

## Projective Flat Finsler Space with Special $(\alpha, \beta)$ -Metrics

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**Abstract:** In this article, we devoted to study about the  $n$ -dimensional Finsler  $F^n = (M^n, L)$  with an  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -metric  $L(\alpha, \beta)$  to be projectively flat, where  $\alpha$  is Riemannian metric and  $\beta$  is differential 1-form under some geometric conditions on the basis of Matsumoto results.

**Keywords:** Finsler space,  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -metrics, Projective flatness.

### I. Introduction

The concept of an  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -metric  $L(\alpha, \beta)$  was introduced in 1972 by M. Matsumoto [1]. An  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -metric is of the form  $F = \alpha\phi(s)$ ;  $s = \frac{\beta}{\alpha}$  where  $\alpha^2 = \alpha_{ij}(x)y^i y^j$  is Riemannian metric and  $\beta = b_i(x)y^i$  is a differential 1-form with  $\|\beta_x\| < b_0, x \in M$ . The function  $\phi(s)$  is a  $C^\infty$  positive function on an open interval  $(-b_0, b_0)$  satisfying:

$$\phi(s) - s\phi'(s) + (b^2 - s^2) > 0.$$

In this case, the fundamental form of the metric tensor induced by  $F$  is positive definite.

An  $n$ -dimensional Finsler space  $F^n = (M^n, L)$  equipped with the fundamental function  $L(x, y)$  is called an  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -metric if  $L$  is a positively homogeneous function of degree one two variables  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ .

A Finsler space  $F^n = (M^n, L)$  is called a locally minkowskian space [2], if  $M^n$  is covered by co-ordinate neighborhood system  $(x^i)$  in each of which  $L$  is a function of  $(y^i)$  only. A Finsler space  $F^n = (M^n, L)$  is called projective flat if  $F^n$  is projective to a locally minkowskian space. The condition for a Finsler space to be projectively flat was studied by L. Berwlad [3], in tensorial form and completed by M. Matsumoto [4]. Later on many authors worked on projective flatness of  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -metric ([1], [5], [6], [7], [8], [9], [10], [11], [12]).

The purpose of the present article is devoted to studying the condition for a Finsler space with certain special  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -metrics to be projective flat.

### II. Preliminaries

A Finsler metric on a manifold  $M$  is a function  $F: TM \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  which has the following properties:

(i)  $F$  is a  $C^\infty$  on  $TM_0$ ,

(ii)  $F(x, \lambda y) = \lambda F(x, y), \lambda > 0$ ,

(iii) For any tangent vector  $y \in T_x M$ , the vertical-Hessian  $\frac{1}{2}F^2$  given by  $g_{ij}(x, y) = \frac{1}{2}[F^2]y^i y^j$ , is positive definite.

The canonical spray of  $F$  denoted by  $G = y^i \left\{ \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \right\} - 2G^i(x, y) \frac{\partial}{\partial y^i}$  and it is defined as

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

where the matrix  $(g^{ij})$  means the inverse of the matrix  $(g_{ij})$ .

Let us consider an  $n$ -dimensional Finsler space  $F^n = (M^n, L)$  with an  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -metric  $L(\alpha, \beta)$ . The space  $R^n = (M^n, \alpha)$  is called the associated Riemannian space. Let  $\gamma_{jk}^i(x)$  be the christoffel symbols constructed from  $\alpha$  and we denote the covariant differentiation with respect to  $\gamma_{jk}^i(x)$  by  $(|)$ . From the differential 1-form  $\beta(x, y) = b_i(x)y^i$ , we define

$$2r_{ij} = b_{i|j} + b_{j|i}, \quad 2s_{ij} = b_{i|j} - b_{j|i},$$

$$s_j^i = a^{ih} s_{hj}, \quad s_j = b_i s_j^i, \quad b^i = a^{ih} b_h, \quad b^2 = b^i b_i.$$

According to [1], a Finsler space  $F^n = (M^n, L)$  with an  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -metric  $L(\alpha, \beta)$  is projectively flat if and only if for any point of space  $M$  there exist local coordinate neighborhoods containing the point such that  $\gamma_{jk}^i(x)$  satisfies:

$$\frac{(\gamma_{00}^i - \gamma_{000}^i y^i)}{2} + \left( \frac{\alpha L_\beta}{L_\alpha} \right) s_0^i + \left( \frac{L_{\alpha\alpha}}{L_\alpha} \right) \left( C + \frac{\alpha r_{00}}{2\beta} \right) \left( \frac{\alpha^2 b^i}{\beta} - y^i \right) = 0, \quad (2.1)$$

where a subscript 0 means a contraction by  $y^i$ ,  $L_\alpha = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \alpha}$ ,  $L_\beta = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \beta}$ ,  $L_{\alpha\alpha} = \frac{\partial L_\alpha}{\partial \alpha}$ ,  $L_{\beta\beta} = \frac{\partial L_\beta}{\partial \beta}$ , and C is given by

$$C + \left(\frac{\alpha^2 L_\beta}{\beta L_\alpha}\right) s_0 + \left(\frac{\alpha L_{\alpha\alpha}}{\beta^2 L_\alpha}\right) (\alpha^2 b^2 - \beta^2) \left(C + \frac{\alpha r_{00}}{2\beta}\right) = 0. \tag{2.2}$$

By the homogeneity of L we know  $\alpha^2 L_{\alpha\alpha} = \beta^2 L_{\beta\beta}$ , so that (2.2) can be written as

$$\left\{1 + \left(\frac{L_{\beta\beta}}{\alpha L_\alpha}\right) (\alpha^2 b^2 - \beta^2)\right\} \left(C + \frac{\alpha r_{00}}{2\beta}\right) = \left(\frac{\alpha}{2\beta}\right) \left\{r_{00} - \left(\frac{2\alpha L_\beta}{L_\alpha}\right) s_0\right\}. \tag{2.3}$$

If  $1 + \left(\frac{L_{\beta\beta}}{\alpha L_\alpha}\right) (\alpha^2 b^2 - \beta^2) \neq 0$ , then we can eliminate  $\left(C + \frac{\alpha r_{00}}{2\beta}\right)$  in (2.1) and it is written in the form,

$$\left\{1 + \left(\frac{L_{\beta\beta}}{\alpha L_\alpha}\right) (\alpha^2 b^2 - \beta^2)\right\} \left\{\frac{\left(\frac{\gamma_{00}^i - \gamma_{000} y^i}{\alpha^2}\right)}{2} + \left(\frac{\alpha L_\beta}{L_\alpha}\right) s_0^i\right\} + \left(\frac{L_{\alpha\alpha}}{L_\alpha}\right) \left(\frac{\alpha}{2\beta}\right) \left\{r_{00} - \left(\frac{2\alpha L_\beta}{L_\alpha}\right) s_0\right\} \left(\frac{\alpha^2 b^i}{\beta} - y^i\right) = 0. \tag{2.4}$$

Thus we state that

**Theorem 2.1:** [12] If  $1 + \left(\frac{L_{\beta\beta}}{\alpha L_\alpha}\right) (\alpha^2 b^2 - \beta^2) \neq 0$ , then a Finsler space  $F^n$  with an  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -metric is projectively flat if and only if (2.4) is satisfied.

According to [13], It is known that if  $\alpha^2$  contains  $\beta$  as a factor, then the dimension is equal to two and  $b^2 = 0$ . So throughout this paper, we assume that the dimension is more than two and  $b^2 \neq 0$ , that is,  $\alpha^2 \not\equiv 0 \pmod{\beta}$ .

### III. Projective Flat Finsler Space with $(\alpha, \beta)$ -metric $L^2 = \alpha^2 + \epsilon\alpha\beta + k\beta^2$

Let  $F^n$  be a Finsler space with an  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -metric is given by

$$L^2 = \alpha^2 + \epsilon\alpha\beta + k\beta^2; \epsilon, k \neq 0. \tag{3.1}$$

The partial derivatives with respect to  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  of (3.1) are given by

$$L_\alpha = \frac{2\alpha + \epsilon\beta}{2\sqrt{\alpha^2 + \epsilon\alpha\beta + k\beta^2}}, \quad L_{\alpha\alpha} = \frac{(4k - \epsilon^2)\beta^2}{4\sqrt{\alpha^2 + \epsilon\alpha\beta + k\beta^2}(\alpha^2 + \epsilon\alpha\beta + k\beta^2)},$$

$$L_\beta = \frac{\epsilon\alpha + 2k\beta}{2\sqrt{\alpha^2 + \epsilon\alpha\beta + k\beta^2}}, \quad L_{\beta\beta} = \frac{(4k - \epsilon^2)\alpha^2}{4\sqrt{\alpha^2 + \epsilon\alpha\beta + k\beta^2}(\alpha^2 + \epsilon\alpha\beta + k\beta^2)}. \tag{3.2}$$

If  $1 + \left(\frac{L_{\beta\beta}}{\alpha L_\alpha}\right) (\alpha^2 b^2 - \beta^2) = 0$ , then we have  $[\{4 + (4k - \epsilon^2)b^2\}\alpha^3 + 6\epsilon\alpha^2\beta + 3\epsilon^2\alpha\beta^2 + 2\epsilon k\beta^3] = 0$  which leads to contradiction. Thus  $1 + \left(\frac{L_{\beta\beta}}{\alpha L_\alpha}\right) (\alpha^2 b^2 - \beta^2) \neq 0$  and hence theorem (2.1) can be applied.

Substituting (3.2) into (2.4), we get

$$\{(2\alpha^2 + 2\epsilon\alpha\beta + 2k\beta^2)(2\alpha + \epsilon\beta) + (4k - \epsilon^2)(\alpha^3 b^2 - \alpha\beta^2)\} \{(\alpha^2 \gamma_{00}^i - \gamma_{000} y^i)(2\alpha + \epsilon\beta) + 2\alpha^3(\epsilon\alpha + 2k\beta s_0^i + 4k - \epsilon^2\alpha^2 b^i - \beta \gamma_{00}^i r_{00}^i + 2\epsilon\alpha\beta + 2k\beta s_0^i)\} = 0. \tag{3.3}$$

The terms of (3.3) can be written as

$$(p_7 \alpha^6 + p_5 \alpha^4 + p_3 \alpha^2 + p_1) \alpha + (p_6 \alpha^6 + p_4 \alpha^4 + p_2 \alpha^2 + p_0) = 0. \tag{3.4}$$

Where

$$p_7 = \{8\epsilon + (8\epsilon k - 2\epsilon^3)b^2\} s_0^i - 2\epsilon(4k - \epsilon^2) s_0 b^i,$$

$$p_6 = 2\{4 + (4k - \epsilon^2)b^2\} \gamma_{00}^i + \{12\epsilon^2 + 16k + (16k^2 - 4\epsilon^2 k)b^2\} s_0^i \beta + 2(4k - \epsilon^2) b^i r_{00} - 4k(4k - \epsilon^2) \beta s_0 b^i,$$

$$p_5 = \{16\epsilon + \epsilon(4k - \epsilon^2)b^2\} \beta \gamma_{00}^i + (24\epsilon k + 6\epsilon^3)\beta^2 s_0^i + (4k\epsilon - \epsilon^3)\beta r_{00} b^i + (8k\epsilon - 2\epsilon^3)\beta s_0 y^i,$$

$$p_4 = 12\epsilon^2 \beta^2 \gamma_{00}^i - \{8 + (8k - 2\epsilon^2)b^2\} \gamma_{000} y^i + 16k\epsilon^2 \beta^3 s_0^i - (8k - 2\epsilon^2)\beta \gamma_{00}^i r_{00} + (16k^2 - 4\epsilon^2 k)\beta^2 s_0 y^i,$$

$$p_3 = (3\epsilon^3 + 4\epsilon k)\beta^3 \gamma_{00}^i - \{16\epsilon + (4k\epsilon - \epsilon^3)b^2\} \gamma_{000} y^i \beta + 8k^2 \epsilon \beta^4 s_0^i - (4k\epsilon - \epsilon^3)\beta^2 \gamma_{00}^i r_{00},$$

$$p_2 = -12\epsilon^2 \beta^2 \gamma_{000} y^i + 2\epsilon^2 k \beta^4 \gamma_{00}^i,$$

$$p_1 = -4\epsilon k \beta^3 \gamma_{000} y^i,$$

$$p_0 = -2\epsilon^2 k \beta^4 \gamma_{000} y^i.$$

Since  $(p_7 \alpha^6 + p_5 \alpha^4 + p_3 \alpha^2 + p_1)$  and  $(p_6 \alpha^6 + p_4 \alpha^4 + p_2 \alpha^2 + p_0)$  are rational and  $\alpha$  irrational in  $y^i$ , we have

$$(p_7 \alpha^6 + p_5 \alpha^4 + p_3 \alpha^2 + p_1) = 0, \tag{3.5}$$

$$(p_6 \alpha^6 + p_4 \alpha^4 + p_2 \alpha^2 + p_0) = 0. \tag{3.6}$$

The term which does not contain  $\beta$  in (3.5) is  $p_7 \alpha^6$ . Therefore there exist a homogeneous polynomial  $v_6$  of degree six in  $y^i$  such that

$$[\{8\epsilon + (8\epsilon k - 2\epsilon^3)b^2\} s_0^i - 2\epsilon(4k - \epsilon^2) s_0 b^i] \alpha^6 = \beta v_6^i.$$

Since  $\alpha^2 \not\equiv 0 \pmod{\beta}$ , we have a function  $u^i = u^i(x)$  satisfying

$$\{8\epsilon + (8\epsilon k - 2\epsilon^3)b^2\} s_0^i - 2\epsilon(4k - \epsilon^2) s_0 b^i = \beta u^i. \tag{3.7}$$

Contracting above by  $b_i$ , we have

$$8\epsilon s_0 = u^i \beta b_i, \tag{3.8}$$

implies  $8\epsilon s_j = u^i b_j b_i = 0$ . Again transvecting by  $b^j$ , we have  $u^i b_i = 0$ . Plugging  $u^i b_i = 0$  in (3.8), we have  $s_0 = 0$ . Thus from (3.7), we have

$$\{8\epsilon + (8\epsilon k - 2\epsilon^3)b^2\}s_{ij} = u_i b_j, \tag{3.9}$$

which implies  $u_i b_j + u_j b_i = 0$ . Contracting this by  $b^j$ , we have  $u_i b^2 = 0$  by virtue of  $u_j b^j = 0$ . Therefore we get  $u_i = 0$ . Hence, from (3.9), we have  $s_{ij} = 0$ , provided  $8\epsilon + (8\epsilon k - 2\epsilon^3)b^2 \neq 0$ .

Again, From (3.6), we observe that the terms  $-2\epsilon^2 k \beta^4 \gamma_{000} y^i$  must have a factor  $\alpha^2$ . Therefore there exist a 1-form  $v_0 = v_i(x) y^i$  such that

$$\gamma_{000} = v_0 \alpha^2. \tag{3.10}$$

Plugging  $s_0 = 0, s_0^i = 0$  and (3.10) in to (3.3) which yields,

$$\begin{aligned} & \{(2\alpha^2 + 2\epsilon\alpha\beta + 2k\beta^2)(2\alpha + \epsilon\beta) + (4k - \epsilon^2)(\alpha^3 b^2 - \alpha\beta^2)\}(\gamma_{00}^i - v_0 y^i) \\ & + (4k - \epsilon^2)\alpha(\alpha^2 b^i - \beta y^i)r_{00} = 0. \end{aligned} \tag{3.11}$$

Terms of (3.11) can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} & \{[(4 + 4k - \epsilon^2 b^2)\alpha^2 + 3\epsilon^2 \beta^2](\gamma_{00}^i - v_0 y^i) + (4k - \epsilon^2)(\alpha^2 b^i - \beta y^i)r_{00}\}\alpha \\ & + [6\epsilon\alpha^2\beta + 2\epsilon k\beta^3](\gamma_{00}^i - v_0 y^i) = 0. \end{aligned} \tag{3.12}$$

Again (3.12) written in the form  $P\alpha + Q = 0$ , where

$$P = \{(4 + 4k - \epsilon^2 b^2)\alpha^2 + 3\epsilon^2 \beta^2\}(\gamma_{00}^i - v_0 y^i) + (4k - \epsilon^2)(\alpha^2 b^i - \beta y^i)r_{00},$$

$$Q = [6\epsilon\alpha^2\beta + 2\epsilon k\beta^3](\gamma_{00}^i - v_0 y^i).$$

Since  $P$  and  $Q$  are rational and  $\alpha$  irrational in  $(y^i)$ , we have  $P = 0$  and  $Q = 0$ .

By the term  $Q = 0$ , we have

$$(\gamma_{00}^i - v_0 y^i) = 0. \tag{3.13}$$

which yields

$$2\gamma_{jk}^i = v_j \delta_k^i + v_k \delta_j^i, \tag{3.14}$$

which shows that associated Riemannian space  $(M, \alpha)$  is projectively flat.

Again from  $P = 0$  and (3.13) we have

$$(4k - \epsilon^2)(\alpha^2 b^i - \beta y^i)r_{00} = 0. \tag{3.15}$$

Transvecting (3.15) by  $b^i$ , we have  $(4k - \epsilon^2)(\alpha^2 b^2 - \beta^2)r_{00} = 0$  implies  $r_{00} = 0$  provided that  $\epsilon, k \neq 0$ .

i.e.,  $r_{ij} = 0$ . By summarizing up the above results, i.e., by using  $s_{ij} = r_{ij} = 0$  we conclude that  $b_{i|j} = 0$ .

Conversely, if  $b_{i|j} = 0$ , then we have  $r_{00} = s_0^i = s_0 = 0$ . So (3.3) is a consequence of (3.13).

Thus we state that,

**Theorem-3.1:** A Finsler space  $F^n$  with an  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -metric  $L(\alpha, \beta)$  given by (3.1) provided that  $\epsilon, k \neq 0$  is projectively flat, if and only if we have  $b_{i|j} = 0$  and the associated Riemannian space  $(M^n, \alpha)$  is projectively flat.

#### IV. Projective Flat Finsler Space with $(\alpha, \beta)$ -metric $L = \alpha + \beta + \frac{\alpha^2}{\alpha - \beta}$

Let  $F^n$  be a Finsler space with an  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -metric is given by

$$L = \alpha + \beta + \frac{\alpha^2}{\alpha - \beta}. \tag{4.1}$$

The partial derivatives with respect to  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  of (4.1) are given by

$$\begin{aligned} L_\alpha &= \frac{2\alpha^2 + \beta^2 - 4\alpha\beta}{(\alpha - \beta)^2}, & L_\beta &= \frac{2\alpha^2 + \beta^2 - 2\alpha\beta}{(\alpha - \beta)^2}, \\ L_{\alpha\alpha} &= \frac{2\beta^2}{(\alpha - \beta)^3}, & L_{\beta\beta} &= \frac{2\alpha^2}{(\alpha - \beta)^3}. \end{aligned} \tag{4.2}$$

If  $1 + \left(\frac{L_{\beta\beta}}{\alpha L_\alpha}\right)(\alpha^2 b^2 - \beta^2) = 0$ , then we have  $\{\alpha^3(2 + 2b^2) - 6\alpha^2\beta + 3\alpha\beta^2 - \beta^3\} = 0$  which leads to contradiction. Thus  $1 + \left(\frac{L_{\beta\beta}}{\alpha L_\alpha}\right)(\alpha^2 b^2 - \beta^2) \neq 0$  and hence theorem (2.1) can be applied.

Substituting (4.2) into (2.4), we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \{\alpha^3(2 + 2b^2) - 6\alpha^2\beta + 3\alpha\beta^2 - \beta^3\}\{(\alpha^2\gamma_{00}^i - \gamma_{000}y^i)(2\alpha^2 + \beta^2 - 4\alpha\beta) + 2\alpha^3(2\alpha^2 + \beta^2 - 2\alpha\beta)s_0^i\} \\ & + 2\alpha^3\{(2\alpha^2 + \beta^2 - 4\alpha\beta)r_{00} - 2\alpha(2\alpha^2 + \beta^2 - 2\alpha\beta)s_0\}(\alpha^2 b^i - \beta y^i) = 0. \end{aligned} \tag{4.3}$$

The terms of (4.3) can be written as,

$$p_8\alpha^8 + p_6\alpha^6 + p_4\alpha^4 + p_2\alpha^2 + p_0 + \alpha(p_5\alpha^4 + p_3\alpha^2 + p_1) = 0, \tag{4.4}$$

Where

$$p_8 = 4\{(2 + 2b^2)s_0^i - 2b^i s_0\},$$

$$p_7 = (4 + 4b^2)\gamma_{00}^i - (32 + 8b^2)s_0^i\beta + 4b^i r_{00} + 8\beta s_0^i b^i,$$

$$p_6 = -(20 + 8b^2)\beta\gamma_{00}^i + (40 + 4b^2)\beta^2 s_0^i - 8\beta r_{00} b^i + 8\beta s_0 y^i - 4\beta^2 s_0 b^i,$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 p_5 &= \beta^2(32 + 2b^2)\gamma_{00}^i - (4 + 4b^2)\gamma_{000}y^i - 28\beta^3s_0^i + 2\beta^2b^i r_{00} - 4\beta y^i r_{00} - 8\beta^2s_0y^i, \\
 p_4 &= \beta(20 + 8b^2)\gamma_{000}y^i - 20\beta^3\gamma_{00}^i + 10\beta^4s_0^i + 8\beta^2r_{00}y^i + 4\beta^7s_0y^i, \\
 p_3 &= -(32 + 2b^2)\beta^2\gamma_{000}y^i + 7\beta^4\gamma_{00}^i - 2\beta^5s_0^i - 2\beta^3r_{00}y^i, \\
 p_2 &= 20\beta^3\gamma_{000}y^i - \beta^5\gamma_{00}^i, \\
 p_1 &= -7\beta^4\gamma_{000}y^i, \\
 p_0 &= \beta^5\gamma_{000}y^i.
 \end{aligned}$$

Since  $(p_8\alpha^8 + p_6\alpha^6 + p_4\alpha^4 + p_2\alpha^2 + p_0)$  and  $(p_5\alpha^4 + p_3\alpha^2 + p_1)$  are rational and  $\alpha$  is irrational in  $y^i$ , we have,

$$p_8\alpha^8 + p_6\alpha^6 + p_4\alpha^4 + p_2\alpha^2 + p_0 = 0, \tag{4.5}$$

$$p_5\alpha^4 + p_3\alpha^2 + p_1 = 0. \tag{4.6}$$

The term which does not contain  $\beta$  in (4.5) is  $p_8\alpha^8$ . Therefore there exists a homogeneous polynomial  $v_8$  of degree eight in  $y^i$  such that

$$4\{(2 + 2b^2)s_0^i - 2b^i s_0\}\alpha^8 = \beta v_8^i.$$

Since  $\alpha^2 \not\equiv 0 \pmod{\beta}$ , we have a function  $u^i = u^i(x)$  satisfying

$$4\{(2 + 2b^2)s_0^i - 2b^i s_0\} = \beta u^i. \tag{4.7}$$

Contracting above by  $b_i$ , we have

$$8s_0 = u^i \beta b_i, \tag{4.8}$$

implies  $8s_j = u^i b_j b_i = 0$ . Again transvecting (4.8) by  $b^j$ , we have  $u^i b_i = 0$ . Plugging  $u^i b_i = 0$  in (4.8), we have  $s_0 = 0$ . Thus from (4.7), we have

$$4(2 + 2b^2)s_{ij} = u_i b_j, \tag{4.9}$$

Which implies  $u_i b_j + u_j b_i = 0$ . Contracting this by  $b^j$ , we have  $u_i b^2 = 0$  by virtue of  $u_j b^j = 0$ . Therefore we get  $u_i = 0$ . Hence, from (4.9), we have  $s_{ij} = 0$ , provided  $(2 + 2b^2) \neq 0$ .

Again, From (4.6), we observe that the terms  $-7\beta^4\gamma_{000}y^i$  must have a factor  $\alpha^2$ . Therefore there exist a 1-form  $v_0 = v_i(x)y^i$  such that

$$\gamma_{000} = v_0\alpha^2. \tag{4.10}$$

Plugging  $s_0 = 0, s_0^i = 0$  and (4.10) in to (4.3) which yields,

$$\{\alpha^2(2 + 2b^2) - 6\alpha^2\beta + 3\alpha\beta^2 - \beta^3\}(\gamma_{00}^i - v_0y^i) + 2\alpha(\alpha^2b^i - \beta y^i)r_{00} = 0. \tag{4.11}$$

Terms of (4.11) can be written as

$$[\{(2 + 2b^2)\alpha^2 + 3\beta^2\}(\gamma_{00}^i - v_0y^i) + 2(\alpha^2b^i - \beta y^i)r_{00}]\alpha - \beta[6\alpha^2 + \beta](\gamma_{00}^i - v_0y^i) = 0. \tag{4.12}$$

The terms in (4.12) are rational and irrational in  $y^i$ , which yields

$$\{(2 + 2b^2)\alpha^2 + 3\beta^2\}(\gamma_{00}^i - v_0y^i) + 2(\alpha^2b^i - \beta y^i)r_{00} = 0, \tag{4.13}$$

$$\text{And} \quad [6\alpha^2 + \beta](\gamma_{00}^i - v_0y^i) = 0. \tag{4.14}$$

From (4.14), it follows that

$$(\gamma_{00}^i - v_0y^i) = 0. \tag{4.15}$$

which yields

$$2\gamma_{jk}^i = v_j \delta_k^i + v_k \delta_j^i, \tag{4.16}$$

which shows that associated Riemannian space  $(M, \alpha)$  is projectively flat.

Again from (4.13) and (4.15), we have

$$r_{00}(\alpha^2b^i - \beta y^i) = 0. \tag{4.17}$$

Implies  $r_{ij} = 0$ . By studying the above results i.e., using  $s_{ij} = r_{ij} = 0$ , we conclude that  $b_{ij} = 0$ .

Conversely, if  $b_{ij} = 0$ , then we have  $r_{00} = s_0^i = s_0 = 0$ . So (4.3) is a consequence of (4.10).

Thus we state that,

**Theorem-4.1:** A Finsler space  $F^n$  with an  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -metric  $L(\alpha, \beta)$  given by (4.1) is projectively flat, if and only if we have  $b_{ij} = 0$  and the associated Riemannian space  $(M^n, \alpha)$  is projectively flat.

### V. Projective Flat Finsler Space with $(\alpha, \beta)$ -metric $L = \frac{\beta^{m+1}}{\alpha^m}$

Let  $F^n$  be a Finsler space with an  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -metric is given by

$$L = \frac{\beta^{m+1}}{\alpha^m}. \tag{5.1}$$

The partial derivatives with respect to  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  of (5.1) are given by

$$\begin{aligned}
 L_\alpha &= -m \frac{\beta^{m+1}}{\alpha^{m+1}}, & L_{\alpha\alpha} &= m(m+1) \frac{\beta^{m+1}}{\alpha^{m+2}}, \\
 L_\beta &= (m+1) \frac{\beta^m}{\alpha^m}, & L_{\beta\beta} &= m(m+1) \frac{\beta^{m-1}}{\alpha^m}.
 \end{aligned} \tag{5.2}$$

If  $1 + \left(\frac{L_{\beta\beta}}{\alpha L_{\alpha}}\right)(\alpha^2 b^2 - \beta^2) = 0$ , then we have  $\{\beta^2(m+2) - (m+1)\alpha^2 b^2\} = 0$  which leads to contradiction.

Thus  $1 + \left(\frac{L_{\beta\beta}}{\alpha L_{\alpha}}\right)(\alpha^2 b^2 - \beta^2) \neq 0$  and hence theorem (2.1) can be applied.

Substituting (5.2) into (2.4), we get

$$\{(1+m\lambda)\beta^2 - m\lambda\alpha^2 b^2\}(\alpha^2 \gamma_{00}^i - \gamma_{000} y^i)\beta - 2\lambda\alpha^4 s_0^i - m\lambda\alpha^2\{\beta r_{00} + 2\lambda\alpha^2 s_0\}(\alpha^2 b^i - \beta y^i) = 0. \quad (5.3)$$

where  $\lambda = \frac{m+1}{m}$ .

Only the terms  $-\beta^3(1+m\lambda)\gamma_{000} y^i$  of (5.3) seemingly does not contain  $\alpha^2$  as a factor and hence we must have  $hp(5)v_5^i$  satisfying  $-\beta^3(1+m\lambda)\gamma_{000} y^i = \alpha^2 v_5^i$ .

For sake of brevity, we suppose  $\alpha^2 \not\equiv 0 \pmod{\beta}$ , then we have

$$\gamma_{000} = v_0 \alpha^2. \quad (5.4)$$

Where  $v_0$  is  $hp(1)$ .

Plugging (5.4) in to (5.3), we have

$$\{(1+m\lambda)\beta^2 - m\lambda\alpha^2 b^2\}(\gamma_{00}^i - v_0 y^i)\beta - 2\lambda\alpha^2 s_0^i - m\lambda\{\beta r_{00} + 2\lambda\alpha^2 s_0\}(\alpha^2 b^i - \beta y^i) = 0. \quad (5.5)$$

The terms of (5.5) which seemingly does not contain  $\alpha^2$  are  $(1+m\lambda)\beta^3(\gamma_{00}^i - v_0 y^i) + m\lambda\beta^2 r_{00} y^i$ .

Consequently we must have  $hp(1)u_0^i$  such that the above is equal to  $\alpha^2 \beta^2 u_0^i$ .

Thus we come by

$$(1+m\lambda)\beta(\gamma_{00}^i - v_0 y^i) + m\lambda r_{00} y^i = \alpha^2 u_0^i. \quad (5.6)$$

Contracting (5.6) by  $a_{ir} y^r$ , leads to

$$m\lambda r_{00} = u_0^i y_i. \quad (5.7)$$

Substituting (5.7) in (5.6), we get

$$\gamma_{00}^i = v_0 y^i, \quad (5.8)$$

which yields

$$2\gamma_{jk}^i = v_j \delta_k^i + v_k \delta_j^i, \quad (5.9)$$

Consequently (5.9) shows that associated Riemannian space is projectively flat.

Again substituting (5.8) in (5.5), we have

$$-2\lambda\alpha^2\{(1+m\lambda)\beta^2 - m\lambda\alpha^2 b^2\}s_0^i - m\lambda\{\beta r_{00} + 2\lambda\alpha^2 s_0\}(\alpha^2 b^i - \beta y^i) = 0. \quad (5.10)$$

Contracting (5.10) by  $b_i$ , we have,

$$(-2\beta s_0 - m\beta^2 r_{00})\alpha^2 + m\beta^2 r_{00} = 0. \quad (5.11)$$

Then there exists a function  $k(x)$  such that

$$-2\beta s_0 - m\beta^2 r_{00} = k\beta^2, \text{ and } m r_{00} = k\alpha^2. \quad (5.12)$$

By eliminating  $r_{00}$  from the above, we have

$$2\beta s_0 = k(\beta^2 - \alpha^2 b^2). \quad (5.13)$$

Implies

$$(s_i b_j + s_j b_i) = k(b_i b_j - b^2 a_{ij}). \quad (5.14)$$

Contracting the above by  $a^{ij}$ , we have  $k = 0$ .

From (5.13), we have  $s_0 = 0$  and hence from (5.12), we obtain  $r_{00} = 0$ .

Again from  $s_i = 0$  and  $r_{00} = 0$ , (5.10) implies  $s_0^i = 0$  implies  $s_{ij} = 0$ .

Since  $r_{ij} = s_{ij} = s_0^i = 0$ , we have  $b_{ij} = 0$ .

Conversely, if  $b_{ij} = 0$ , then we have  $r_{00} = s_0^i = s_0 = 0$ . So (5.3) is a consequence of (5.8).

Thus we state that,

**Theorem-5.1:** A Finsler space  $F^n$  with an  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -metric  $L(\alpha, \beta)$  given by (5.1) is projectively flat, if and only if we have  $b_{ij} = 0$  and the associated Riemannian space  $(M^n, \alpha)$  is projectively flat.

## VI. Conclusion

A Finsler metric being projectively equivalent on a manifold means their geodesics are same up to a parametrization

$$G^i = \bar{G}^i + P y^i,$$

where  $P = P(x, y)$  is a positively  $y$ -homogeneous of degree one. If a quantity does not change between two projectively equivalent Finsler metrics, then it is called as a projectively invariant.

We have a two essential projective invariants, namely Weyl tensor  $W$  and the other is the Douglas tensor  $D$ . A Finsler space where both of these tensors vanish is characterized as a projectively flat Finsler space which can be projectively mapped to a locally minkowskian space. A Locally minkowskian space with  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -metric is flat parallel if  $\alpha$  is locally flat and  $\beta$  is parallel with respect to  $\alpha$ .

A Finsler space is called projectively flat, or with rectilinear geodesic, if the space is covered by coordinate neighborhoods in which the geodesic can be represented by  $(n - 1)$  linear equations of the coordinates. Such a coordinate system is called rectilinear.

Still now it is an open problem to classify the projectively flat  $(\alpha, \beta)$ - metrics in dimension  $n = 2$ . In this article we are discussing about the condition for Finsler space  $F^n$  of dimension  $n > 2$  of the above mentioned metrics are projectively flat if and only if  $b_{ij} = 0$  and  $F^n$  is covered by coordinate neighborhoods on which the Christoffel symbol of the associated Riemannian space with the metric  $\alpha$  are written as  $\gamma_{jk}^i = v_k \delta_j^i + v_j \delta_k^i$ .

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