

Generalized Berwald Projective Weyl ($GB\widetilde{W}$) metrics

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1 Introduction

Finsler spaces possess numerous projective invariants that are widely recognized, including Douglas curvature, Weyl curvature [2], and generalized Douglas-Weyl (GDW) curvature [3]. Additionally, Akbar-Zadeh introduced H-curvature as a C-projective invariant [1], and a new C-projectively invariant quantity, known as $\widetilde{W}$ -curvature or C-projective Weyl curvature, has been introduced to characterize Finsler metrics of constant flag curvature ($n > 2$) [7].

The equations $D_j^i{}_{kl} = 0$, $W_j^i{}_{kl} = 0$ and $D_j^i{}_{kl|m}y^m = T_{jkl}y^i$ for some tensors T_{jkl} , are projectively invariant. The symbol $|$ denotes the horizontal covariant derivatives with respect to the Berwald connection.

Put simply, if a Finsler metric F satisfies one of the aforementioned equations, then any Finsler metric that is projectively equivalent to F must satisfy the same equations.

The study of GDW metrics is presented in [8], where it is demonstrated that all Finsler metrics of scalar curvature (Weyl metrics) belong to this class of metrics. Furthermore, Bácsó, in [3], shows that GDW metrics are closed under projective relations. This paper introduces a novel quantity in Finsler geometry, called the generalized Berwald projective Weyl ($GB\widetilde{W}$) curvature,

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which is a C-projective invariant. For a manifold M , let $GB\widetilde{W}(M)$ denote the class of all Finsler metrics that satisfy

$$B_j^i{}_{kl} = \beta_j^i{}_{kl} + b_{jkl}y^i,$$

for some tensors b_{jkl} and $\beta_j^i{}_{kl}$; where $\beta_j^i{}_{kl|m}y^m = 0$. This leads to a natural question: "How extensive is $GB\widetilde{W}(M)$, and what types of interesting metrics belong to this class?"

It is evident that all Berwald metrics are included in this class; however, Berwald metrics are not considered C-projective invariants. It is noteworthy that the class of Berwald metrics is a proper subset of the class of $GB\widetilde{W}$ metrics, which is illustrated in the following example.

Example 1.1 [10] The standard Funk metric on the Euclidean unit ball is defined as follows

$$F = \frac{\sqrt{y^2 - (x^2y^2 - \langle x, y \rangle^2)}}{1 - x^2} + \frac{\langle x, y \rangle}{1 - x^2}, \quad y \in T_x B^n \simeq R^n$$

where $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ and $|\cdot|$ denote the Euclidean inner product and norm on R^n , respectively. F is a Randers metric of constant flag curvature, and consequently $GB\widetilde{W}$ metric. It is easily seen that β is a closed 1-form. By a simple calculation, it follows that $H = 0$ while F is not Berwald metric.

On the other hand, it has been proven that all Finsler metrics of dimension $n > 2$ with constant flag curvature ($\widetilde{W} = 0$) belong to this class of Finsler metrics. As an illustration, consider the following Finsler metric F_ε (Example 1.2), which represents a particular family of Bryant's metrics expressed in a local coordinate system. This metric is locally projectively flat and has a constant flag curvature, thereby satisfying $\widetilde{W} = 0$. Consequently, it is a $GB\widetilde{W}$ metric.

Example 1.2 [9] Let ε be an arbitrary number with $|\varepsilon| < 1$. Let

$$F_\varepsilon := \frac{\sqrt{\Psi(\frac{1}{2}(\sqrt{\Phi^2 + (1 - \varepsilon^2)y^4} + \Phi)) + (1 - \varepsilon^2)\langle x, y \rangle^2 + \sqrt{1 - \varepsilon^2}\langle x, y \rangle}}{\Psi},$$

where,

$$\Phi := \varepsilon y^2 + (x^2 y^2 - \langle x, y \rangle^2), \quad \Psi := 1 + 2\varepsilon x^2 + x^4.$$

$F_\varepsilon = F_\varepsilon(x, y)$ is a Finsler metric on R^n . Note that if $\varepsilon = 1$, then $F_1 = \alpha_{+1}$ is the spherical metric on R^n .

Next, we notice the metrics, which are not of constant curvature (i.e. $\widetilde{W} \neq 0$), are still of $GB\widetilde{W}$ type. Based on Lemma 3.5, it is clear that such a metric could not be of scalar curvature in dimension $n > 2$. In other words, every Finsler metric of scalar curvature and non-constant curvature is not of $GB\widetilde{W}$

type while it is *GDW* metric. This shows that the class of *GBW* metric is the proper subset of the class of *GDW*. The following example illuminates this point.

Example 1.3 [9] Let

$$F = \frac{\sqrt{\left(x^2 < a, y > -2 < a, x > < x, y >\right)^2 + y^2(1 - a^2x^4)}}{1 - a^2x^4} - \frac{\left(x^2 < a, y > -2 < a, x > < x, y >\right)}{1 - a^2x^4},$$

where, a is a constant vector in R^n , which has very important properties. It is of scalar curvature and isotropic S-curvature; however, the flag curvature and the S-curvature are not constant. We have

$$S = (n+1) < a, x > F,$$

Then by lemma 9.1 in [9], one has $E_{ij} = \frac{n+1}{2} < a, x > F_{ij}$. Then $H \neq 0$; it is not of *GBW* type while it is of *GDW* metric.

It will be demonstrated below that the class of *GDW* metrics encompasses the class of *GBW* metrics. However, it is important to note that there exist numerous *GDW* metrics that are not of the *GBW* type.

Theorem 1.1 Every *GBW* metric is *GDW* metric.

Theorem 1.2 The class of *GBW*(M) on Finsler manifold (M, F) is closed under C-projective changes.

The subsequent section establishes that the class of *GBW* metrics encompasses all Finsler metrics with a constant flag curvature ($n > 2$). Additionally, an extension of the well-known Numata's theorem is proven.

Theorem 1.3 All non-Riemannian *GDW* metrics with vanishing Landsberg curvature are of R-quadratic type ($n > 2$).

2 Preliminaries

A Finsler metric on a manifold M is a nonnegative function F on TM with the following properties

1. F is C^∞ on $TM \setminus \{0\}$;
2. $F(\lambda y) = \lambda F(y)$, $\forall \lambda > 0$, $y \in TM$;

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3. For each $y \in T_x M$, the following quadratic form $\mathbf{g}_y$ on $T_x M$ is positive definite,

$$\mathbf{g}_y(u, v) := \frac{1}{2} \left[F^2(y + su + tv) \right] \big|_{s,t=0}, \quad u, v \in T_x M. \quad (1)$$

At each point $x \in M$, $F_x := F|_{T_x M}$, is an Euclidean norm, if and only if $\mathbf{g}_y$ is independent of $y \in T_x M \setminus \{0\}$. To measure the non-Euclidean feature of F_x , define $\mathbf{C}_y : T_x M \times T_x M \times T_x M \rightarrow R$ by

$$\mathbf{C}_y(u, v, w) := \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \left[\mathbf{g}_{y+tw}(u, v) \right] \big|_{t=0}, \quad u, v, w \in T_x M. \quad (2)$$

The family $\mathbf{C} := \{\mathbf{C}_y\}_{y \in TM \setminus \{0\}}$ is called the *Cartan torsion*. A curve $c(t)$ is called a *geodesic* if it satisfies

$$\frac{d^2 c^i}{dt^2} + 2G^i(\dot{c}(t)) = 0, \quad (3)$$

where, $G^i(y)$ denotes local functions on TM given by

$$G^i(y) := \frac{1}{4} g^{il}(y) \left\{ \frac{\partial^2 F^2}{\partial x^k \partial y^l} y^k - \frac{\partial F^2}{\partial x^l} \right\}, \quad y \in T_x M. \quad (4)$$

G^i s called the associated spray to (M, F) .

F is called a *Berwald metric* if $G^i(y)$ are quadratic in $y \in T_x M$ for all $x \in M$. Define

$$B_y : T_x M \otimes T_x M \otimes T_x M \rightarrow T_x M$$

$$B_y(u, v, w) = B_j{}^i{}_{kl} u^j v^k w^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i},$$

where, $B_j{}^i{}_{kl} = \frac{\partial^3 G^i}{\partial y^j \partial y^k \partial y^l}$, and

$$E_y : T_x M \otimes T_x M \rightarrow R$$

$$E_y(u, v) = E_{jk} u^j v^k,$$

where, $E_{jk} = \frac{1}{2} B_j{}^m{}_{km}$, $u = u^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i}$, $v = v^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i}$ and $w = w^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i}$. B and E are called the Berwald curvature and the mean Berwald curvature, respectively. F is called a Berwald metric and weakly Berwald (WB) metric if $B = 0$ and $E = 0$, respectively [10]. By means of E-curvature, we can define $\bar{E}$ -curvature as follows

$$\bar{E}_y : T_x M \otimes T_x M \otimes T_x M \longrightarrow R$$

$$\bar{E}_y(u, v, w) := \bar{E}_{jkl}(y) u^j v^k w^l = E_{jk|l} u^j v^k w^l.$$

It is worth noting that $\bar{E}_{ijk}$ is not completely symmetric with respect to all three indices. To define the H -curvature, we take the covariant derivative of E along geodesics. Specifically, $H_{ij} = E_{ij|m} y^m$,

$$H_y : T_x M \otimes T_x M \longrightarrow R$$

$$H_y(u, v) := H_{ij}u^i v^j$$

Let

$$D_j{}^i{}_{kl} = B_j{}^i{}_{kl} - \frac{1}{n+1} \frac{\partial^3}{\partial y^j \partial y^k \partial y^l} \left(\frac{\partial G^m}{\partial y^m} y^i \right).$$

It is easy to verify that $D := D_j{}^i{}_{kl} dx^j \otimes \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \otimes dx^k \otimes dx^l$ is a well-defined tensor on slit tangent bundle TM_0 . We call D the Douglas tensor, which is a non-Riemannian projective invariant. For two Finsler metrics, F and $\bar{F}$, with the Geodesic coefficients G^i and $\bar{G}^i$, respectively. The diffeomorphism $\phi : F \rightarrow \bar{F}$ is called projective mapping if there exists a positive homogeneous scalar function $P(x, y)$ of degree one which is satisfying

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

where, $P = P(x, y)$ is positively y -homogeneous of degree one which called projective factor [4] and [10]. A projective transformation with projective factor P would be C-projective if $Q_{ij} = 0$; where,

$$Q_{ij} = \frac{\partial Q_j}{\partial y^i} - \frac{\partial Q_i}{\partial y^j}, \quad (5)$$

$$Q_i = \frac{\partial P}{\partial x^i} - G_i^m \frac{\partial P}{\partial y^m} - P \frac{\partial P}{\partial y^i}.$$

One could easily show that

$$D_j{}^i{}_{kl} = B_j{}^i{}_{kl} - \frac{2}{n+1} \{ E_{jk} \delta_l^i + E_{jl} \delta_k^i + E_{kl} \delta_j^i + E_{jkl} y^i \}, \quad (6)$$

where $E_{jkl} = \frac{\partial E_{jk}}{\partial y^l}$.

In [13], Weyl introduces a projective invariant for Riemannian metrics. Then Douglas extends Weyl's projective invariant to Finsler metrics [5]. Finsler metrics with vanishing projective Weyl curvature are called Weyl metrics or W metrics. In [11], Szabó proves that Weyl metrics are exactly Finsler metrics of scalar flag curvature. In [7], a new C-projective invariant quantity is defined, namely $\widetilde{W}$ curvature, as follows

$$\widetilde{W}_k^i = K_k^i - \frac{1}{1-n^2} \{ y^i \widetilde{K}_{0k} - \delta_k^i \widetilde{K}_{00} \},$$

where, $\widetilde{K}_{jk} = nK_{jk} + K_{kj} + y^r \frac{\partial K_{kr}}{\partial y^j}$.

$\widetilde{W}_k^i$ is called projective Weyl curvature or $\widetilde{W}$ curvature which is another candidate for characterizing the Finsler metrics of constant flag curvature.

There is another projective invariant equation in Finsler geometry for some tensors T_{jkl}

$$D_j{}^i{}_{kl|m} y^m = T_{jkl} y^i,$$

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where, $D_j^i{}_{kl|m}$ denotes the horizontal covariant derivatives of $D_j^i{}_{kl}$ with respect to the Berwald connection of F . These metrics are called GDW metrics.

Now a new C-projective invariant equation is introduced as follows

$$B_j^i{}_{kl} = \beta_j^i{}_{kl} + b_{jkl}y^i, \quad (7)$$

for some tensors b_{jkl} and $\beta_j^i{}_{kl}$ where $\beta_j^i{}_{kl|m}y^m = 0$, or equivalently,

$$h_r^i B_j^r{}_{kl|m}y^m = 0.$$

Finsler metrics satisfying (7) are called $GB\widetilde{W}$ metrics.

There are numerous Finsler metrics that belong to the $GB\widetilde{W}$ type. Specifically, all Berwald metrics and $\widetilde{W}$ metrics, as well as Finsler metrics with a constant flag curvature ($n > 2$), are included in this class of metrics.

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This section focuses on $GB\widetilde{W}$ metrics. Firstly, it is demonstrated that all Berwald and $\widetilde{W}$ metrics belong to this noteworthy class of C-projective invariant metrics.

Lemma 3.1 The class of $GB\widetilde{W}$ metrics contains $\widetilde{W}$ metrics ($n > 2$).

Proof Let F be a $\widetilde{W}$ metric ($n > 2$). Based on [7], it is of constant curvature. Then there is a constant λ such that

$$R_k^i = \lambda(F^2\delta_k^i - y^i y_k).$$

Then

$$R_j^i{}_{kl.m} = 2\lambda(C_{jlm}\delta_k^i - C_{jkm}\delta_l^i).$$

Here $.m$ means the differential with respect to y^m . In [12], the following Ricci identity has been stated

$$B_j^i{}_{ml|k} - B_j^i{}_{km|l} = R_j^i{}_{kl.m}.$$

Contracting the above equations by y^k one easily can find

$$B_j^i{}_{ml|0} = 2\lambda C_{jlm}y^i.$$

Thus, $h_m^i B_j^m{}_{kl|0} = 0$ which means that F is of $GB\widetilde{W}$ type. $\square$

3.1 Proof of Theorem 1.1

Let F be a Finsler metric of $GB\widetilde{W}$ type; then the Berwald curvature satisfies the following equation

$$B_j^i{}_{kl} = \beta_j^i{}_{kl} + b_{jkl}y^i,$$

for some tensors b_{jkl} and $\beta_j^i{}_{kl}$ where $\beta_j^i{}_{kl|0} = 0$. Then $B_j^i{}_{kl|0} = b_{jkl|0}y^i$ and contracting it by y^l yields $b_{jkl|0}y^l = 0$. Thus, by the definition of E -curvature, one gets

$$2E_{jk} = \beta_j^m{}_{km} + b_{jkm}y^m.$$

Thus, one may conclude that

$$H_{jk} = E_{jk|0} = 0. \quad (8)$$

Considering (6), one easily gets

$$D_j^i{}_{kl} = (\beta_j^i{}_{kl} - \frac{2}{n+1}e_j^i{}_{kl}) + (b_{jkl} + E_{jkl})y^i = t_j^i{}_{kl} + d_{jkl}y^i, \quad (9)$$

where,

$$e_j^i{}_{kl} = E_{jk}\delta_l^i + E_{jl}\delta_k^i + E_{kl}\delta_j^i, \quad \text{and} \quad E_{jkl} = \frac{\partial E_{jk}}{\partial y^l} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^3 S}{\partial y^j \partial y^k \partial y^l}.$$

According to (9) and (8) and considering $\beta_j^i{}_{kl|m}y^m = 0$, we will have $t_j^i{}_{kl|m}y^m = 0$, meaning that F is GDW metric.

Corollary 3.2 Let F be a GBW metric, then $H = 0$.

Corollary 3.3 Every GDW metric is GBW metric, if and only if $H = 0$.

Corollary 3.4 Every R-quadratic Finsler metric is GBW metric.

The class of $\widetilde{W}$ metrics is a proper subset of the class of GBW metrics. Likewise, the class of W metrics ($W = 0$) is a proper subset of the class of GDW metrics.

Proof of Theorem 1.2

Let F be a Finsler metric of GBW type; then the Berwald curvature is as follows

$$B_j^i{}_{kl} = \beta_j^i{}_{kl} + b_{jkl}y^i,$$

for some tensors b_{jkl} and $\beta_j^i{}_{kl}$ where $\beta_j^i{}_{kl|0} = 0$. Under a C-projective transformation, $\widetilde{G}^i = G^i + Py^i$, one has

$$\widetilde{B}_j^i{}_{kl} = (\beta_j^i{}_{kl} + \rho_j^i{}_{kl}) + (b_{jkl} + P_{jkl})y^i = \widetilde{\beta}_j^i{}_{kl} + \widetilde{b}_{jkl}y^i, \quad (10)$$

where,

$$\rho_j^i{}_{kl} = P_{jk}\delta_l^i + P_{jl}\delta_k^i + P_{kl}\delta_j^i, \quad P_{jk} = \frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial y^j \partial y^k} \quad \text{and} \quad P_{jkl} = \frac{\partial^3 P}{\partial y^j \partial y^k \partial y^l}.$$

Based on the previous theorem and our understanding that the GDW property is a projective invariant, we can conclude that both F and $\widetilde{F}$ belong to the GDW metric class. Therefore, taking into account equation (6), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} D_j^i{}_{kl} &= (\beta_j^i{}_{kl} - \frac{2}{n+1}e_j^i{}_{kl}) + (b_{jkl} - \frac{2}{n+1}E_{jkl})y^i = \\ \widetilde{D}_j^i{}_{kl} &= (\widetilde{\beta}_j^i{}_{kl} - \frac{2}{n+1}\widetilde{e}_j^i{}_{kl}) + (\widetilde{b}_{jkl} - \frac{2}{n+1}\widetilde{E}_{jkl})y^i, \end{aligned}$$

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where,

$$\widetilde{e}_j{}^i{}_{kl} = \widetilde{E}_{jk}\delta_l^i + \widetilde{E}_{jl}\delta_k^i + \widetilde{E}_{kl}\delta_j^i, \quad \text{and} \quad \widetilde{E}_{jkl} = \frac{\partial \widetilde{E}_{jk}}{\partial y^l}.$$

Since F belongs to both the classes of GDW metric and $GB\widetilde{W}$ metric, we can conclude that

$$\beta_j{}^i{}_{kl|0} = \frac{2}{n+1}e_j{}^i{}_{kl|0} = 0,$$

Moreover, $\widetilde{F}$ is GDW -metric; then

$$\widetilde{\beta}_j{}^i{}_{kl||0} - \frac{2}{n+1}\widetilde{e}_j{}^i{}_{kl||0} = 0, \quad (11)$$

where $\parallel$ denotes the horizontal derivative with respect to $\widetilde{G}^i$. Also, since it is shown $\widetilde{E}_{jk||0} = 0$; then

$$\widetilde{e}_j{}^i{}_{kl||0} = \widetilde{E}_{jk0}\delta_l^i + \widetilde{E}_{jl||0}\delta_k^i + \widetilde{E}_{kl||0}\delta_j^i = 0.$$

Thus, based on equation (11), we can deduce that $\widetilde{\beta}_j{}^i{}_{kl0} = 0$, indicating that $\widetilde{F}$ is a $GB\widetilde{W}$ metric. Next, we aim to demonstrate that $\widetilde{E}_{jk||0} = 0$. Using equation (10), we obtain

$$\widetilde{E}_{jk} = E_{jk} + \frac{n+1}{2}P_{jk},$$

where, $P_{jk} = \frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial y^j \partial y^k}$. Then we will have

$$\begin{aligned} \widetilde{E}_{jk||0} &= y^m \partial_m \widetilde{E}_{jk} - 2(G^m + Py^m)\widetilde{E}_{jk.m} - \widetilde{E}_{jm}(G_k^m + P_k y^m + P\delta_k^m) \\ &\quad - \widetilde{E}_{mk}(G_j^m + P_j y^m + P\delta_j^m) = y^m \partial_m \widetilde{E}_{jk} - 2G^m \widetilde{E}_{jk.m} - \widetilde{E}_{jm}G_k^m - \widetilde{E}_{mk}G_j^m \\ &= \widetilde{E}_{jk|0} = E_{jk|0} + \frac{n+1}{2}P_{jk|0}. \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

Based on (5)

$$\begin{aligned} y^m Q_{jm.k} &= y^m \left[(\partial_j P_m - \partial_m P_j) - (G_j^r P_{rm} - G_m^r P_{rj}) \right]_{.k} \\ &= -y^m \partial_m P_{jk} + 2G^m P_{jk.m} + G_j^m P_{mk} + G_k^m P_{mj} = -P_{jk|0}. \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

Based on the definition of C-projective transformation, which stated in (5), and considering (12), (13) and (8), one can conclude that $\widetilde{E}_{jk||0} = E_{jk|0} = 0$.

Lemma 3.5 There does not exist a non-constant scalar flag curvature Finsler metric that is a $GB\widetilde{W}$ metric ($n > 2$).

Proof Assuming the existence of a $GB\widetilde{W}$ metric F with scalar flag curvature, Corollary 3.2 implies that the H-curvature would vanish. This would imply that F has constant flag curvature, as demonstrated in [?], which states that for a Finsler metric with scalar flag curvature in dimensions $n > 2$, the flag curvature is constant if and only if $H = 0$. However, this contradicts our initial assumption that F has non-constant flag curvature, thus proving the non-existence of a $GB\widetilde{W}$ metric with scalar flag curvature that is non-constant.

Proof of Theorem 1.3

Suppose F is a GDW metric with a Landsberg curvature of zero ($n > 2$). In that case, it also has a vanishing H -curvature, as shown in [12]. Utilizing Corollary 3.3, we can easily conclude that F belongs to the $GB\widetilde{W}$ metric class.

Now assume that F is of scalar curvature. Then by Lemma 3.5, it is of constant flag curvature λ . By Lemma 3.1, we have

$$B_j^i{}_{kl|0} = 2\lambda C_{jkl}y^i.$$

Contracting the above equation by y_i yields $\lambda C_{jkl} = 0$. F is not Riemannian, then $\lambda = 0$ and $R^i{}_k = 0$. Then it is of R-quadratic type.

Now let F be of non-scalar curvature. For this GBW metric F , we have

$$B_j^i{}_{kl} = \beta_j^i{}_{kl} + b_{jkl}y^i,$$

for some tensors b_{jkl} and $\beta_j^i{}_{kl}$ where $\beta_j^i{}_{kl|0} = 0$. Since F is of Landsberg type, then

$$0 = y_i B_j^i{}_{kl} = -2L_{jkl} = y_i \beta_j^i{}_{kl} + b_{jkl}F^2,$$

Accordingly, one could get the following

$$B_j^i{}_{kl} = \beta_j^m{}_{kl}h_m^i, \quad (14)$$

However, since F is of GBW type, then $\beta_j^i{}_{kl|0} = 0$; then

$$B_j^i{}_{kl|0} = 0, \quad (15)$$

Taking the vertical derivative of the above equation with respect to y^m , we obtain the following

$$B_j^i{}_{kl|m} + B_j^i{}_{kl|p.m}y^p = 0. \quad (16)$$

But one has

$$\begin{aligned} B_j^i{}_{kl|p.m}y^p &= B_j^i{}_{kl.m}; p y^p - 2G^r B_j^i{}_{kl.m.r} - N_m^r B_j^i{}_{kl.r} - N_j^r B_r^i{}_{kl.m} - N_k^r B_j^i{}_{rl.m} \\ &\quad - N_l^r B_j^i{}_{kr.m} + N_r^i B_j^i{}_{kl.m}, \end{aligned}$$

where $B_j^i{}_{kl.m}; p = \frac{\partial}{\partial x^p} B_j^i{}_{kl.m}$. Then one can conclude that

$$B_j^i{}_{kl|m.p}y^p = B_j^i{}_{km|l.p}y^p. \quad (17)$$

On the other hand, (16) and (17) yield

$$B_j^i{}_{kl|m} = B_j^i{}_{km|l}, \quad (18)$$

which putting in the following Ricci identity for Berwald connection [12] yields

$$R_j^m{}_{lk.p} = B_j^m{}_{pk|l} - B_j^m{}_{pl|k} = 0.$$

It means that F is of R-quadratic type. $\square$

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