



***f*-BIHARMONIC MAPS BETWEEN RIEMANNIAN MANIFOLDS**

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**Abstract.** We show that if  $\psi$  is an  $f$ -biharmonic map from a compact Riemannian manifold into a Riemannian manifold with non-positive curvature satisfying a condition, then  $\psi$  is an  $f$ -harmonic map. We prove that if the  $f$ -tension field  $\tau_f(\psi)$  of a map  $\psi$  of Riemannian manifolds is a Jacobi field and  $\phi$  is a totally geodesic map of Riemannian manifolds, then  $\tau_f(\phi \circ \psi)$  is a Jacobi field. We finally investigate the stress  $f$ -bienergy tensor, and relate the divergence of the stress  $f$ -bienergy of a map  $\psi$  of Riemannian manifolds with the Jacobi field of the  $\tau_f(\psi)$  of the map.

**1. Introduction**

Harmonic maps between Riemannian manifolds were first established by Eells and Sampson in 1964. Afterwards, there are two reports and one survey paper by Eells and Lemaire [15–17] about the developments of harmonic maps up to 1988. Chiang, Ratto, Sun and Wolak also studied harmonic and biharmonic maps in [4–9].  $f$ -harmonic maps which generalize harmonic maps, were first introduced by Lichnerowicz [25] in 1970, and were studied by Course [12, 13] recently. The  $f$ -harmonic maps relate to the equation of the motion of a continuous system of spins with inhomogeneous neighbor Heisenberg interaction in mathematical physics. Moreover,  $F$ -harmonic maps between Riemannian manifolds were first introduced by Ara [1, 2] in 1999, which could be considered as the special cases of  $f$ -harmonic maps.

Let  $f : (M_1, g) \rightarrow (0, \infty)$  be a smooth function. By definition the  $f$ -biharmonic maps between Riemannian manifolds are the critical points of  $f$ -bienergy

$$E_2^f(\psi) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{M_1} f |\tau_f(\psi)|^2 dv$$

where  $dv$  the volume form determined by the metric  $g$ . The  $f$ -biharmonic maps between Riemannian manifolds which generalized biharmonic maps by Jiang [20, 21] in 1986, were first studied by Ouakkas, Nasri and Djaa [27] in 2010.

In section two, we describe the motivation, and review  $f$ -harmonic maps and their relationship with  $F$ -harmonic maps. In Theorem 3.1, we show that if  $\psi$  is an