



## General improved Chen's inequality for Warped product bi-slant submanifolds in Kenmotsu manifolds

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**Abstract.** Recently, B.Y. Chen established a relationship for the squared norm of the second fundamental form (an extrinsic invariant) of warped product bi-slant submanifolds of Kenmotsu manifolds in terms of the warping function (an intrinsic invariant). In this paper, we study warped product bi-slant submanifolds of Kenmotsu manifolds. We obtain a sufficient necessary condition that a bi-slant submanifold is locally a warped product and prove a characterisation theorem for such submanifolds. Finally, we establish a general improved Chen type of inequality. The equality case is also investigated.

### 1. Introduction

In [6], Bishop and O'Neill initiated the concept of the warped product manifolds in their study of manifolds of negative curvature. Warped product submanifolds have been studied rapidly since Chen introduced the notion of CR-warped product of Kaehler manifolds in his series papers [10, 11]. Moreover, Chen [12] established a general sharp geometric inequality for the squared norm of the second fundamental form for different warped product submanifolds of different ambient manifolds, which embodies the relationship between the main extrinsic invariant (the second fundamental form) and an intrinsic invariant (the warping function). Motivated by his work, many distinguished geometers extended and improved the Chen's type inequality [1, 16, 17, 19, 21, 24].

On the other hand, J.L. Cabrerizro et al. introduced the notion of bi-slant submanifolds of almost contact metric manifolds as a generalization of contact CR-submanifolds, semi-slant submanifolds and pseudo-slant submanifolds in [8]. S. Uddin and B.Y. Chen investigated warped product bi-slant submanifolds in Kaehler manifolds in [26]. They proved the non-existence of warped product bi-slant submanifolds of Kaehler manifolds, and the non-existence of such submanifolds for cosymplectic manifolds was proved in [2]. Also, many researchers extended the above special type of submanifolds in some different structure manifolds (see [18], [20], [22], [25], [27], [4], [5], [3]), they have given many non-trivial examples and proved several interesting results including characterisation theorems and inequalities. Recently, the idea has been extended for CR-slant warped products and bi-warped products (see [12],[14], [21], [26], [23]).

The paper is organised as follows: In section 2, we recall some basic formulas and definitions, which are useful to the next section. Section 3 is devoted to the study of bi-slant submanifolds of almost contact

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metric manifolds and provide some basic results which are useful to the next section. In section 4, we study warped product bi-slant submanifolds of Kenmotsu manifolds. In the beginning of this section, we give an example of such submanifolds to prove its existence and then obtain a sufficient necessary condition for that a bi-slant submanifold to be a warped product. Finally, we prove a characterisation theorem for such submanifolds. The last section 5 is devoted to establish a general improved Chen’s inequality for warped product bi-slant submanifolds in Kenmotsu manifolds. Also, the equality is also discussed in details.

**2. Preliminaries**

Let  $\tilde{M}$  be a  $(2n + 1)$  dimensional Riemannian manifold, then  $\tilde{M}$  is said to be an almost contact metric manifold if it admits an almost contact metric structure  $(\varphi, \xi, \eta, g)$ , where the endomorphism  $\varphi$  of its tangent bundle is a tensor field of the form  $(1, 1)$ ,  $\xi$  is a structure vector field,  $\eta$  is a 1-form and  $g$  is a Riemannian metric on  $\tilde{M}$  satisfying the following conditions [7]:

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi^2 &= -I + \eta \otimes \xi, \quad \varphi\xi = 0, \quad \eta \circ \varphi = 0, \quad \eta(\xi) = 1, \\ g(\varphi X, \varphi Y) &= g(X, Y) - \eta(X)\eta(Y), \quad \eta(X) = g(X, \xi), \end{aligned} \tag{2.1}$$

for any vector field  $X, Y$  tangent to  $\tilde{M}$ , and from (2.1), we also have

$$g(\varphi X, Y) = -g(X, \varphi Y). \tag{2.2}$$

An almost contact metric manifold  $\tilde{M}$  is said to be a Kenmotsu manifold [15], if the relation

$$(\tilde{\nabla}_X \varphi)Y = g(\varphi X, Y)\xi - \eta(Y)\varphi X \tag{2.3}$$

holds, where  $\tilde{\nabla}$  is the Levi-Civita connection of  $g$ . From (2.1), (2.2), it can be easily derived that

$$\tilde{\nabla}_X \xi = X - \eta(X)\xi. \tag{2.4}$$

In addition, the covariant derivative of the tensor field  $\varphi$  is defined by

$$(\tilde{\nabla}_X \varphi)Y = \tilde{\nabla}_X(\varphi Y) - \varphi(\tilde{\nabla}_X Y), \tag{2.5}$$

for any vector field  $X, Y$  tangent to  $\tilde{M}$ .

Let  $\psi : (M, g) \rightarrow (\tilde{M}, g)$  be an isometric immersion of an almost contact metric manifold. We denote by  $\nabla$  and  $\nabla^\perp$  the Levi-Civita connections on the tangent bundle  $TM$  and the normal bundle  $T^\perp M$ , respectively, and  $\tilde{\nabla}$  the extrinsic connection of  $M$  on  $\tilde{M}$ . Then the Gauss and Weingarten formulas are respectively given by

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\nabla}_X Y &= \nabla_X Y + \sigma(X, Y), \\ \tilde{\nabla}_X N &= -A_N X + \nabla_X^\perp N, \end{aligned} \tag{2.6}$$

for any  $X, Y \in \Gamma(TM)$  and  $N \in \Gamma(T^\perp M)$ . Where  $\sigma : TM \times TM \rightarrow T^\perp M$  is the second fundamental form of  $M$  in  $\tilde{M}$ , and  $A$  is the shape operator of the submanifold  $M$ . Moreover,  $\sigma$  and  $A$  are related as follows

$$g(A_N X, Y) = g(\sigma(X, Y), N). \tag{2.7}$$

We assume that  $\dim(M) = m$ . Let  $\{e_1, \dots, e_m\}$  be a local orthonormal frame of the tangent bundle  $TM$  and  $\{e_{m+1}, \dots, e_{2n+1}\}$  be a local orthonormal frame of the normal bundle  $T^\perp M$ . If we set  $\sigma_{ij}^r = g(\sigma(e_i, e_j), e_r)$ ,  $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, m, r = 1, \dots, 2n + 1$ , then the squared norm of the second fundamental form is defined by

$$\|\sigma\|^2 = \sum_{i,j=1}^m g(\sigma(e_i, e_j), \sigma(e_i, e_j)) = \sum_{r=m+1}^{2n+1} \sum_{i,j=1}^m (g(\sigma(e_i, e_j), e_r))^2. \tag{2.8}$$

**Definition 2.1.** [29] A submanifold  $M$  of  $\widetilde{M}$  is said to be totally geodesic if its second fundamental form  $\sigma$  is identically zero, while it is called totally umbilical if its second fundamental form  $\sigma$  satisfies

$$\sigma(X, Y) = g(X, Y)H, \tag{2.9}$$

for each  $X, Y \in \Gamma(TM)$ , where  $H$  is the mean curvature vector of  $H = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m \sigma(e_i, e_i)$ . In addition,  $M$  is called minimal if  $H = 0$ .

For any  $X \in \Gamma(TM)$  and  $N \in \Gamma(TM^\perp)$ , an orthogonal decomposition of  $\varphi X$  and  $\varphi N$  yields

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi X &= TX + FX, \\ \varphi N &= tN + fN, \end{aligned} \tag{2.10}$$

where  $TX$  (resp.  $tN$ ) and  $FX$  (resp.  $fN$ ) denotes the tangential and normal components of  $\varphi X$  (resp.  $\varphi N$ ), respectively. Thus,  $T$  is an endomorphism on the tangent bundle  $TM$  and  $F$  is a normal bundle valued 1-form of  $TM$ . Moreover,  $M$  is said to be invariant if  $F \equiv 0$ , that is,  $\varphi X \in \Gamma(TM)$ , and anti-invariant if  $T \equiv 0$ , that is,  $\varphi X \in \Gamma(T^\perp M)$ . Furthermore, from (2.2) and (2.8), we have

$$g(TX, Y) = -g(X, TY). \tag{2.11}$$

For a differentiable function  $f$  on a submanifold  $M$  of  $\widetilde{M}$ , the gradient  $\nabla f$  is defined as

$$g(\nabla f, X) = X(f). \tag{2.12}$$

Now, an important class of submanifold under the action of  $\varphi$  of  $\widetilde{M}$  is given.

**Definition 2.2.** [9] A submanifold  $M$  of an almost contact metric manifold  $\widetilde{M}$  is said to be slant, if for each non-zero vector  $X$  tangent to  $M$  at  $p$  such that  $X$  is not proportional to  $\langle \xi_p \rangle$ , the slant angle  $\theta(X) \in [0, \frac{\pi}{2}]$  between  $\varphi X$  and  $T_p M$  is constant, i.e., it is independent of the choice of  $p \in M$  and  $X \in T_p M - \langle \xi_p \rangle$ .

Obviously, if  $\theta = 0$ , then  $M$  is an invariant submanifold and if  $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$ , then  $M$  is an anti-invariant submanifold. A slant submanifold is said to be proper if it is neither  $\theta = 0$  nor  $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$ .

Similarly, we define the slant distribution, if the differentiable distribution  $\mathfrak{D}$  is a  $\theta$ -slant distribution on a submanifold  $M$  of  $\widetilde{M}$ , then for any non-zero  $X \in \mathfrak{D}$ ,  $p \in M$ , the slant angle  $\theta(X_p) \in [0, \frac{\pi}{2}]$  between  $\varphi X_p$  and  $\mathfrak{D}_p$  is constant, i.e., it is independent of the choice of  $p \in M$  and  $X \in \mathfrak{D}$ . Also, it is an invariant distribution if  $\theta = 0$ , and it is called anti-invariant if  $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$ . A slant distribution is said to be proper if it is neither invariant nor anti-invariant. Moreover, it was proved in [9] that a submanifold  $M$  of  $\widetilde{M}$  such that  $\xi$  tangent to  $M$ , and there exists a distribution  $\mathfrak{D}$  satisfies  $TM = \mathfrak{D} \oplus \langle \xi \rangle$ , then  $M$  is slant if and only if  $\mathfrak{D}$  is a slant distribution with the same slant angle.

For the slant submanifold, the following characterizations are known.

**Lemma 2.3.** Let  $M$  be a submanifold tangent to  $\xi$  of an almost contact metric manifold  $\widetilde{M}$ , Then  $M$  is  $\theta$ -slant submanifold if and only if [9]

$$T^2 = \cos^2 \theta (-I + \eta \otimes \xi). \tag{2.13}$$

The following relations are the natural consequences of (2.11) and (2.13) as

$$\begin{aligned} g(TX, TY) &= \cos^2 \theta (g(X, Y) - \eta(X)\eta(Y)), \\ g(FX, FY) &= \sin^2 \theta (g(X, Y) - \eta(X)\eta(Y)), \end{aligned} \tag{2.14}$$

for any  $X, Y \in \Gamma(TM)$ . Another relation for a  $\theta$ -slant submanifold of  $\widetilde{M}$  is obtained by using (2.1), (2.10) and (2.13) as [20]

$$\begin{aligned} tFX &= \sin^2 \theta (-X + \eta(X)\xi), \\ fFX &= -FTX, \end{aligned} \tag{2.15}$$

for any  $X \in \Gamma(TM)$ .

### 3. Bi-slant submanifolds

The bi-slant immersion on a almost contact metric manifold was first introduced in [8], Cabrerizo et al. defined bi-slant submanifolds as follows:

**Definition 3.1.** A submanifold  $M$  of an almost contact metric manifold  $(\widetilde{M}, \varphi, \xi, \eta, g)$  is said to be a bi-slant submanifold if there exists a pair of orthogonal distributions  $\mathfrak{D}^1$  and  $\mathfrak{D}^2$  such that

- (i) The tangent bundle  $TM$  admits the orthogonal direct decomposition:  $TM = \mathfrak{D}^1 \oplus \mathfrak{D}^2 \oplus \langle \xi \rangle$ ,
- (ii)  $\varphi\mathfrak{D}^1 \perp \mathfrak{D}^2$  and  $\varphi\mathfrak{D}^2 \perp \mathfrak{D}^1$ ,
- (iii) Each  $\mathfrak{D}^i$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) is a slant distribution with a slant angle  $\theta_i$ , and the set  $\{\theta_1, \theta_2\}$  is called bi-slant angle.

In particular, if the distributions  $\mathfrak{D}^1$  and  $\mathfrak{D}^2$  are invariant and anti-invariant with respect to  $\varphi$ , respectively, then we call this type of bi-slant submanifolds as CR submanifolds. If neither  $\theta_i = 0$  nor  $\theta_i = \frac{\pi}{2}$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ), then  $M$  is called proper. In addition,  $M$  is known as semi-slant if  $\mathfrak{D}^1$  and  $\mathfrak{D}^2$  are invariant and proper, respectively, and it is called pseudo-slant if  $\mathfrak{D}^1$  and  $\mathfrak{D}^2$  are anti-invariant and proper, respectively.

Let  $M$  be a bi-slant submanifold with slant angle  $\{\theta_1, \theta_2\}$  of a Kenmotsu manifold  $\widetilde{M}$ , for any  $X \in \Gamma(TM)$ , we put

$$\varphi X = T_1X + T_2X + FX, \tag{3.1}$$

where  $T_i$  denotes the orthogonal projection of  $T$  on  $\mathfrak{D}^i$ , for any  $i = 1, 2$ . Then if  $X \in \mathfrak{D}^i$ , we obtain  $\varphi X = T_iX + FX$ .

Now, we give the following useful results for bi-slant submanifolds.

**Lemma 3.2.** Let  $M$  be a proper bi-slant submanifold of a Kenmotsu manifold  $(\widetilde{M}, \varphi, \xi, \eta, g)$  with bi-slant angle  $\{\theta_1, \theta_2\}$ . Then, the slant distribution  $\mathfrak{D}^1 \oplus \langle \xi \rangle$  defines a totally geodesic foliation if and only if

$$A_{FT_2X_2}X_1 - A_{FX_2}T_1X_1 + A_{FT_1X_1}X_2 - A_{FX_1}T_2X_2 \in \mathfrak{D}^2,$$

for any  $X_1 \in \Gamma(\mathfrak{D}^1 \oplus \langle \xi \rangle)$ ,  $X_2 \in \Gamma(\mathfrak{D}^2)$ .

*Proof.* For any  $X_1, Y_1 \in \Gamma(\mathfrak{D}^1 \oplus \langle \xi \rangle)$ ,  $X_2, Y_2 \in \Gamma(\mathfrak{D}^2)$ , from (2.1), (2.5) and (2.6), we have

$$g(\nabla_{Y_1}X_1, X_2) = g(\varphi\widetilde{\nabla}_{Y_1}X_1, \varphi X_2) = g(\widetilde{\nabla}_{Y_1}\varphi X_1, \varphi X_2) - g((\widetilde{\nabla}_{Y_1}\varphi)X_1, \varphi X_2).$$

By (2.3) and (2.10), we derive

$$\begin{aligned} g(\nabla_{Y_1}X_1, X_2) &= g(\widetilde{\nabla}_{Y_1}\varphi X_1, \varphi X_2) \\ &= g(\widetilde{\nabla}_{Y_1}T_1X_1, T_2X_2) + g(\widetilde{\nabla}_{Y_1}FX_1, T_2X_2) + g(\widetilde{\nabla}_{Y_1}\varphi X_1, FX_2). \end{aligned}$$

Using the Gauss and Weingarten formulas (2.6), we obtain

$$g(\nabla_{Y_1}X_1, X_2) = g(\nabla_{Y_1}T_1X_1, T_2X_2) - g(A_{FX_1}Y_1, T_2X_2) - g(\widetilde{\nabla}_{Y_1}FX_2, \varphi X_1).$$

Then from (2.2), (2.3), (2.5), (2.10) and (2.15), we get

$$\begin{aligned} g(\nabla_{Y_1}X_1, X_2) &= g(\nabla_{Y_1}T_1X_1, T_2X_2) - g(A_{FX_1}Y_1, T_2X_2) \\ &\quad - \sin^2\theta_2g(\widetilde{\nabla}_{Y_1}X_2, X_1) - g(\widetilde{\nabla}_{Y_1}FTX_2, X_1). \end{aligned}$$

Again by using (2.6), and the symmetry of the shape operator  $A$ , we arrive at

$$\cos^2\theta_2g(\nabla_{Y_1}X_1, X_2) = g(\nabla_{Y_1}T_1X_1, T_2X_2) + g(A_{FT_2X_2}X_1 - A_{FX_1}T_2X_2, Y_1). \tag{3.2}$$

We note that  $T_1X_1 \in \Gamma(\mathfrak{D}^1)$ ,  $T_2X_2 \in \Gamma(\mathfrak{D}^2)$ , then, replacing  $X_1$  by  $T_1X_1$ ,  $X_2$  by  $T_2X_2$ , by using (2.13), (2.4) and the orthogonality of the vector fields, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \cos^2\theta_2g(\nabla_{Y_1}T_1X_1, T_2X_2) \\ &= g(\nabla_{Y_1}T_1^2X_1, T_2^2X_2) + g(A_{FT_2^2X_2}T_1X_1 - A_{FT_1X_1}T_2^2X_2, Y_1) \\ &= \cos^2\theta_1\cos^2\theta_2g(\nabla_{Y_1}X_1, X_2) - \cos^2\theta_2g(A_{FX_2}T_1X_1 - A_{FT_1X_1}X_2, Y_1). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $M$  is proper, then  $\cos^2\theta_2 \neq 0$ , from the above relation we get

$$g(\nabla_{Y_1}T_1X_1, T_2X_2) = \cos^2\theta_1g(\nabla_{Y_1}X_1, X_2) - g(A_{FX_2}T_1X_1 - A_{FT_1X_1}X_2, Y_1). \tag{3.3}$$

Adding equations (3.2) and (3.3), we find that

$$\begin{aligned} & (\cos^2\theta_2 - \cos^2\theta_1)g(\nabla_{Y_1}X_1, X_2) \\ &= g(A_{FT_2X_2}X_1 - A_{FX_2}T_1X_1 + A_{FT_1X_1}X_2 - A_{FX_1}T_2X_2, Y_1). \end{aligned} \tag{3.4}$$

Hence, according to definition 2.1, the proof of the Lemma is completed.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.3.** *Let  $M$  be a proper bi-slant submanifold of a Kenmotsu manifold  $(\tilde{M}, \varphi, \xi, \eta, g)$  with bi-slant angle  $\{\theta_1, \theta_2\}$ . Then, the slant distribution  $\mathfrak{D}^2$  defines a totally geodesic foliation if and only if*

$$A_{FT_1X_1}X_2 - A_{FX_1}T_2X_2 + A_{FT_2X_2}X_1 - A_{FX_2}T_1X_1 + (\cos^2\theta_2 - \cos^2\theta_1)\eta(X_1)X_2 \in \mathfrak{D}^2$$

for any  $X_1 \in \Gamma(\mathfrak{D}^1 \oplus \langle \xi \rangle)$ ,  $X_2 \in \Gamma(\mathfrak{D}^2)$ .

*Proof.* For any  $X_1, Y_1 \in \Gamma(\mathfrak{D}^1 \oplus \langle \xi \rangle)$ ,  $X_2, Y_2 \in \Gamma(\mathfrak{D}^2)$ , from (2.1), (2.5) and (2.6), we have

$$\begin{aligned} g(\nabla_{Y_2}X_2, X_1) &= g(\varphi\tilde{\nabla}_{Y_2}X_2, \varphi X_1) + \eta(\tilde{\nabla}_{Y_2}X_2)\eta(X_1) \\ &= g(\tilde{\nabla}_{Y_2}\varphi X_2, \varphi X_1) - g((\tilde{\nabla}_{Y_2}\varphi)X_2, \varphi X_1) - \eta(X_1)g(\tilde{\nabla}_{Y_2}\xi, X_2). \end{aligned}$$

By (2.1), (2.4) and the orthogonality of  $\mathfrak{D}^2$  and  $\langle \xi \rangle$ , we derive

$$g(\nabla_{Y_2}X_2, X_1) = g(\tilde{\nabla}_{Y_2}\varphi X_2, \varphi X_1) - \eta(X_1)g(X_2, Y_2).$$

Using (2.10) and the Gauss and Weingarten formulas (2.6), we deduce

$$\begin{aligned} g(\nabla_{Y_2}X_2, X_1) &= g(\nabla_{Y_2}T_2X_2, T_1X_1) - g(A_{FX_2}Y_2, T_1X_1) \\ &\quad - g(\tilde{\nabla}_{Y_2}FX_1, \varphi X_2) - \eta(X_1)g(X_2, Y_2). \end{aligned} \tag{3.5}$$

Consider the third term in the right hand side of the above relation by using (2.2), (2.3), (2.4), (2.5), (2.6) and (2.15), we find that

$$\begin{aligned} & -g(\tilde{\nabla}_{Y_2}FX_1, \varphi X_2) \\ &= g(\varphi\tilde{\nabla}_{Y_2}FX_1, X_2) = g(\tilde{\nabla}_{Y_2}\varphi FX_1, X_2) - g((\tilde{\nabla}_{Y_2}\varphi)FX_1, X_2) \\ &= g(\tilde{\nabla}_{Y_2}tFX_1, X_2) + g(\tilde{\nabla}_{Y_2}fFX_1, X_2) \\ &= -\sin^2\theta_1g(\nabla_{Y_2}X_1, X_2) + \sin^2\theta_1\eta(X_1)g(\tilde{\nabla}_{Y_2}\xi, X_2) - g(\tilde{\nabla}_{Y_2}FT_1X_1, X_2) \\ &= -\sin^2\theta_1g(\nabla_{Y_2}X_1, X_2) + \sin^2\theta_1\eta(X_1)g(X_2, Y_2) + g(A_{FT_1X_1}Y_2, X_2). \end{aligned} \tag{3.6}$$

Plugging (3.6) into (3.5), we have the following by using the symmetry of the shape operator A

$$\begin{aligned} \cos^2\theta_1 g(\nabla_{Y_2} X_2, X_1) &= g(\nabla_{Y_2} T_2 X_2, T_1 X_1) + g(A_{FT_1 X_1} X_2 - A_{FX_2} T_1 X_1, Y_2) \\ &\quad - \cos^2\theta_1 \eta(X_1) g(X_2, Y_2). \end{aligned} \tag{3.7}$$

Replacing  $X_1$  by  $T_1 X_1$ ,  $X_2$  by  $T_2 X_2$ , then by using (2.1), (2.13), (2.4) and the orthogonality of the vector fields, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} &\cos^2\theta_1 g(\nabla_{Y_2} T_2 X_2, T_1 X_1) \\ &= g(\nabla_{Y_2} T_2^2 X_2, T_1^2 X_1) + g(A_{FT_1^2 X_1} T_2 X_2 - A_{FT_2 X_2} T_1^2 X_1, Y_2) \\ &= \cos^2\theta_1 \cos^2\theta_2 g(\nabla_{Y_2} X_2, X_1) + \cos^2\theta_1 \cos^2\theta_2 \eta(X_1) g(\widetilde{\nabla}_{Y_2} \xi, X_2) \\ &\quad - \cos^2\theta_1 g(A_{FX_1} T_2 X_2 - A_{FT_2 X_2} X_1, Y_2) - \cos^2\theta_1 \eta(X_1) g(\widetilde{\nabla}_{Y_2} \xi, FT_2 X_2) \\ &= \cos^2\theta_1 \cos^2\theta_2 g(\nabla_{Y_2} X_2, X_1) + \cos^2\theta_1 \cos^2\theta_2 \eta(X_1) g(Y_2, X_2) \\ &\quad - \cos^2\theta_1 g(A_{FX_1} T_2 X_2 - A_{FT_2 X_2} X_1, Y_2). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $M$  is proper, then  $\cos^2\theta_1 \neq 0$ , from the above relation we get

$$\begin{aligned} g(\nabla_{Y_2} T_2 X_2, T_1 X_1) &= \cos^2\theta_2 g(\nabla_{Y_2} X_2, X_1) - g(A_{FX_1} T_2 X_2 - A_{FT_2 X_2} X_1, Y_2) \\ &\quad + \cos^2\theta_2 \eta(X_1) g(Y_2, X_2). \end{aligned} \tag{3.8}$$

Adding equations (3.7) and (3.8), we arrive at

$$\begin{aligned} (\cos^2\theta_1 - \cos^2\theta_2) g(\nabla_{Y_2} X_2, X_1) &= g(A_{FT_1 X_1} X_2 - A_{FX_1} T_2 X_2 + A_{FT_2 X_2} X_1 - A_{FX_2} T_1 X_1, Y_2) \\ &\quad + (\cos^2\theta_2 - \cos^2\theta_1) \eta(X_1) g(Y_2, X_2). \end{aligned} \tag{3.9}$$

Thus, similarly to Lemma 3.2, we complete the proof of our lemma.  $\square$

#### 4. Warped product bi-slant submanifolds

In [6], Bishop and O’Neill introduced the notion of warped product manifolds as follows: Let  $(M_1, g_1)$  and  $(M_2, g_2)$  be two Riemannian manifolds, respectively, and  $f$  a positive differentiable function on  $M_1$ . Consider the Riemannian product manifold  $M_1 \times M_2$  with its canonical projection maps  $\pi_1 : M_1 \times M_2 \rightarrow M_1$  and  $\pi_2 : M_1 \times M_2 \rightarrow M_2$ . Then their warped product manifold  $M = (M_1 \times_f M_2, g)$  is the Riemannian product manifold  $M_1 \times M_2$  equipped with the Riemannian structure such that

$$g(X, Y) = g_1(\pi_{1*} X, \pi_{1*} Y) + (f \circ \pi_1)^2 g_2(\pi_{2*} X, \pi_{2*} Y), \tag{4.1}$$

for any vector field  $X, Y \in \Gamma(TM)$ , where  $*$  is the symbol for the tangent maps.

**Remark 4.1.** A warped product manifold  $M = (M_1 \times_f M_2, g)$  is said to be trivial if the warping function  $f$  is constant. In this case, the warped product manifold is a Riemannian product manifold. From [6] and [10], we have the following facts for a warped product manifold:

- (i)  $\nabla_{X_1} X_2 = \nabla_{X_2} X_1 = (X_1 \ln f) X_2$ , for any  $X_1 \in \Gamma(TM_1)$  and  $X_2 \in \Gamma(TM_2)$ , where  $\nabla$  is the Levi-Civita connection on  $M$ .
- (ii)  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  are totally geodesic and totally umbilical submanifolds of  $M$ , respectively.

In this section, we study the warped product bi-slant submanifold of a Kenmotsu manifold. We defined these submanifolds as follows.

**Definition 4.2.** A warped product  $M = M_1 \times_f M_2$  of a  $\theta_1$ -slant submanifold  $M_1$  and a  $\theta_2$ -slant submanifold  $M_2$  of a Kenmotsu manifold  $(\widetilde{M}, \varphi, \xi, \eta, g)$  is called a warped product bi-slant submanifold.

A warped product bi-slant submanifold  $M_1 \times_f M_2$  is called proper if both  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  are proper slant submanifolds with slant angle  $\theta_1, \theta_2 \neq 0, \frac{\pi}{2}$  of  $\widetilde{M}$ . Otherwise, a warped product bi-slant submanifold  $M_1 \times_f M_2$  is a contact CR-warped product of the form if  $\theta_1 = 0, \theta_2 = \frac{\pi}{2}$  or  $\theta_2 = 0, \theta_1 = \frac{\pi}{2}$  discussed in [4, 25]. Also, the warped product pseudo-slant and the warped product semi-slant submanifolds were discussed in [3] and [22, 27], respectively. It is known that from [22], if the structure vector field  $\xi$  is tangent to  $M_2$ , then the warped product is trivial. Since we do not study the non-existence of warped products, throughout we consider  $\xi$  is tangent to  $M_1$ , in this case, we have the following facts

$$\xi \ln f = 1, \quad \sigma(X_2, \xi) = 0, \tag{4.2}$$

for any  $X_2 \in \Gamma(TM_2)$ .

**Definition 4.3.** A warped product bi-slant submanifold  $M = M_1 \times_f M_2$  of a Kenmotsu manifold  $(\widetilde{M}, \varphi, \xi, \eta, g)$  is said to be mixed totally geodesic if  $\sigma(X_1, X_2) = 0$ , for each vector field  $X_1 \in \Gamma(TM_1)$  and  $X_2 \in \Gamma(TM_2)$ .

First, we provide a non-trivial example of warped product bi-slant submanifolds.

**Example 4.4.** Let  $\mathbb{R}^{11}$  be an Euclidean 11-space endowed with the standard metric and cartesian coordinates  $(x_1, y_1, \dots, x_5, y_5, t)$  and with the canonical structure  $(\varphi, \xi, \eta, g)$  defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}\right) &= -\frac{\partial}{\partial y_i}, \quad \varphi\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial y_j}\right) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j}, \quad \varphi\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\right) = 0 \\ \xi &= \frac{\partial}{\partial t}, \quad \eta = dt, \quad g = \langle \quad, \quad \rangle, \quad 1 \leq i, j \leq 5. \end{aligned}$$

If we denote by any vector field  $X = a_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} + b_j \frac{\partial}{\partial y_j} + c \frac{\partial}{\partial t}$  ( $1 \leq i, j \leq 5$ ) tangent to  $\mathbb{R}^{11}$ , it can be easily proved that  $(\varphi, \xi, \eta, g)$  is an almost contact metric structure on  $\mathbb{R}^{11}$  by using (2.1). Consider a 5-dimensional submanifold  $M$  of  $\mathbb{R}^{11}$  given by

$$\begin{aligned} \chi(u, v, w, s, t) &= (u, v \cos \theta, 0, v \sin \theta, uvw \cos \theta, \\ &\quad uvw \cos \theta, uvw \sin \theta, uv \sin \theta, uvs - uvw, uvs + uvw, t), \end{aligned}$$

for  $\theta \in (0, \frac{\pi}{2})$ , whose tangent space is spanned by the orthonormal vector fields

$$\begin{aligned} e_1 &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1}, \quad e_2 = \cos \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial y_1} + \sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial y_2}, \\ e_3 &= uv \cos \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial x_3} + uv \sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial x_4} - uv \frac{\partial}{\partial x_5} + uv \frac{\partial}{\partial y_5}, \\ e_4 &= uv \cos \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial y_3} + uv \sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial y_4} + uv \frac{\partial}{\partial x_5} + uv \frac{\partial}{\partial y_5}, \quad e_5 = \frac{\partial}{\partial t}. \end{aligned}$$

Clearly, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi e_1 &= -\frac{\partial}{\partial y_1}, \quad \varphi e_2 = \cos \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} + \sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2}, \\ \varphi e_3 &= -uv \cos \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial y_3} - uv \sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial y_4} + uv \frac{\partial}{\partial y_5} + uv \frac{\partial}{\partial x_5}, \\ \varphi e_4 &= uv \cos \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial x_3} + uv \sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial x_4} - uv \frac{\partial}{\partial y_5} + uv \frac{\partial}{\partial x_5}, \quad e_5 = \frac{\partial}{\partial t}. \end{aligned}$$

Define the distributions  $\mathfrak{D}^1 = \text{Span}\{e_1, e_2\}$  and  $\mathfrak{D}^2 = \text{Span}\{e_3, e_4\}$ , respectively, then it is clear that  $\mathfrak{D}^1$  is a  $\theta_1$ -slant distribution with  $\theta_1 = \theta$  and  $\mathfrak{D}^2$  is a  $\theta_2$ -slant distribution with  $\theta_2 = \arccos\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)$ , such that  $\xi$  is tangent to  $M$ . Hence,  $M$  is a proper bi-slant submanifold with bi-slant angle  $\{\theta_1, \theta_2\}$  of  $\mathbb{R}^{11}$ . Furthermore, it is easy to verify that both the distributions  $\mathfrak{D}^1 \oplus \langle \xi \rangle$  and  $\mathfrak{D}^2$  are integrable. We denote the integral manifolds of  $\mathfrak{D}^1 \oplus \langle \xi \rangle$  and  $\mathfrak{D}^2$  by  $M_1$  and  $M_2$ , respectively. Then the metric tensor  $g$  of the product manifold  $M = M_1 \times M_2$  is given by

$$g = du^2 + dv^2 + dt^2 + 3u^2v^2(dw^2 + ds^2) = g_{M_1} + (\sqrt{3}uv)^2 g_{M_2}.$$

Thus,  $M$  is a proper warped product bi-slant submanifold of  $\mathbb{R}^{11}$  of the form  $M_1 \times_f M_2$  with warping function  $f = \sqrt{3}uv$ , such that  $\xi$  is tangent to  $M_1$ .

Now, we give the following lemma, which plays a crucial role in our main results.

**Lemma 4.5.** Let  $M = M_1 \times_f M_2$  be a warped product bi-slant submanifold of a Kenmotsu manifold  $(\widetilde{M}, \varphi, \xi, \eta, g)$  such that  $\xi$  is tangent to  $M_1$ , where  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  are a  $\theta_1$ -slant submanifold and a  $\theta_2$ -slant submanifold of  $\widetilde{M}$ , respectively, then we have

- (i)  $g(\sigma(X_2, Y_2), FX_1) - g(\sigma(X_1, Y_2), FX_2) = (X_1 \ln f - \eta(X_1))g(T_2 X_2, Y_2) + T_1 X_1 \ln f g(X_2, Y_2).$
- (ii)  $g(\sigma(X_1, Y_1), FX_2) = g(\sigma(Y_1, X_2), FX_1).$

For any  $X_1, Y_1 \in \Gamma(TM_1)$ ,  $X_2, Y_2 \in \Gamma(TM_2)$ .

*Proof.* For any  $X_1, Y_1 \in \Gamma(TM_1)$ ,  $X_2, Y_2 \in \Gamma(TM_2)$ , from (2.6) and (2.10), we can write

$$\begin{aligned} g(\sigma(X_1, Y_2), FX_2) &= g(\widetilde{\nabla}_{Y_2} X_1, FX_2) \\ &= g(\widetilde{\nabla}_{Y_2} X_1, \varphi X_2) - g(\nabla_{Y_2} X_1, TX_2). \end{aligned}$$

By (2.2), (2.5) and the (i) of Remark 4.1, we derive

$$\begin{aligned} g(\sigma(X_1, Y_2), FX_2) &= -g(\varphi \widetilde{\nabla}_{Y_2} X_1, X_2) - X_1 \ln f g(Y_2, T_2 X_2) \\ &= g((\widetilde{\nabla}_{Y_2} \varphi) X_1, X_2) - g(\widetilde{\nabla}_{Y_2} \varphi X_1, X_2) - X_1 \ln f g(Y_2, T_2 X_2). \end{aligned}$$

Using (2.3), (2.6), (2.10) and by the orthogonality of the vector field  $\xi$ , we deduce

$$\begin{aligned} g(\sigma(X_1, Y_2), FX_2) &= -\eta(X_1)g(T_2 Y_2, X_2) - g(\nabla_{Y_2} T_1 X_1, X_2) \\ &\quad + g(A_{FX_1} Y_2, X_2) - X_1 \ln f g(Y_2, T_2 X_2). \end{aligned}$$

Then from (2.11), (2.7), and again using the (i) of Remark 4.1, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} g(\sigma(X_1, Y_2), FX_2) &= \eta(X_1)g(Y_2, T_2 X_2) - T_1 X_1 \ln f g(X_2, Y_2) \\ &\quad + g(\sigma(X_2, Y_2), FX_1) - X_1 \ln f g(Y_2, T_2 X_2). \end{aligned}$$

Hence, the proof of the first assertion is complete. Next, we prove the second assertion. Using (2.2), (2.6) and (2.10), we get

$$g(\sigma(Y_1, X_2), FX_1) = -g(\varphi \widetilde{\nabla}_{Y_1} X_2, X_1) - g(\nabla_{Y_1} X_2, T_1 X_1).$$

Then from (2.5) and the (i) of Remark 4.1, we arrive at

$$g(\sigma(Y_1, X_2), FX_1) = g((\widetilde{\nabla}_{Y_1} \varphi) X_2, X_1) - g(\widetilde{\nabla}_{Y_1} \varphi X_2, X_1) - Y_1 \ln f g(X_2, T_1 X_1).$$



Since the orthogonality of the vector fields, by (2.3), we find that the first term and the last term in the right hand side of the above relation vanishes, thus we have

$$g(\sigma(Y_1, X_2), FX_1) = -g(\widetilde{\nabla}_{Y_1}\varphi X_2, X_1).$$

Therefore, again using (2.6) and (2.10), we have

$$g(\sigma(Y_1, X_2), FX_1) = -g(\nabla_{Y_1}T_2X_2, X_1) + g(A_{FX_2}Y_1, X_1).$$

Thus, by (2.7) and the (i) of Remark 4.1, the above reduced to

$$g(\sigma(Y_1, X_2), FX_1) = g(\sigma(Y_1, X_1), FX_2),$$

which is the required result together with the symmetry of  $\sigma$ . Hence, the proof of the Lemma is complete.  $\square$

Here, we recall the following lemma for later use.

**Lemma 4.6 (Hiepko’s Theorem).** [30] *Let  $\mathfrak{D}^1$  and  $\mathfrak{D}^2$  be two orthogonal distributions on a Riemannian manifold  $M$ . Suppose that  $\mathfrak{D}^1$  and  $\mathfrak{D}^2$  both are involutive such that  $\mathfrak{D}^1$  is a totally geodesic foliation and  $\mathfrak{D}^2$  is a spherical foliation. Then  $M$  is locally isometric to a non trivial warped product  $M_1 \times_f M_2$ , where  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  are integral manifolds of  $\mathfrak{D}^1$  and  $\mathfrak{D}^2$ , respectively.*

**Theorem 4.7.** *Let  $M$  be a proper bi-slant submanifold of a Kenmotsu manifold  $(\widetilde{M}, \varphi, \xi, \eta, g)$  with bi-slant angle  $\{\theta_1, \theta_2\}$ . Then,  $M$  is locally a warped product submanifold of the form  $M_1 \times_f M_2$  if and only if the shape operator satisfies*

$$A_{FX_1}X_2 - A_{FX_2}X_1 = (X_1(\mu) - \eta(X_1))T_2X_2 + T_1X_1(\mu)X_2, \tag{4.3}$$

for any  $X_1 \in \mathfrak{D}^1 \oplus \langle \xi \rangle$ ,  $X_2 \in \mathfrak{D}^2$  and for some smooth function  $\mu$  on  $M$  such that  $Y_2(\mu) = 0$ , for any  $Y_2 \in \mathfrak{D}^2$ .

*Proof.* If  $M = M_1 \times_f M_2$  is a warped product bi-slant submanifold, then for any  $X_1, Y_1 \in \Gamma(TM_1)$ ,  $X_2, Y_2 \in \Gamma(TM_2)$ , from the (ii) of Lemma 4.5, we find that  $g(A_{FX_1}X_2 - A_{FX_2}X_1, Y_1) = 0$ , which means that  $A_{FX_1}X_2 - A_{FX_2}X_1$  has no component in  $TM_1$ , i.e., it lies in  $TM_2$  only. Then, the relation (4.3) follows from the (i) of Lemma 4.5 with  $\mu = \ln f$ .

Conversely, if  $M$  is a proper  $\{\theta_1, \theta_2\}$ -bi-slant submanifold of a Kenmotsu manifold  $\widetilde{M}$  with two proper slant distributions  $\mathfrak{D}^1 \oplus \langle \xi \rangle$  and  $\mathfrak{D}^2$  such that (4.3) holds, for any  $X_1, Y_1 \in \Gamma(\mathfrak{D}^1 \oplus \langle \xi \rangle)$ ,  $X_2, Y_2 \in \Gamma(\mathfrak{D}^2)$ , replacing  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  by  $T_1X_1$  and  $T_2X_2$ , respectively, then the given condition (4.3) becomes the following by (2.1) and (2.13).

$$\begin{aligned} A_{FT_1X_1}X_2 - A_{FX_2}T_1X_1 &= -\cos^2\theta_1(X_1(\mu) - \eta(X_1))X_2 + T_1X_1(\mu)T_2X_2, \\ A_{FX_1}T_2X_2 - A_{FT_2X_2}X_1 &= -\cos^2\theta_2(X_1(\mu) - \eta(X_1))X_2 + T_1X_1(\mu)T_2X_2. \end{aligned} \tag{4.4}$$

First, we consider the distribution  $\mathfrak{D}^1 \oplus \langle \xi \rangle$ , plugging (4.4) into the (3.4) of Lemma 3.2, we find that  $(\cos^2\theta_2 - \cos^2\theta_1)g(\nabla_{Y_1}X_1, X_2) = 0$ , since  $M$  is proper, we derive  $g(\nabla_{Y_1}X_1, X_2) = 0$ , and also, it is clear that  $g([X_1, Y_1], X_2) = 0$ , which means that the leaves of the distribution  $\mathfrak{D}^1 \oplus \langle \xi \rangle$  are totally geodesic in  $M$  and the distribution  $\mathfrak{D}^1 \oplus \langle \xi \rangle$  is integrable. On the other hand, for the distribution  $\mathfrak{D}^2$ , combining the relations (4.4) and (3.9) of Lemma 3.3, we conclude that

$$\begin{aligned} (\cos^2\theta_1 - \cos^2\theta_2)g(\nabla_{Y_2}X_2, X_1) &= (\cos^2\theta_2 - \cos^2\theta_1)(X_1(\mu) - \eta(X_1))g(X_2, Y_2) \\ &\quad + (\cos^2\theta_2 - \cos^2\theta_1)\eta(X_1)g(Y_2, X_2). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $M$  is proper, the above equality reduced to

$$g(\nabla_{Y_2}X_2, X_1) = -X_1(\mu)g(X_2, Y_2). \tag{4.5}$$

Also, from the above relation we conclude that  $g([X_2, Y_2], X_1) = 0$ , that is, the slant distribution  $\mathfrak{D}^2$  is integrable. If we denote by  $\hat{\sigma}$  the second fundamental form of a leaf  $M_2$  of  $\mathfrak{D}^2$  in  $M$ , then (4.5) yields

$$g(\hat{\sigma}(X_2, Y_2), X_1) = -X_1(\mu)g(X_2, Y_2).$$

Therefore, from the definition of gradient (2.12), we get

$$\hat{\sigma}(X_2, Y_2) = -\nabla \mu g(X_2, Y_2),$$

which means that  $M_2$  is totally umbilical in  $M$  with the non vanishing mean curvature vector  $H = -\nabla \mu$ . Now we prove that  $H$  is parallel corresponding to the normal connection  $\hat{\nabla}^\perp$  of a leaf  $M_2$  of  $\mathfrak{D}^2$  in  $M$ , from (2.6) and (2.12), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} g(\hat{\nabla}_{X_2}^\perp \nabla \mu, X_1) &= g(\nabla_{X_2} \nabla \mu, X_1) = X_2 g(\nabla \mu, X_1) - g(\nabla \mu, \nabla_{X_2} X_1) \\ &= X_2(X_1 \mu) - [X_2, X_1] \mu + g(\nabla_{X_1} \nabla \mu, X_2) \\ &= X_1(X_2 \mu) + g(\nabla_{X_1} \nabla \mu, X_2) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $X_2(\mu) = 0$  and  $\mathfrak{D}^1 \oplus \langle \xi \rangle$  is a totally geodesic foliation in  $M$ , for any  $X_1 \in \Gamma(\mathfrak{D}^1 \oplus \langle \xi \rangle)$ ,  $X_2 \in \Gamma(\mathfrak{D}^2)$ . Thus, the leaves of the distribution  $\mathfrak{D}^2$  are totally umbilical in  $M$  with non-vanishing parallel mean curvature vector  $H$ , i.e.,  $M_2$  is an extrinsic sphere in  $M$ . Then from Hiepko's Theorem,  $M$  is a warped product submanifold, the proof of Theorem 4.7 is complete.  $\square$

The following corollary is given by a similar proof procedure to the above theorem.

**Corollary 4.8.** *Let  $M$  be a proper mixed totally geodesic bi-slant submanifold of a Kenmotsu manifold  $(\tilde{M}, \varphi, \xi, \eta, g)$  with bi-slant angle  $\{\theta_1, \theta_2\}$ . Then,  $M$  is locally a mixed totally geodesic warped product submanifold of the form  $M_1 \times_f M_2$  if and only if the shape operator satisfies*

$$\begin{aligned} A_{FT_1 X_1} X_2 - A_{FX_1} T_2 X_2 &= (\cos^2 \theta_2 - \cos^2 \theta_1)(X_1(\mu) - \eta(X_1)) X_2, \\ A_{FT_2 X_2} X_1 - A_{FX_2} T_1 X_1 &= 0, \end{aligned}$$

for any  $X_1 \in \Gamma(\mathfrak{D}^1 \oplus \langle \xi \rangle)$ ,  $X_2 \in \Gamma(\mathfrak{D}^2)$  and for some smooth function  $\mu$  on  $M$  such that  $Y_2(\mu) = 0$ , for any  $Y_2 \in \mathfrak{D}^2$ .

**Theorem 4.9.** *Let  $M = M_1 \times_f M_2$  be a mixed totally geodesic warped product bi-slant submanifold of a Kenmotsu manifold  $(\tilde{M}, \varphi, \xi, \eta, g)$  such that  $\xi$  is tangent to  $M_1$ , where  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  are a  $\theta_1$ -slant submanifold and a  $\theta_2$ -slant submanifold of  $\tilde{M}$ , respectively, then one of the following two cases must occur:*

- (i)  $\theta_2 = \frac{\pi}{2}$ .
- (ii)  $\nabla \ln f = \xi$ .

*Proof.* For any  $X_1, Y_1 \in \Gamma(TM_1)$ ,  $X_2, Y_2 \in \Gamma(TM_2)$ , since  $M$  is mixed totally geodesic, the (i) of Lemma 4.5 becomes

$$g(\sigma(X_2, Y_2), FX_1) = (X_1 \ln f - \eta(X_1))g(T_2 X_2, Y_2) + T_1 X_1 \ln f g(X_2, Y_2). \tag{4.6}$$

Interchanging  $X_2$  by  $Y_2$  in (4.6) and using (2.11), we obtain

$$g(\sigma(X_2, Y_2), FX_1) = -(X_1 \ln f - \eta(X_1))g(T_2 X_2, Y_2) + T_1 X_1 \ln f g(X_2, Y_2). \tag{4.7}$$

Then from (4.6), (4.7), we arrive at

$$(X_1 \ln f - \eta(X_1))g(T_2 X_2, Y_2) = 0.$$

Replacing  $X_2$  by  $T_2 X_2$ , we conclude that

$$-\cos^2 \theta_2 (X_1 \ln f - \eta(X_1))g(X_2, Y_2) = 0.$$

Hence, the proof of the theorem is complete by using the the definition of gradient (2.12).  $\square$

### 5. General improved Chen’s inequality for Warped product bi-slant submanifolds

In [28], Uddin et al. established the following Chen’s inequality for a proper mixed totally geodesic warped product bi-slant submanifold  $M = M_1 \times_f M_2$  of a Kenmotsu manifold  $\tilde{M}$  such that  $\xi$  is tangent to  $M_1$ , where  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  are a  $\theta_1$ -slant submanifold and a  $\theta_2$ -slant submanifold of  $\tilde{M}$ , respectively

$$\|\sigma\|^2 \geq 2qcsc^2\theta_1 (\cos^2\theta_1 + \cos^2\theta_2) (\|\nabla \ln f\|^2 - 1), \tag{5.1}$$

where  $2q = \dim M_2$ . From Theorem 4.9, we find that the inequality (5.1) becomes  $\|\sigma\|^2 \geq 0$  since  $M$  is proper, which means that the study of this Chen’s inequality is meaningless. Thus, in this section, we establish the general improved Chen’s inequality for a non-mixed totally geodesic proper warped product bi-slant submanifold.

Let  $M = M_1 \times_f M_2$  be an  $m$ -dimensional proper warped product bi-slant submanifold of a  $(2n + 1)$ -dimensional Kenmotsu manifold  $\tilde{M}$  such that  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  are proper slant submanifolds with slant angles  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_2$ , respectively. We denote the tangent bundles of  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  by  $\mathfrak{D}^1$  and  $\mathfrak{D}^2$  with their real dimensions  $2p + 1$  and  $2q$ , respectively, such that  $\xi \in \Gamma(\mathfrak{D}^1)$ . Based on the following remark

**Remark 5.1.** *If  $M = M_1 \times_f M_2$  is a warped product bi-slant submanifold of a Kenmotsu manifold  $\tilde{M}$ , then the tangent bundle  $TM$  and the normal bundle  $T^\perp M$  of  $M$  are respectively decomposed as*

- (i)  $TM = \mathfrak{D}^1 \oplus \mathfrak{D}^2$ ,
- (ii)  $T^\perp M = F\mathfrak{D}^1 \oplus F\mathfrak{D}^2 \oplus \nu$ ,

where  $\nu$  is the  $\varphi$ -invariant normal subbundle of  $T^\perp M$ , and  $\xi \in \Gamma(\mathfrak{D}^1)$ .

We set that

- (1)  $\mathfrak{D}^1 = \text{Span}\{e_1, \dots, e_p, e_{p+1} = \sec\theta_1 T_1 e_1, \dots, e_{2p} = \sec\theta_1 T_1 e_p, \xi\}$ ,
- (2)  $\mathfrak{D}^2 = \text{Span}\{e_{2p+2} = \hat{e}_1, \dots, e_{2p+q+1} = \hat{e}_q, e_{2p+q+2} = \hat{e}_{q+1} = \sec\theta_2 T_2 \hat{e}_1, \dots, e_{2p+2q+1} = \hat{e}_{2q} = \sec\theta_2 T_2 \hat{e}_q\}$ ,
- (3)  $F\mathfrak{D}^1 = \text{Span}\{e_{m+1} = \tilde{e}_1 = \csc\theta_1 F e_1, \dots, e_{m+p} = \tilde{e}_p = \csc\theta_1 F e_p, e_{m+p+1} = \tilde{e}_{p+1} = \csc\theta_1 \sec\theta_1 F T_1 e_1, \dots, e_{m+2p} = \tilde{e}_{2p} = \csc\theta_1 \sec\theta_1 F T_1 e_p\}$ ,
- (4)  $F\mathfrak{D}^2 = \text{Span}\{e_{m+2p+1} = \tilde{e}_{2p+1} = \csc\theta_2 F \hat{e}_1, \dots, e_{m+2p+q} = \tilde{e}_{2p+q} = \csc\theta_2 F \hat{e}_q, e_{m+2p+q+1} = \tilde{e}_{2p+q+1} = \csc\theta_2 \sec\theta_2 F T_2 \hat{e}_1, \dots, e_{m+2p+2q} = \tilde{e}_{2p+2q} = \csc\theta_2 \sec\theta_2 F T_2 \hat{e}_q\}$ ,
- (5)  $\nu = \text{Span}\{e_{m+2p+2q+1} = \tilde{e}_{2p+2q+1}, \dots, e_{2n+1} = \tilde{e}_{2n+1-m}\}$ .

**Theorem 5.2.** *Let  $M^m = M_1 \times_f M_2$  be a proper warped product bi-slant submanifold of a Kenmotsu manifold  $(\tilde{M}^{2n+1}, \varphi, \xi, \eta, g)$  such that  $\xi$  is tangent to  $M_1$ , where  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  are a  $(2p + 1)$ -dimensional  $\theta_1$ -slant submanifold and a  $2q$ -dimensional  $\theta_2$ -slant submanifold of  $\tilde{M}$ , respectively, then we have the following:*

- (i) *The squared norm of the second fundamental form  $\sigma$  of  $M$  satisfies*

$$\|\sigma\|^2 \geq (4qcsc^2\theta_2 \cos^2\theta_1 + 4qcot^2\theta_2) (\|\nabla \ln f\|^2 - 1). \tag{5.2}$$

- (ii) *If the equality holds in (33), then  $M_1$  is a totally geodesic submanifold of  $\tilde{M}$  and  $M_2$  is a totally umbilical submanifold of  $\tilde{M}$ . In other words,  $M$  is a minimal submanifold of  $\tilde{M}$ .*

*Proof.* For the proper warped product bi-slant submanifold  $M^m$  with dimension  $m$ , using the constructed frame fields, we can write

$$\|\sigma\|^2 = \|\sigma(\mathfrak{D}^1, \mathfrak{D}^1)\|^2 + 2\|\sigma(\mathfrak{D}^1, \mathfrak{D}^2)\|^2 + \|\sigma(\mathfrak{D}^2, \mathfrak{D}^2)\|^2. \tag{5.3}$$

Then, using (2.8), we consider the each term in the right hand side of (5.3) as follows:

$$\|\sigma(\mathfrak{D}^1, \mathfrak{D}^1)\|^2 = g(\sigma(\mathfrak{D}^1, \mathfrak{D}^1), F\mathfrak{D}^1)^2 + g(\sigma(\mathfrak{D}^1, \mathfrak{D}^1), F\mathfrak{D}^2)^2 + g(\sigma(\mathfrak{D}^1, \mathfrak{D}^1), \nu)^2. \tag{5.4}$$

As we have no relations for the warped products of the first and the third  $\nu$ -component terms in (5.4), by dropping these positive terms, we obtain

$$\|\sigma(\mathfrak{D}^1, \mathfrak{D}^1)\|^2 \geq csc^2\theta_2 \sum_{i,j=1}^{2p+1} \sum_{r=1}^{2q} g(\sigma(e_i, e_j), F\hat{e}_r)^2.$$

Since  $e_{2p+1} = \xi$ , and from (4.2), it is known that  $\sigma(\xi, X) = 0$ , for any  $X \in TM$ . Then from (ii) of the Lemma 4.5, we get

$$\|\sigma(\mathfrak{D}^1, \mathfrak{D}^1)\|^2 \geq csc^2\theta_2 \sum_{i,j=1}^{2p} \sum_{r=1}^{2q} g(\sigma(e_i, \hat{e}_r), Fe_j)^2. \tag{5.5}$$

Similarly, by dropping the  $\nu$ -component positive term, using (i) of Lemma 4.5, we derive

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\sigma(\mathfrak{D}^1, \mathfrak{D}^2)\|^2 \\ &= g(\sigma(\mathfrak{D}^1, \mathfrak{D}^2), F\mathfrak{D}^1)^2 + g(\sigma(\mathfrak{D}^1, \mathfrak{D}^2), F\mathfrak{D}^2)^2 + g(\sigma(\mathfrak{D}^1, \mathfrak{D}^2), \nu)^2 \\ &\geq csc^2\theta_1 \sum_{i,j=1}^{2p} \sum_{r=1}^{2q} g(\sigma(e_i, \hat{e}_r), Fe_j)^2 + csc^2\theta_2 \sum_{i=1}^{2p} \sum_{k,r=1}^{2q} g(\sigma(e_i, \hat{e}_k), F\hat{e}_r)^2 \\ &= csc^2\theta_1 \sum_{i,j=1}^{2p} \sum_{r=1}^{2q} g(\sigma(e_i, \hat{e}_r), Fe_j)^2 + csc^2\theta_2 \sum_{i=1}^{2p} \sum_{k,r=1}^{2q} \{g(\sigma(\hat{e}_k, \hat{e}_r), Fe_i) \\ &\quad + (\eta(e_i) - e_i \ln f) g(\hat{e}_k, T_2 \hat{e}_r) - T_1 e_i \ln f g(\hat{e}_k, \hat{e}_r)\}^2. \end{aligned} \tag{5.6}$$

If we denote  $(\eta(e_i) - e_i \ln f) g(\hat{e}_k, T_2 \hat{e}_r) - T_1 e_i \ln f g(\hat{e}_k, \hat{e}_r)$  by  $h_{kr}^i$ , then we arrive at

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\sigma(\mathfrak{D}^1, \mathfrak{D}^2)\|^2 \\ &\geq csc^2\theta_1 \sum_{i,j=1}^{2p} \sum_{r=1}^{2q} g(\sigma(e_i, \hat{e}_r), Fe_j)^2 + csc^2\theta_2 \sum_{i=1}^{2p} \sum_{k,r=1}^{2q} g(\sigma(\hat{e}_k, \hat{e}_r), Fe_i)^2 \\ &\quad + 2csc^2\theta_2 \sum_{i=1}^{2p} \sum_{k,r=1}^{2q} g(\sigma(\hat{e}_k, \hat{e}_r), Fe_i) h_{kr}^i + csc^2\theta_2 \sum_{i=1}^{2p} \sum_{k,r=1}^{2q} (h_{kr}^i)^2. \end{aligned} \tag{5.7}$$

Since  $e_{2p+1} = \xi$ , we note that  $\eta(e_i) = 0, i = 1, \dots, 2p$ . Then, using (2.1), (2.11), (2.13) and the orthogonality of

the adopted frame fields, we compute the third term in the right hand side of (5.7) as follows

$$\begin{aligned}
 & 2csc^2\theta_2 \sum_{i=1}^{2p} \sum_{k,r=1}^{2q} g(\sigma(\hat{e}_k, \hat{e}_r), Fe_i) h_{kr}^i \\
 &= 2csc^2\theta_2 \sum_{i=1}^{2p} \sum_{k,r=1}^q \{g(\sigma(\hat{e}_k, \hat{e}_r), Fe_i) (-e_i \ln fg(\hat{e}_k, T_2 \hat{e}_r) - T_1 e_i \ln fg(\hat{e}_k, \hat{e}_r)) \\
 &\quad + sec^2\theta_2 g(\sigma(T_2 \hat{e}_k, \hat{e}_r), Fe_i) (-e_i \ln fg(T_2 \hat{e}_k, T_2 \hat{e}_r) - T_1 e_i \ln fg(T_2 \hat{e}_k, \hat{e}_r)) \\
 &\quad + sec^2\theta_2 g(\sigma(\hat{e}_k, T_2 \hat{e}_r), Fe_i) (-e_i \ln fg(\hat{e}_k, T_2^2 \hat{e}_r) - T_1 e_i \ln fg(\hat{e}_k, T_2 \hat{e}_r)) \\
 &\quad + sec^4\theta_2 g(\sigma(T_2 \hat{e}_k, T_2 \hat{e}_r), Fe_i) (-e_i \ln fg(T_2 \hat{e}_k, T_2^2 \hat{e}_r) - T_1 e_i \ln fg(T_2 \hat{e}_k, T_2 \hat{e}_r))\} \\
 &= 2csc^2\theta_2 \sum_{i=1}^{2p} \sum_{k=1}^q \{-T_1 e_i \ln fg(\sigma(\hat{e}_k, \hat{e}_k), Fe_i) - e_i \ln fg(\sigma(T_2 \hat{e}_k, \hat{e}_k), Fe_i) \\
 &\quad + e_i \ln fg(\sigma(\hat{e}_k, T_2 \hat{e}_k), Fe_i) - sec^2\theta_2 T_1 e_i \ln fg(\sigma(T_2 \hat{e}_k, T_2 \hat{e}_k), Fe_i)\} \\
 &= -2csc^2\theta_2 \sum_{i=1}^{2p} \sum_{k=1}^{2q} T_1 e_i \ln fg(\sigma(\hat{e}_k, \hat{e}_k), Fe_i) = 0. \tag{5.8}
 \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, applying the constructed frame fields, the fourth term in the right hand side of (5.7) can be decomposed as

$$\begin{aligned}
 csc^2\theta_2 \sum_{i=1}^{2p} \sum_{k,r=1}^{2q} (h_{kr}^i)^2 &= \sum_{i=1}^{2p} \sum_{k,r=1}^q csc^2\theta_2 \{(-e_i \ln fg(\hat{e}_k, T_2 \hat{e}_r) - T_1 e_i \ln fg(\hat{e}_k, \hat{e}_r))^2 \\
 &\quad + sec^2\theta_2 (-e_i \ln fg(T_2 \hat{e}_k, T_2 \hat{e}_r) - T_1 e_i \ln fg(T_2 \hat{e}_k, \hat{e}_r))^2\} \\
 &\quad + csc^2\theta_2 sec^2\theta_2 \{(-e_i \ln fg(\hat{e}_k, T_2^2 \hat{e}_r) - T_1 e_i \ln fg(\hat{e}_k, T_2 \hat{e}_r))^2 \\
 &\quad + sec^2\theta_2 (-e_i \ln fg(T_2 \hat{e}_k, T_2^2 \hat{e}_r) - T_1 e_i \ln fg(T_2 \hat{e}_k, T_2 \hat{e}_r))^2\} \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^{2p} 2qcsc^2\theta_2 (T_1 e_i \ln f)^2 + 2qcot^2\theta_2 (e_i \ln f)^2 \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^p (2qcsc^2\theta_2 + 2qcot^2\theta_2 sec^2\theta_1) (T_1 e_i \ln f)^2 \\
 &\quad + (2qcsc^2\theta_2 cos^2\theta_1 + 2qcot^2\theta_2) (e_i \ln f)^2 \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^{2p+1} (2qcsc^2\theta_2 + 2qcot^2\theta_2 sec^2\theta_1) (T_1 e_i \ln f)^2.
 \end{aligned}$$

Using (2.11), (2.14), and the fact that  $\xi \ln f = 1$ , the above expression reduces to

$$csc^2\theta_2 \sum_{i=1}^{2p} \sum_{k,r=1}^{2q} (h_{kr}^i)^2 = (2qcsc^2\theta_2 cos^2\theta_1 + 2qcot^2\theta_2) (\|\nabla \ln f\|^2 - 1). \tag{5.9}$$

Plugging (5.8) and (5.9) into the (5.7), we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \left\| \sigma(\mathfrak{D}^1, \mathfrak{D}^2) \right\|^2 \\ & \geq csc^2\theta_1 \sum_{i,j=1}^{2p} \sum_{r=1}^{2q} g(\sigma(e_i, \hat{e}_r), Fe_j)^2 + csc^2\theta_2 \sum_{i=1}^{2p} \sum_{k,r=1}^{2q} g(\sigma(\hat{e}_k, \hat{e}_r), Fe_i)^2 \\ & \quad + (2qcsc^2\theta_2\cos^2\theta_1 + 2qcot^2\theta_2) \left( \|\nabla \ln f\|^2 - 1 \right). \end{aligned} \tag{5.10}$$

Furthermore, we consider the third term of (5.3)

$$\left\| \sigma(\mathfrak{D}^2, \mathfrak{D}^2) \right\|^2 = g(\sigma(\mathfrak{D}^2, \mathfrak{D}^2), F\mathfrak{D}^1)^2 + g(\sigma(\mathfrak{D}^2, \mathfrak{D}^2), F\mathfrak{D}^2)^2 + g(\sigma(\mathfrak{D}^2, \mathfrak{D}^2), \nu)^2. \tag{5.11}$$

Dropping the no relations for the warped products of the second and third positive terms in (5.11), then we have

$$\left\| \sigma(\mathfrak{D}^2, \mathfrak{D}^2) \right\|^2 \geq csc^2\theta_1 \sum_{i=1}^{2p} \sum_{k,r=1}^{2q} g(\sigma(\hat{e}_k, \hat{e}_r), Fe_i)^2. \tag{5.12}$$

Combining (5.5), (5.10) and (5.12), we conclude that

$$\begin{aligned} \|\sigma\|^2 & \geq (csc^2\theta_2 + 2csc^2\theta_1) \sum_{i,j=1}^{2p} \sum_{r=1}^{2q} g(\sigma(e_i, \hat{e}_r), Fe_j)^2 \\ & \quad + (2csc^2\theta_2 + csc^2\theta_1) \sum_{i=1}^{2p} \sum_{k,r=1}^{2q} g(\sigma(\hat{e}_k, \hat{e}_r), Fe_i)^2 \\ & \quad + (4qcsc^2\theta_2\cos^2\theta_1 + 4qcot^2\theta_2) \left( \|\nabla \ln f\|^2 - 1 \right). \end{aligned} \tag{5.13}$$

Since  $M$  is proper, the inequality (5.2) follows from (5.11) by leaving the first and second positive terms.

If the equality holds in (5.2), then from all the dropped terms in the right hand side of (5.4), (5.6), (5.11) and (5.13), we deduce to

$$\sigma(\mathfrak{D}^1, \mathfrak{D}^1) = 0, \quad \sigma(\mathfrak{D}^2, \mathfrak{D}^2) = 0, \quad \sigma(\mathfrak{D}^1, \mathfrak{D}^2) \subset F\mathfrak{D}^2. \tag{5.14}$$

If we denote the second fundamental forms of  $M_1$  or  $M_2$  in  $M$  and in  $\tilde{M}$  by  $\hat{\sigma}$  and  $\tilde{\sigma}$ , respectively, then we have  $\tilde{\sigma} = \sigma + \hat{\sigma}$ , using this fact with (ii) of Remark 4.1, we conclude that  $M_1$  is a totally geodesic submanifold and  $M_2$  is a totally umbilical submanifold of  $\tilde{M}$ . Also, from the definition 2.1, it is clear that  $M$  is minimal. Hence, we complete the proof of Theorem 5.2.  $\square$

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