & |\text{grad} \ln f|^4 \text{grad}(\Delta \ln f) + \frac{(p-2)}{2} |\text{grad} \ln f|^2 \Delta(|\text{grad} \ln f|^2) \text{grad} \ln f \\ & + \frac{n}{2} |\text{grad} \ln f|^4 \text{grad}(|\text{grad} \ln f|^2) + 2 |\text{grad} \ln f|^4 \text{Ricci}(\text{grad} \ln f) \\ & + (p-2) |\text{grad} \ln f|^2 \nabla_{\text{grad}(|\text{grad} \ln f|^2)} \text{grad} \ln f \\ & + \frac{(p-2)(p-4)}{4} \left| \text{grad}(|\text{grad} \ln f|^2) \right|^2 \text{grad} \ln f = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Example 8. We consider the first projection

$$\pi : \mathbb{R}^m \setminus \{0\} \times_f N^n \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^m \setminus \{0\}$$

defined by

$$\pi(x) = (t, x_2, \dots, x_2), y) = (t, x_2, \dots, x_2),$$

where we suppose that the function f depends only on the t . By the Theorem 1, we deduce that π is p -biharmonic if and only if the function $\beta(t) = (\ln f(t))'$ satisfies the following differential equation

$$(p-1)\beta\beta'' + (p-1)(p-2)(\beta')^2 + n\beta^2\beta' = 0.$$

To solve this last equation, we will treat two cases:

1. Looking for particular solutions of type $\beta(t) = \frac{a}{t}$ ($a \in \mathbb{R}^*$), then π is p -biharmonic if and only if $a = \frac{p^2-p}{n}$. In this case, we obtain $f(t) = Ct^{\frac{p^2-p}{n}}$, $C > 0$.
2. $\beta = a$ ($a \in \mathbb{R}^*$) is a trivial solution of the differential equation. We obtain $f(t) = Ce^{at}$, $C > 0$.

Example 9. In this example, we suppose that the function f is radial ($f = f(r)$). A rigorous calculus give us

- $\text{grad}(|\text{grad} \ln f|^2) = 2\beta\beta' \frac{\partial}{\partial r},$
- $\text{grad} \Delta \ln f = \left(\beta'' + \frac{(m-1)}{r} \beta' - \frac{(m-1)}{r^2} \beta \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial r},$
- $\Delta(|\text{grad} \ln f|^2) = 2\beta\beta'' + 2(\beta')^2 + \frac{2(m-1)}{r} \beta\beta',$

$$\bullet \nabla_{\text{grad}(|\text{grad} \ln f|^2)} \text{grad} \ln f = 2\beta (\beta')^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial r},$$

where $\beta(r) = (\ln f(r))'$. Then, by Theorem 3, we deduce that the first projection

$$\pi : \mathbb{R}^m \setminus \{0\} \times_f N^n \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^m \setminus \{0\}$$

defined by $\pi(x, y) = x$ is p -biharmonic if and only if the function β satisfies the following differential equation

$$(p-1)\beta\beta'' + (p-1)(p-2)(\beta')^2 + n\beta^2\beta' + \frac{(p-1)(m-1)}{r}\beta\beta' - \frac{(m-1)}{r^2}\beta^2 = 0.$$

Looking for particular solutions of type $\beta = \frac{a}{r}$ ($a \in \mathbb{R}^*$), then π is p -biharmonic if and only if

$$a = \frac{p(p-m)}{n}.$$

We obtain

$$f(r) = Cr^{\frac{p(p-m)}{n}}, \quad C > 0$$

and the first projection π is p -biharmonic.

Now, we consider two Riemannian manifolds (M^m, g) and (N^n, h) and we will study the p -biharmonicity of the inclusion map $i_{x_0} : N \longrightarrow (M \times_f N, G_f)$ defined by $i_{x_0}(y) = (x_0, y)$. Note that for this map, we have $di_{x_0}(Y) = (0, Y)$ for any $Y \in \Gamma(TN)$. In the case where $f \in C^\infty(M)$, we obtain (see [4])

Proposition 3 ([4]). *The tension and bitension field of the inclusion map $i_{x_0} : N \longrightarrow (M \times_f N, G_f)$ where $f \in C^\infty(M)$ are given by*

$$\tilde{\tau}(i_{x_0}) = -nf^2(\text{grad} \ln f, 0) \circ i_{x_0}$$

and

$$\tilde{\tau}_2(i_{x_0}) = -\frac{n^2}{2}f^4\left(\left(\text{grad}\left(|\text{grad} \ln f|^2\right), 0\right) + 4|\text{grad} \ln f|^2(\text{grad} \ln f, 0)\right) \circ i_{x_0}.$$

Then, i_{x_0} is biharmonic if and only if

$$\text{grad}\left(|\text{grad} \ln f|^2\right) + 4|\text{grad} \ln f|^2 \text{grad} \ln f = 0.$$

Remark 3. Based on the following two equations:

$$Tr_h\left(\tilde{\nabla}^{i_{x_0}}\right)^2(\text{grad} \ln f, 0) \circ i_{x_0} = -nf^2|\text{grad} \ln f|^2(\text{grad} \ln f, 0) \circ i_{x_0}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} Tr_h \tilde{R}(\tilde{\tau}(i_{x_0}), di_{x_0}) di_{x_0} &= \frac{n^2}{2}f^4\left(\text{grad}\left(|\text{grad} \ln f|^2\right), 0\right) \circ i_{x_0} \\ &+ n^2f^4|\text{grad} \ln f|^2(\text{grad} \ln f, 0) \circ i_{x_0}, \end{aligned}$$

we deduce that the p -bitension field is given by

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{\tau}_{p,2}(i_{x_0}) &= -\frac{1}{p}n^p f^{2p} |\text{grad} \ln f|^{p-2} \left(\text{grad} \left(|\text{grad} \ln f|^2 \right), 0 \right) \circ i_{x_0} \\ &\quad - \frac{4}{p}n^p f^{2p} |\text{grad} \ln f|^p (\text{grad} \ln f, 0) \circ i_{x_0}.\end{aligned}$$

Then, we conclude that

The inclusion map i_{x_0} is p -biharmonic if and only if it is biharmonic.

Proposition 4. *For the inclusion map $i_{x_0} : N \longrightarrow (M \times_f N, G_f)$, we have*

$$\tilde{S}_2(i_{x_0}) = -\frac{n(n-4)}{2}f^4 |\text{grad} \ln f|^2 h \circ i_{x_0}.$$

Proof of Proposition 4. By definition, we have

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{S}_2(i_{x_0})(X, Y) &= \left(\frac{1}{2} |\tilde{\tau}(i_{x_0})|^2 + \text{Tr}_h G_g \left(\tilde{\nabla} \tilde{\tau}(i_{x_0}), di_{x_0} \right) \right) h(X, Y) \\ &\quad - G_f \left(\tilde{\nabla}_X \tilde{\tau}(i_{x_0}), di_{x_0}(Y) \right) - G_f \left(\tilde{\nabla}_Y \tilde{\tau}(i_{x_0}), di_{x_0}(X) \right).\end{aligned}$$

Using the fact that $\tilde{\tau}(i_{x_0}) = -nf^2 (\text{grad} \ln f, 0) \circ i_{x_0}$, a rigorous calculation gives

$$|\tilde{\tau}(i_{x_0})|^2 = n^2 f^4 |\text{grad} \ln f|^2,$$

$$\text{Tr}_h G_f \left(\tilde{\nabla} \tilde{\tau}(i_{x_0}), d\phi \right) = -n^2 f^4 |\text{grad} \ln f|^2,$$

$$G_f \left(\tilde{\nabla}_X \tilde{\tau}(i_{x_0}), di_{x_0}(Y) \right) = -nf^4 |\text{grad} \ln f|^2 h(X, Y)$$

and

$$G_f \left(\tilde{\nabla}_Y \tilde{\tau}(i_{x_0}), di_{x_0}(X) \right) = -nf^4 |\text{grad} \ln f|^2 h(X, Y).$$

It follows that

$$\tilde{S}_2(i_{x_0})(X, Y) = -\frac{n(n-4)}{2}f^4 |\text{grad} \ln f|^2 h(X, Y).$$

Remark 4. Based on the expression of $\tilde{S}_2(i_{x_0})$, we conclude that

$$\tilde{S}_2(i_{x_0}) = 0 \text{ if and only if } n = 4.$$

5. Conclusion

In this paper, we have presented some constructions of p -biharmonic maps by conformal deformation and by using the warped product, we have studied the p -biharmonicity in some particular cases. The results obtained have allowed us to construct new examples of p -biharmonic maps. This paper is a generalization of the results obtained for biharmonic maps and our next objective is to study this class of maps by using the doubly warped product manifolds.

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