# Compact Complex Surfaces of Locally Conformally Flat Type

Mustafa Kalafat Caner Koca

Curici ite

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#### Abstract

We show that if a compact complex surface admits a locally conformally flat metric, then it cannot contain a smooth rational curve of odd self-intersection. In particular, the surface has to be minimal. Moreover, we give a list of possibilities of such surfaces.

## 1 Introduction

A Riemannian *n*-manifold (M, g) is called *locally conformally flat* (*LCF*) if *M* has an open cover such that for any open set *U* of the cover we have a strictly positive smooth function  $f : U \to \mathbb{R}^+$  and a diffeomorphism  $h : U \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  such that the pull-back of the Euclidean metric  $g_{Euc}$  on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is conformally related to the restriction of *g* on *U*; i.e.

 $h^*g_{Euc} = fg.$ 

In this paper, we are specifically interested in dimension four and in the compact case. In particular, we would like to see which compact complex surfaces can possibly admit an LCF metric. For this purpose we start with proving the following result.

**Theorem 2.2.** *If a compact complex surface admits a locally conformally flat Riemannian metric, then it cannot contain a smooth rational curve of odd self-intersection.* 

Since a non-minimal complex surface by definition contains a smooth rational curve  $\mathbb{CP}_1$  of self-intersection -1, we have the following consequence:

**Corollary 1.1.** If a compact complex surface admits a locally conformally flat Riemannian metric, then it has to be minimal.

We apply this corollary to the Enriques–Kodaira classification of surfaces ([BHPV], p.244), and eliminate some of the surfaces appearing on the list (see Lemma 3.4). We also analyze the case of elliptic fibrations separately in Theorem 4.2. As a consequence of these results, we obtain the following list of possibilities:

**Theorem 1.2.** *If a compact complex surface admits a locally conformally flat Riemannian metric, then it must be one of the following surfaces:* 

- 1. a Hopf surface, or an Inoue surface with vanishing second Betti number,
- 2. a minimal ruled surface fibered over a curve  $\Sigma_g$  of genus  $g \ge 2$ ,
- 3. a minimal elliptic fibration with no singular, but possibly with multiple fibers over a genus  $g \ge 1$  curve,
- 4. a minimal torus which is not elliptic,
- *5. a non-simply-connected minimal surface of general type of Euler characteristic*  $\chi \ge 4$  *which does not admit a Bergmann metric.*

The spaces that admit a Bergmann metric are of the form  $\mathbb{CH}_2/G$ , i.e. holomorphic quotient of the complex hyperbolic plane. The interested reader may wish to consult the references [Bo, M, C] for examples of these quotients.

For the final case we conjecture that indeed no surface of general type admits an LCF metric. One of the intuitions behind this conjecture is that these surfaces have a large fundamental group, and thus, it seems unlikely that they can be mapped into the group conformal transformations through the holonomy representation, see section §2 for the background. The first author obtained a partial result in this direction in [K2]. Namely, for product surfaces of general type, if the holonomy representation is discrete and faithful, then there exists no LCF metric. On the other hand, holonomy representation can be non-discrete for this type of metrics. This is contrary to the hyperbolic manifold case. It is a difficult task to handle the non-discrete representations.

The *Weyl invariant* of a compact smooth *n*-manifold *M* is defined by

$$W(M) := \inf_{g \in Met(M)} \int_M |W_g|^{n/2} d\mu_g$$

where  $W_g$  is the Weyl curvature tensor of the metric g. If  $n \ge 3$ , then any LCF metric g has  $W_g \equiv 0$  [Bes]; therefore, this invariant turns out to be zero for manifolds with an LCF metric. If M is a compact quotient of the complex hyperbolic space, then its natural Bergmann metric attains the minimum by [ABKS] using a result of LeBrun [Le]. This implies that the signature is strictly positive. Consequently, they obtain  $W(M) = 48\pi^2\tau > 0$ , and this prevents the possibility for these surfaces to admit an LCF metric.

On the other hand, the *Weyl energy* of a product metric  $g_{Prod}$  on the product of curves  $\Sigma_g \times \Sigma_h$  of genera *g* and *h* can be computed as

$$W(g_{\operatorname{Prod}}) := \int\limits_{\Sigma_g \times \Sigma_h} |W_{g_{\operatorname{Prod}}}|^2 d\mu = \frac{128\pi^2}{3}(1-g)(1-h) + \frac{2}{3}\int\limits_{\Sigma_g \times \Sigma_h} (\kappa_g - \kappa_h)^2 d\mu,$$

where  $\kappa_g$ ,  $\kappa_h$  are the Gauss curvatures of each factor [Kob]. This implies that, for  $g, h \ge 2$ , the standard product metric (for which  $\kappa_g = \kappa_h = \text{const.}$ ), which is Kähler-Einstein, has the minimum Weyl energy among *all product metrics*. Note that the Weyl energy of this Kähler-Einstein metric is strictly positive. However, currently it is not known whether the Weyl energy goes below this level for other (non-product) metrics on  $\Sigma_g \times \Sigma_h$ ,  $g, h \ge 2$ .

A final remark about the Weyl invariant is that  $W(\Sigma_1 \times \Sigma_g) = 0$  for any genus g. This was first observed by Kobayashi in [Kob], as a consequence of his result which states that the Weyl invariant is zero for manifolds with a free and differentiable circle action. We know that  $\Sigma_1 \times \Sigma_g$  admits an LCF metric (the flat metric) when g = 1, but it does not admit an LCF metric when g = 0. For higher genera  $g \ge 2$ , even though the Weyl invariant  $W(\Sigma_1 \times \Sigma_g)$  is zero (because of the existence of an  $S^1$ -action induced from the one on the first factor), it is not known whether or not this manifold admits an LCF metric.

The outline of the paper is as follows: In Section §2 we recall the developing map construction for LCF manifolds, and prove the first main result. In §3 we obtain a list by analyzing the Kodaira-Enriques classification of compact complex surfaces. In Section §4 we deal with the elliptic fibration case separately. In §5 we give information about the converse case. Finally in §6 we relate our classification to that for the Hermitian case.

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#### 2 Developing map of a locally conformally flat manifold

Before defining the developing map of a locally conformally flat manifold, let us offer some motivation for the definition. We would like to modify the definition of local conformal flatness so that one uses charts and transition maps rather than the Riemannian metric directly. The key theorem in this case is due to Liouville and Gehring (see [Ge] p.389 or for a recent survey [Ho]), which states that for  $n \ge 3$  and any open set  $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ , any  $C^1$  conformal map  $\varphi : U \to \mathbb{R}^n$  is the restriction of a Möbius transformation of  $S^n$ . *Möbius transformations*  $Möb(S^n) = Conf(S^n)$  is the group of conformal diffeomorphisms of the round *n*-sphere, and they are generated by inversions in round spheres. So, they constitute a group of real analytic diffeomorphisms of the real analytic manifold  $S^n$  by the Liouville-Gehring theorem. Alternatively, they are the restrictions of the full group of isometries of the hyperbolic space  $\mathbb{L}^{n+1}$  to its ideal boundary  $S^n$ , described as follows. Consider  $\mathbb{R}^{n+2}$  with its Lorentzian metric  $g_1 = dx_1^2 + \cdots + dx_{n+1}^2 - dx_{n+2}^2$ . Let O(n + 1, 1) be the group of linear maps that preserve the Lorentzian metric. We embed the two mentioned spaces into  $\mathbb{R}^{n+2}$  as follows:

$$\mathbb{L}^{n+1} = \{ x \in \mathbb{R}^{n+2} : |x|_1^2 = -1 \text{ and } x_{n+2} > 0 \}$$
  
$$S^n = \{ x \in \mathbb{R}^{n+2} : |x|_1^2 = 0 \text{ and } x_{n+2} = 1 \},$$

i.e.  $\mathbb{L}$  is the upper part of the hyperboloid asymptotic to the light cone and  $S^n$  is the unit sphere in the upper light cone which is the boundary of the Klein model  $\mathbb{K}$  of the hyperbolic space, see the Figure 5 in [CFKP]. The restriction of the Lorentzian metric on  $\mathbb{L}^{n+1}$  and  $S^n$  gives hyperbolic and round metrics which are positive definite and of constant curvature -1 and 1, respectively. Consider

$$Isom(\mathbb{L}^{n+1}) = O^+(n+1,1) := \{A \in O(n+1,1) : A \text{ preserves } \mathbb{L}\}.$$

We define an isomorphism,

$$\Psi: \operatorname{Isom}(\mathbb{L}^{n+1}) \xrightarrow{\sim} \operatorname{M\"ob}(S^n), \ a \mapsto \Psi_a$$

by the following procedure. Take  $a \in O^+(n+1,1)$  so that for  $y = (y_1 \cdots y_{n+1})$  and  $a(y,1) = (a_1y, a_2y) \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1} \times \mathbb{R}^+$  i.e.  $a_2 := \pi_{n+2} \circ a \circ \pi_{1\cdots n+1}$  define

$$\Psi_a: S^n \to S^n \quad \text{by} \quad \Psi_a(y, 1) := \left(\frac{a_1 y}{a_2 y}, 1\right)$$

This is a conformal map on the sphere since it is the map  $y \mapsto (a_1y, a_2y)$ , which is an isometry of the sphere on its image, followed by rescaling via the factor  $(a_2y)^{-1}$ . So whenever we define a locally conformally flat structure, instead of local conformal diffeomorphisms into  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , we map into  $S^n$ .

**Definition 2.1.** A locally conformally flat structure on a smooth manifold M is a smooth atlas  $\{(U_i, h_i)_{i \in I}\}$  where the maps  $h_i : U_i \to S^n$  are diffeomorphisms onto their images and the transition maps  $h_i \circ h_i^{-1} \in \text{Möb}(S^n)$  after restriction.

Now start with one of the flattening (or rounding) maps  $h_1 : U_1 \to S^n$ . Let  $\alpha$  be a path in M beginning in  $U_1$ . We would like to analytically continue  $h_1$  along this path. Proceeding inductively, on a component of  $\alpha \cap U_i$  the analytic continuation of  $h_1$  is a shift away from  $h_i$ , i.e. of the form  $\Gamma \circ h_i$  for some  $\Gamma \in \text{Möb}(S^n)$ . This way  $h_1$  is analytically continued along every path of M starting at a point in  $U_1$ . Therefore, there is a global analytic continuation D of  $h_1$  defined on the universal cover  $\tilde{M}$  since it is defined as a quotient space of paths in M. D is called the *developing map* of the locally conformally flat space.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \widetilde{M} & \stackrel{D}{\longrightarrow} & S^n \\ p \downarrow & \\ M \end{array}$$

If one starts with a different flattening open subset instead of  $U_1$ , one gets another developing map which differs from D by a composition with a Möbius transformation. Hence, the developing map is defined uniquely up to a composition with an element in  $M\"ob(S^n)$ . This uniqueness property has the following consequence. Given any covering transformation T of the universal covering, there is a unique element  $g \in M\"ob(S^n)$  such that

$$D \circ T = g \circ D.$$

This correspondence defines a homomorphism

$$\rho: \pi_1(M) \longrightarrow \operatorname{M\"ob}(S^n)$$

called the *holonomy representation* of M. Conversely, starting with a pair  $(D, \rho)$  where  $\rho$  is a representation of the fundamental group into Möbius transformations and D is any  $\rho$ -equivariant local diffeomorphism of  $\widetilde{M}$  into  $S^n$ , one can construct the corresponding LCF structure on M by pulling back the standart LCF structure from  $S^n$  to  $\widetilde{M}$  via D, and then projecting it down.

**Theorem 2.2.** *If a compact complex surface admits a locally conformally flat Riemannian metric, then it cannot contain a rational curve of odd self-intersection.* 

*Proof.* Let  $f : S^2 \to M$  be a smoothly embedded complex sphere in a compact complex surface M. Since the fundamental group of the sphere is trivial we have  $f_*\pi_1(S^2) \subset p_*\pi_1(\widetilde{M})$ . So by the general lifting lemma ([Mu] p.478), we can lift the embedding to

a continuous map  $\tilde{f} : S^2 \to \tilde{M}$  into the universal cover, at any chosen base point in a unique way. Since p is a local diffeomorphism and f is an embedding, the map  $\tilde{f}$  is also an embedding locally, hence an immersion. We can conclude that the self-intersection numbers in M and the universal cover

$$I(f,f) = I(\tilde{f},\tilde{f})$$

are the same since there is a local diffeomorphism and the intersection numbers can be computed through the local deformations of the submanifolds. To be precise, selfintersection number is obtained by perturbing a copy of the sphere in a neighborhood to make it transverse to itself and counting the signed number of points according to the orientation. Since the covering map is a local diffeomorphism, it becomes a bijection when restricted to a lifting of the sphere. Since at the same time it is a local diffeomorphism in a neighborhood of a point, by compactness, passing to a finite cover one can introduce a metric and find a uniform  $\epsilon$  neighborhood on which the covering map is a diffeomorphism. If the perturbed sphere goes beyond this neighborhood, then we just push it inside without changing the intersection points.

As the second step, we note that the lifted sphere is also a holomorphic one. So that the adjunction formula [DK]

$$2g(C) - 2 = [C]^2 - c_1(S)[C]$$
<sup>(1)</sup>

for a smooth connected curve *C* of a complex surface *S* is applicable. Since the developing map is obtained through local flattening conformal diffeomorphisms, it is an immersion. The formula (1) has no analogue in the image because the Chern class is not defined. On the other hand the Stiefel-Whitney class *is* defined. Since  $w_2(S^4) = 0$ , by naturality of characteristic classes we have

$$w_2(TM) = w_2(D^*TS^4) = D^*w_2(TS^4) = 0.$$

If one takes the (mod 2) reduction of both sides of (1) applied to  $C = \tilde{f}(S^2)$  and  $S = \tilde{M}$ , and inserting  $c_1(\tilde{M}) \equiv w_2(\tilde{M}) \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$ , one gets

$$0 = [\tilde{f}(S^2)]^2 \pmod{2}$$

In particular, there cannot be a (-1)-self-intersecting smooth rational curve in M, and thus, M must be minimal.

**Remark 2.3.** There are actually immersions  $T^*S^2 \to \mathbb{R}^4$  which realize the sphere as a Lagrangian submanifold with respect to the standart symplectic structures of both sides. Note the parity of the self-intersection of the sphere. See [A] for details.

## 3 Kodaira–Enriques classification

In this section we give a list of complex surfaces which may possibly admit a locally conformally flat metric. The idea is to go through the classes of surfaces in the Kodaira–Enriques classification. According to the classification ([BHPV], p.244), the following is the complete list of minimal surfaces:

- 1. Minimal rational surfaces
- 2. Minimal surfaces of class VII
- 3. Ruled surfaces of genus  $g \ge 1$
- 4. Enriques surfaces
- 5. Bi-elliptic surfaces
- 6. Primary or secondary Kodaira surfaces
- 7. K3-surfaces
- 8. Tori
- 9. Minimal properly elliptic surfaces
- 10. Minimal surfaces of general type

The assumption that the surface admit an LCF metric helps us to eliminate some of these possibilities by close inspection. First of all, we make the following general remark: A compact complex surface admitting an LCF metric has to be *of signature*  $\tau = 0$  and *non-simply-connected*. The fact that the signature  $\tau$  is zero follows from the Hirzebruch Signature formula.

**Theorem 3.1** (Hirzebruch). Let (M, g) be an oriented Riemannian manifold. Then the signature of the manfold can be expressed in terms of curvature quantities as follows.

$$\tau = \frac{1}{12\pi^2} \int_M |W^+|^2 - |W^-|^2 \, d\mu.$$

Here  $W^{\pm}$  are the self-dual and anti-self-dual parts of the Weyl tensor. This formula is a combination of two results. One of them is the signature theorem of Hirzebruch which expresses the signature of an oriented 4-manifold as a multiple of the integral of its first Pontrjagin class over the manifold. See [Hir] for a reference. Another result is that using Chern-Weil theory one can express the characteristic classes using curvature quantities. See [Ch]. Since W = 0 for any LCF metric [Bes], we see that  $\tau$  has to be zero.

Furthermore, we will make use of the following theorems of Kuiper.

**Theorem 3.2** ([Kui]). Let  $(M^n, g)$  be a simply connected, LCF *n*-manifold of class  $C^1$ . Then there is a conformal immersion  $f : M \to S^n$ . If in addition M is compact, then this map is a conformal diffeomorphism.

**Theorem 3.3** ([Kui2]). Universal cover of a compact, LCF space with an infinite Abelian fundamental group must be  $\mathbb{R}^n$  or  $\mathbb{R} \times S^{n-1}$ .

According to the first theorem, the 4-sphere  $S^4$  is the only compact, simply- connected 4-manifold with an LCF metric. Since  $S^4$  is not a complex manifold, a compact complex surface with an LCF metric cannot be simply connected. Now, let us analyze the above list.

The first case is a minimal rational surface. A surface is called *rational* if and only if it is birationally equivalent to the complex projective plane. The possibilities for the minimal models are the complex projective plane  $\mathbb{CP}_2$  and the Hirzebruch surfaces  $\mathbb{F}_n = \mathbb{P}(\mathcal{O} \oplus \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{CP}_1}(n))$  for n = 0, 2, 3... (see [BHPV]). The Hirzebruch surfaces fall into two distinct smooth topological types  $S^2 \times S^2$  and  $\mathbb{CP}_2 \notin \mathbb{CP}_2$  determined by parity of *n* (see [H]). Both of these types are simply-connected, as is  $\mathbb{CP}_2$ . Thus, they cannot admit an LCF metric by Kuiper's theorem.

The second item in the list is the minimal surfaces of class VII. These surfaces are characterized by their Kodaira dimension  $\kappa = -\infty$  and Betti number  $b_1 = 1$  (therefore, they are not simply-connected). Furthermore their Chern numbers satisfy  $c_1^2 \leq 0$  and  $c_2 \geq 0$ . Combining with the identity

$$c_1^2 = 2\chi + 3\tau = 2\chi$$

for LCF complex surfaces, we reach the conclusion that  $\chi = 0$ . Since  $b_1 = 1$ , we can compute the second Betti number as follows,

$$0 = \chi = 2 - 2b_1 + b_2 = b_2.$$

Class VII minimal surfaces of vanishing second Betti number are classified by Bogomolov in [Bo1, Bo2]: Hopf surfaces and Inoue surfaces are the only two possibilities. A surface is called a *Hopf surface* if its universal cover is biholomorphic to  $\mathbb{C}^2 - 0$ . The other possibility are *Inoue surfaces* with  $b_2 = 0$ . Their universal cover is biholomorphic to  $\mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{H}$ , i.e. complex line times the hyperbolic disk.

The third is the case of ruled surfaces of genus  $g \ge 1$ . Such a surface admits a ruling, i.e. a locally trivial, holomorphic fibration over a smooth non-rational curve with fiber  $\mathbb{CP}_1$  and structural group PGL(2,  $\mathbb{C}$ ). This can be thought of as a projectivization of a complex rank 2-bundle over a Riemann surface. Now, we claim that the base cannot be a torus: suppose that the base *is* a torus. Then, topologically, we have the following fiber bundle

$$S^2 \longrightarrow M \longrightarrow T^2.$$

The homotopy exact sequence for this bundle involves the following terms:

$$\cdots \rightarrow \pi_3 T^2 \rightarrow \pi_2 S^2 \rightarrow \pi_2 M \rightarrow \pi_2 T^2 \rightarrow \cdots$$

Here, the terms at the two ends are zero since the universal cover of torus is contractible. Therefore, we have the isomorphism  $\pi_2 M \approx \pi_2 S^2 \approx \mathbb{Z}$ . Thus, the second homotopy group of the universal cover  $\tilde{M}$  is non-trivial. Taking a look at the remaining terms of the homotopy exact sequence on the right we have

$$\cdots \rightarrow \pi_1 S^2 \rightarrow \pi_1 M \rightarrow \pi_1 T^2 \rightarrow \pi_0 S^2 \rightarrow \cdots$$

Again the end terms vanish, and we have the isomorphism  $\pi_1 M \approx \pi_1 T^2 \approx \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}$ . This is an infinite abelian group. However, due to the second theorem of Kuiper that we stated above, since the fundamental group is infinite abelian, the universal cover must be  $\mathbb{R}^4$  or  $\mathbb{R} \times S^3$  if there is any LCF metric. Ours have non-trivial second homotopy group, so it is none of these. Hence the genus g = 1 case yields a contradiction.

The fourth and seventh possibilities are eliminated, because the signatures of Enriques and K<sub>3</sub> surfaces are nonzero:  $\tau(E) = -8$  and  $\tau(K3) = -16$ .

Finally, let us consider surfaces of general type. We know that the Chern numbers  $c_1^2$  and  $c_2$  are strictly positive for these surfaces. Recall the formula for the holomorphic Euler characteristic:  $12\chi_h = c_1^2 + c_2$ . Since this is a non-zero positive integer multiple of 12, we have  $c_1^2 + c_2 \ge 12$ . Recall the identity  $c_1^2 = 2c_2 + 3\tau$  for complex surfaces. Adding  $c_2$  to both sides and applying the previous inequality we obtain  $c_2 + \tau \ge 4$ . Since the signature  $\tau$  is zero for LCF surfaces, we get  $c_2 = \chi \ge 4$ .

Now, we can list the remaining cases as follows.

**Lemma 3.4.** If a compact complex surface (M, J) admits a locally conformally flat Riemannian *metric, then it can be either* 

- 1. a Hopf surface, or an Inoue surface with  $b_2 = 0$ ,
- 2. a ruled surface fibered over a Riemann surface  $\Sigma_g$  of genus  $g \ge 2$ ,
- 3. a bi-elliptic surface,
- 4. a primary or secondary Kodaira surface,
- 5. a torus,
- 6. a minimal properly elliptic surface, or
- 7. a non-simply-connected minimal surface of general type of Euler characteristic  $\chi \ge 4$ .

## 4 Elliptic Surfaces

In the case of elliptic surfaces one can actually make a more refined classification. We start with the following classification theorem stated in [GS] p.314, a summary of research done by various people. See the references therein.

**Theorem 4.1.** A relatively minimal elliptic surface with nonzero Euler characteristic is diffeomorphic to  $E(n, g)_{p_1 \dots p_k}$  for exactly one choice of the integers involved for

 $1 \le n, \ 0 \le g, k, \ 2 \le p_1 \dots \le p_k$  and  $k \ne 1$  if (n, g) = (1, 0).

Here, *relatively minimal* means that the fibers do not contain any sphere of self intersection -1. This is a generalization of being minimal. E(1) is defined to be the surface  $\mathbb{CP}_2 \ddagger 9 \overline{\mathbb{CP}}_2$  considered with its elliptic fibration. Then taking its fiber sum with itself *n*-times, one gets E(n). Furthermore taking the fiber sum with the trivial fibration  $\Sigma_1 \times \Sigma_g$  over the Riemann surface of genus g, one gets the space E(n, g). Finally the subindices  $p_i$  denotes the multiplicity of a logarithmic transformation. Log transform is a standard way to introduce a multiple fiber. Using this classification theorem we can prove our result.

**Theorem 4.2.** If an elliptic surface admits a locally conformally flat metric then it is minimal, and it has vanishing Euler characteristic and signature. Moreover it has to be a torus bundle over a curve, outside the multiple fibers.

*Proof.* The signature of  $E(n,g)_{p_1\cdots p_k}$  is computed to be  $\tau = -8n$ , see [GS]. If we assume that there exists an LCF metric, then signature has to vanish and n = 0. Applying the Theorem 4.1 we reach the conclusion that the Euler characteristic  $\chi = 0$ . But this is the Euler characteristics of the fiber bundle:  $\chi = \chi(\text{fiber}) \times \chi(\text{base}) = 0$ . Since a cusp fiber contributes by 2 and a fishtail fiber contributes by 1 to the Euler characteristic, there are no singular fibers.

*Logarithmic tranformation* is a standard way to introduce a multiple fiber. Topologically, picking up a lattitute *l* of a smooth fiber, multiplying with the disc in the base, replacing the solid torus by another solid torus which has multiple Seifert fibered central circle is basically what this operation means. Note that this does not change the Euler characteristic. It changes the homology class of the fiber.

An elliptic surface fibered over a rational curve is either a product or a Hopf surface, see [BHPV] p.196. Since the product does not admit LCF metric, and the Hopf surface is already counted in the first case, we can assume that the genus  $g \ge 1$ . In the list we gave in the previous section (Lemma 3.4), the cases between 3-6 are elliptic except some tori. These are the cases to which the results of this section apply. This completes the proof of Theorem 1.2.

## 5 Converse

In this section we will mention the surfaces in the list of Lemma 3.4 that are known to admit LCF metrics. See [K1] for a recent survey and [Bes] for references.

- Case 1: Among the Hopf surfaces, the primary ones, i.e. the ones homeomorphic to  $S^1 \times S^3$  admit LCF metrics. The reason is locally it is a product of a line with a constant curvature space. Note that if a complex surface is homeomorphic to  $S^1 \times S^3$  then it is diffeomorphic to it by a result of Kodaira [Ko]. Among the secondary type Hopf surfaces, the ones obtained by  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ -action on the second component, result in a lens space product  $S^1 \times L(p,q)$ , hence they admit an LCF metric because locally it is as the previous case.
- Case 2: Among the ruled surfaces mentioned, the trivial products are LCF. The product metric on  $\mathbb{CP}_1 \times \Sigma_g$  admits LCF metric for  $g \ge 2$ .
- Case 5: All tori admit flat metrics.

#### 6 The Hermitian case

In this section we consider the *Hermitian* locally conformally flat structures on complex surfaces. This means that we have an additional compatibility condition, i.e. *J*-invariance relation g(JX, JY) = g(X, Y) for all vectors *X*, *Y*. This case is analyzed by M. Pontecorvo in [Pon], and also stated without proof in [B]. We have one of the following three cases.

- 1. A Hopf surface, i.e. finitely covered by a complex surface  $\mathbb{C}^{2*}/\mathbb{Z}$  (diffeomorphic to  $S^1 \times S^3$ ) with its standard metric of [Va].
- 2. A flat  $\mathbb{CP}_1$  bundle over a Riemann surface  $\Sigma_g$  of genus  $g \ge 2$ . Its metric is locally the product of constant  $\pm 1$  curvature metrics.
- 3. A complex torus or a hyperelliptic surface with flat metrics.

In this classification the cases 1,2 and 3 fall into the cases of 1, 2 and 3 of our Theorem 1.2 respectively.

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Tuncelí Üníversítesí, Mekatroník Mühendíslíğí, Aktuluk, 62000, Tuncelí, Türkíye. *E-mail address:* mkalafat@tunceli.edu.tr

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY, DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS, NASHVILLE, TN 37240, USA. *E-mail address:* caner.koca@vanderbilt.edu