

# LAPLACIAN COFLOW FOR WARPED $G_2$ -STRUCTURES

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ABSTRACT. We consider the Laplacian coflow of a  $G_2$ -structure on warped products of the form  $M^7 = M^6 \times_f S^1$  with  $M^6$  a compact 6-manifold endowed with an  $SU(3)$ -structure. We give an explicit reinterpretation of this flow as a set of evolution equations of the differential forms defining the  $SU(3)$ -structure on  $M^6$  and the warping function  $f$ . Necessary and sufficient conditions for the existence of solution for this flow are given. Finally we describe new solutions for this flow where the  $SU(3)$ -structure on  $M^6$  is nearly Kähler, symplectic half-flat or balanced.

## INTRODUCTION

The first author to consider flows of  $G_2$ -structures was Bryant in 2006, [3]. Concretely he considered the Laplacian flow of a  $G_2$ -structure:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \varphi(t) = \Delta_7 \varphi(t),$$

starting from a closed 3-form  $\varphi_0$  defining the  $G_2$ -structure.  $\Delta_7$  is the corresponding Hodge Laplacian, given by the formula  $\Delta_7 = *_7 d_7 *_7 d_7 - d_7 *_7 d_7 *_7$ .

In the last years there has been a lot of fundamental works on this issue. In [5] it was proved the short time existence and uniqueness of solution on compact manifolds. The first examples of long time solutions to this flow were described in [8]. These examples consist on non compact nilpotent Lie groups endowed with a one-parameter family of closed  $G_2$ -structures such that satisfies the Laplacian flow equation for all  $t \in (a, +\infty)$  with  $a < 0$ .

Recent papers by Lotay and Wei [17, 18, 19] derived important properties of the Laplacian flow as long time existence or convergence results. Even more recently Fino and Raffero on [11] obtained sufficient conditions for the existence of solution of this flow on warped products of the form  $M^6 \times_f S^1$  with  $M^6$  a 6-dimensional manifold endowed with an  $SU(3)$ -structure. Recall that, if  $(B, g_B)$  and  $(F, g_F)$  are Riemannian manifolds and  $f$  is a non-vanishing differentiable function on  $B$ , then the warped product  $W = B \times_f F$  consists on the product manifold  $B \times F$  endowed with the metric  $g = \pi_1^*(g_B) + f^2 \pi_2^*(g_F)$  where  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_2$  are the projections of  $W$  onto  $B$  and  $F$  respectively. They also reinterpret the flow as a set of evolution equations on  $M^6$  involving the differential forms defining the  $SU(3)$ -structure and the warping function  $f$ . More details about the Laplacian flow of a closed  $G_2$ -structure can be found in the reviews [9, 16] and the references therein. Another interesting result concerning this flow was due to Xu and Ye in [23], where they proved long time existence and uniqueness of solution for this flow starting near a torsion free  $G_2$ -structure.

In this work we consider the so-called Laplacian “coflow” of  $G_2$ -structures. This coflow was introduced by Karigiannis, McKay and Tsui in [15] and can be considered as the analogous of the Laplacian flow of a closed  $G_2$ -structure where the 3-form  $\varphi_0$  is now considered to be coclosed instead of closed. Equivalently this flow can be stated as:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} *_7 \varphi(t) = -\Delta_7 *_7 \varphi(t),$$

where the 4-form  $*_7 \varphi_0$  is closed and  $*_7$  denotes the Hodge star operator. These authors considered more natural to define this flow with a minus sign in order to make it more likely to the heat equation. In order to obtain solutions they consider 7-dimensional manifolds  $M^6 \times L^1$  with  $L^1 = \mathbb{R}$  or  $S^1$  where  $M^6$  is endowed with a Calabi-Yau or a nearly Kähler structure. Grigorian in [13] introduced the modified Laplacian

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coflow, which consists on a modified version of the Laplacian coflow, proving short time existence and uniqueness of solution for this modified flow. He also derives the modified Laplacian coflow for warped G<sub>2</sub>-structures of the form  $M^6 \times_f L^1$  obtaining solution for  $M^6$  being Calabi-Yau or nearly Kähler. Long time solutions for the Laplacian coflow on non compact nilpotent Lie groups were described in [1]. In this work we present solutions for the coflow on warped products where the base manifolds are Lie groups endowed with metrics belonging to the Gray-Hervella classes  $\mathcal{W}_1 \oplus \mathcal{W}_2 \oplus \mathcal{W}_3$ .

The paper is structured as follows. In Section 1 we give an introduction to SU(3) and G<sub>2</sub>-structures. Section 2 is devoted to G<sub>2</sub>-structures of the form  $M^6 \times_f S^1$  ( $M^6$  being compact and endowed with an SU(3)-structure) whose induced metric describes a warped product. In particular in Theorem 2.3 we give an explicit description of the torsion forms of such a G<sub>2</sub>-structure in terms of the torsion forms of the SU(3)-structure on the base manifold and the warping function. In Section 3 we reinterpret the Laplacian flow and coflow of a G<sub>2</sub>-structure as a set of evolution equations of the SU(3)-structure and we describe the Laplacian coflow operator of the warped G<sub>2</sub>-structure by means of the torsion forms of the SU(3)-structure and the warping function. In particular for the Laplacian flow we reobtain the equations due to Fino and Raffero in [11]. Finally the goal of Section 4 is to obtain new examples of solutions of the Laplacian coflow constructed as warped products where the base manifolds are 6-dimensional and they are endowed with nearly Kähler, symplectic half-flat or balanced SU(3)-structures.

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#### 1. SU(3) AND G<sub>2</sub>-STRUCTURES

In this section we review some preliminaries concerning SU(3) and G<sub>2</sub>-structures. More concretely we present these structures, their corresponding SU(3) and G<sub>2</sub> type decomposition of the spaces of differential forms and finally their torsion forms.

**1.1. SU(3)-structures.** An SU( $n$ )-structure on a differentiable manifold  $M^{2n}$  consists on a triple  $(g, J, \Psi)$  where  $(g, J)$  is an almost Hermitian structure on  $M^{2n}$  and  $\Psi$  is a complex  $(n, 0)$  form, satisfying

$$(-1)^{n(n-1)/2} \left(\frac{\iota}{2}\right)^n \Psi \wedge \bar{\Psi} = \frac{1}{n!} \omega^n,$$

with  $\bar{\Psi}$  the conjugated form of  $\Psi$  and  $\omega$  the Kähler form of the almost Hermitian structure. An SU( $n$ )-structure can equivalently be described by the triple  $(\omega, \psi_+, \psi_-)$  where  $\psi_+$  and  $\psi_-$  are, respectively the real and the imaginary part of the complex form  $\Psi$ . In what follows we will focus on SU(3)-structures on 6-dimensional manifolds. Note that in this case, the metric  $g_{\omega, \psi_{\pm}}$  can be recovered from  $(\omega, \psi_+, \psi_-)$  as

$$g_{\omega, \psi_{\pm}}(X, Y) vol_6 = -3(\iota_X)\omega \wedge (\iota_Y)\psi_+ \wedge \psi_+,$$

where  $\iota$  denotes the contraction operator,  $vol_6 = \frac{1}{3!}\omega^3$  and  $X, Y \in \mathfrak{X}(M^6)$ .

The presence of such structure on a manifold  $M^6$  can also be characterized by the existence of a local basis of 1-forms  $\{e^1, \dots, e^6\}$  such that  $(\omega, \psi_+, \psi_-)$  can be described as:

$$(1) \quad \begin{aligned} \omega &= e^{12} + e^{34} + e^{56}, \\ \psi_+ &= e^{135} - e^{146} - e^{236} - e^{245}, \quad \psi_- = -e^{246} + e^{235} + e^{145} + e^{136}, \end{aligned}$$

where we denote, as usual in the related literature,  $e^{ij}$  the wedge product  $e^i \wedge e^j$  and  $e^{ijk}$  the wedge product  $e^i \wedge e^j \wedge e^k$ . In the following, a basis in which the SU(3)-structure has the expression (1) will be called an *adapted basis*.

In [6] it is described how the intrinsic torsion of an SU(3)-structure, namely  $\tau$ , lies in a space of the form

$$\tau \in \mathcal{W}_1^\pm \oplus \mathcal{W}_2^\pm \oplus \mathcal{W}_3 \oplus \mathcal{W}_4 \oplus \mathcal{W}_5,$$

where  $\mathcal{W}_i$  denote the irreducible components under the action of the group SU(3). This torsion can be described by the exterior derivatives of  $\omega, \psi_+$  and  $\psi_-$  and also in terms of the so called torsion forms. This latter description is given in [4] where the authors consider the natural action of the group SU(3) on  $\Omega^k(M^6)$ , the space of  $k$ -forms on  $M^6$ . Thus, the different spaces of forms  $\Omega^k(M^6)$  can be splitted into SU(3) irreducible subspaces as follows:

$\Omega^1(M^6)$  is irreducible,

$$\Omega^2(M^6) = \Omega_1^2(M^6) \oplus \Omega_6^2(M^6) \oplus \Omega_8^2(M^6),$$

with

$$\Omega_1^2(M^6) = \{f\omega \mid f \in \mathcal{C}^\infty(M^6)\},$$

$$\Omega_6^2(M^6) = \{*_6 J(\eta \wedge \psi_+) \mid \eta \in \Omega^1(M^6)\} = \{\sigma \in \Omega^2(M^6) \mid J\sigma = \sigma\},$$

$$\Omega_8^2(M^6) = \{\sigma \in \Omega^2(M^6) \mid \sigma \wedge \psi_+ = 0, *_6 J\sigma = -\sigma \wedge \omega\} = \{\sigma \in \Omega^2(M^6) \mid J\sigma = -\sigma, \sigma \wedge \omega^2 = 0\};$$

and

$$\Omega^3(M^6) = \Omega_+^3(M^6) \oplus \Omega_-^3(M^6) \oplus \Omega_6^3(M^6) \oplus \Omega_{12}^3(M^6),$$

with

$$\Omega_+^3(M^6) = \{f\psi_+ \mid f \in \mathcal{C}^\infty(M^6)\}, \quad \Omega_6^3(M^6) = \{\eta \wedge \omega \mid \eta \in \Omega^1(M^6)\} = \{\gamma \in \Omega^3(M^6) \mid *_6 J\gamma = \gamma\},$$

$$\Omega_-^3(M^6) = \{f\psi_- \mid f \in \mathcal{C}^\infty(M^6)\}, \quad \Omega_{12}^3(M^6) = \{\gamma \in \Omega^3(M^6) \mid \gamma \wedge \omega = 0, \gamma \wedge \psi_\pm = 0\},$$

where  $*_6$  denotes the Hodge star operator associated to the induced metric  $g_{\omega, \psi_\pm}$  and the volume form  $vol_6$ . Notice that  $\Omega_d^k(M^6)$  denotes the SU(3)-irreducible space of  $k$ -forms having dimension  $d$ . Decompositions of the spaces of  $k$ -forms for  $k = 4, 5$  and  $6$  need not to be detailed since they can be achieved via the Hodge star operator,  $*_6 \Omega_d^k(M^6) = \Omega_d^{6-k}(M^6)$ .

With all these previous descriptions the derivatives of  $\omega, \psi_+$  and  $\psi_-$  can be decomposed into summands belonging to the SU(3)-invariant spaces as follows (see [4] for details):

$$(2) \quad \begin{aligned} d\omega &= -\frac{3}{2}\sigma_0\psi_+ + \frac{3}{2}\pi_0\psi_- + \nu_1 \wedge \omega + \nu_3, \\ d\psi_+ &= \pi_0\omega^2 + \pi_1 \wedge \psi_+ - \pi_2 \wedge \omega, \\ d\psi_- &= \sigma_0\omega^2 + \pi_1 \wedge \psi_- - \sigma_2 \wedge \omega, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\sigma_0, \pi_0 \in \mathcal{C}^\infty(M^6), \pi_1, \nu_1 \in \Omega^1(M^6), \pi_2, \sigma_2 \in \Omega_8^2(M^6)$  and  $\nu_3 \in \Omega_{12}^3(M^6)$  are the *torsion forms* of the SU(3)-structure.

Some classes of SU(3)-structures that are useful for our purposes are given in Table 1.

Class	Non-vanishing torsion forms	Structure
$\{0\}$	–	Calabi-Yau
$\mathcal{W}_1^-$	$\sigma_0$	Nearly Kähler
$\mathcal{W}_2^-$	$\sigma_2$	Symplectic half-flat
$\mathcal{W}_3$	$\nu_3$	Balanced

TABLE 1. Some classes of SU(3)-structures

1.2. **G<sub>2</sub>-structures.** A G<sub>2</sub>-structure on a 7-dimensional differentiable manifold consists on a three form  $\varphi$  defining a metric, namely  $g_\varphi$ , a volume form  $vol_7$  and a 2-fold vector cross product, see [7, 14]. The metric  $g_\varphi$  can be recovered from  $\varphi$  as

$$g_\varphi(X, Y)vol_7 = \frac{1}{6} (\iota_X \varphi) \wedge (\iota_Y \varphi) \wedge \varphi,$$

with  $X, Y \in \mathfrak{X}(M^7)$ . The presence of such structure on a manifold  $M^7$  can be characterized by the existence of an adapted basis, i.e. a local basis of 1-forms  $\{e^1, \dots, e^7\}$  such that  $\varphi$  can be described as:

$$\varphi = e^{127} + e^{347} + e^{567} + e^{135} - e^{146} - e^{236} - e^{245}.$$

Concerning the intrinsic torsion of a G<sub>2</sub>-structure, namely  $\mathcal{T}$ , in [7] it is described how this torsion lies in a space of the form

$$\mathcal{T} \in \mathcal{X}_1 \oplus \mathcal{X}_2 \oplus \mathcal{X}_3 \oplus \mathcal{X}_4,$$

where  $\mathcal{X}_i$  denotes the irreducible components under the action of the group G<sub>2</sub>. Thus, we can distinguish between 16 different classes of G<sub>2</sub>-structures, the so-called *Fernández-Gray classes*, which can be characterized by the behavior of the exterior derivative of  $\varphi$  and  $*_7\varphi$  where  $*_7$  is the Hodge star operator induced by the G<sub>2</sub>-structure. In [3] it is given a description of the derivatives of  $\varphi$  and  $*_7\varphi$  as summands belonging to the different G<sub>2</sub>-invariant spaces  $\mathcal{X}_i$ .

In order to obtain this description it is considered the natural action of the group G<sub>2</sub> on  $\Omega^k(M^7)$ . Thus, the different spaces of forms  $\Omega^k(M^7)$  can be splitted into G<sub>2</sub>-irreducible subspaces as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega^1(M^7) &\text{ is irreducible,} \\ \Omega^2(M^7) &= \Omega_7^2(M^7) \oplus \Omega_{14}^2(M^7), \end{aligned}$$

with

$$\Omega_7^2(M^7) = \{*_7(\eta \wedge *_7\varphi) \mid \eta \in \Omega^1(M^7)\} = \{\sigma \in \Omega^2(M^7) \mid \sigma \wedge \varphi = 2 *_7\sigma\},$$

$$\Omega_{14}^2(M^7) = \{\sigma \in \Omega^2(M^7) \mid \sigma \wedge \varphi = - *_7\sigma\};$$

and

$$\Omega^3(M^7) = \Omega_1^3(M^7) \oplus \Omega_7^3(M^7) \oplus \Omega_{27}^3(M^7),$$

with

$$\Omega_1^3(M^7) = \{f\varphi \mid f \in \mathcal{C}^\infty(M^7)\},$$

$$\Omega_{27}^3(M^7) = \{\gamma \in \Omega^3(M^7) \mid \gamma \wedge \varphi = \gamma \wedge *_7\varphi = 0\}.$$

$$\Omega_7^3(M^7) = \{*_7(\eta \wedge \varphi) \mid \eta \in \Omega^1(M^7)\},$$

Similarly to the previous case,  $\Omega_d^k(M^7)$  denotes the G<sub>2</sub>-irreducible space of  $k$ -forms which has dimension  $d$ . For the rest of dimensions ( $k = 4, 5, 6$  and  $7$ ) use the relation:  $*_7\Omega_d^k(M^7) = \Omega_d^{7-k}(M^7)$ .

Thus, the derivatives of  $\varphi$  and  $*_7\varphi$  can be decomposed into summands belonging to the G<sub>2</sub>-invariant spaces as follows (see [3]):

$$(3) \quad d\varphi = \tau_0 *_7\varphi + 3\tau_1 \wedge \varphi + *_7\tau_3, \quad d(*_7\varphi) = 4\tau_1 *_7\varphi + \tau_2 \wedge \varphi,$$

where  $\tau_0 \in \mathcal{C}^\infty(M^7)$ ,  $\tau_1 \in \Omega^1(M^7)$ ,  $\tau_2 \in \Omega_{14}^2(M^7)$  and  $\tau_3 \in \Omega_{27}^3(M^7)$  are the torsion forms.

In particular:

$$(4) \quad \begin{aligned} \tau_0 &= \frac{1}{7} *_7(d\varphi \wedge \varphi), & \tau_2 &= - *_7 d *_7\varphi + 4 *_7(\tau_1 \wedge *_7\varphi), \\ \tau_1 &= \frac{-1}{12} *_7(*_7d\varphi \wedge \varphi), & \tau_3 &= *_7d\varphi - \tau_0\varphi - 3 *_7(\tau_1 \wedge \varphi). \end{aligned}$$

The principal Fernández-Gray classes are given in Table 2:

Class	Non-vanishing torsion forms	Structure
$\mathcal{P}$	–	Parallel
$\mathcal{X}_1$	$\tau_0$	Nearly Parallel
$\mathcal{X}_2$	$\tau_2$	Closed
$\mathcal{X}_3$	$\tau_3$	Coclosed of pure type
$\mathcal{X}_4$	$\tau_1$	Locally conformal parallel
$\mathcal{X}_1 \oplus \mathcal{X}_3$	$\tau_0, \tau_3$	Coclosed

TABLE 2. Some classes of G<sub>2</sub>-structures

## 2. WARPED G<sub>2</sub>-STRUCTURES

Consider two Riemannian manifolds, namely  $(F, g_F)$  and  $(B, g_B)$ , and  $f$  a non-vanishing real differentiable function on  $B$ . The warped product, denoted as  $B \times_f F$ , consists on the product manifold

$$W = B \times F$$

endowed with the metric  $g_f = \pi_1^*(g_B) + f^2\pi_2^*(g_F)$  with  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_2$  being the projections of  $W$  onto  $B$  and  $F$  respectively.

Starting from an SU(3)-structure  $(\omega, \psi_\pm)$  over  $M^6$ , and considering a function  $f \in \mathcal{C}^\infty(M^6)$  it is possible to construct a G<sub>2</sub>-structure  $\varphi$  over  $M^7 = M^6 \times S^1$  such that:

$$(5) \quad \varphi = f\omega \wedge ds + (\alpha\psi_+ - \beta\psi_-),$$

with  $s$  the coordinate on  $S^1$  and  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$  satisfying  $\alpha^2 + \beta^2 = 1$ . Thus, the metric and the volume form of this G<sub>2</sub>-structure are given in terms of the SU(3)-structure by:

$$g_\varphi = g_{\omega, \psi_\pm} + f^2 ds^2, \quad \text{vol}_7 = f \text{vol}_6 \wedge ds.$$

Observe that  $g_\varphi = g_f$ , so  $M^7$  is in fact a warped product. In what follows we will call *warped G<sub>2</sub>-structure* to this G<sub>2</sub>-structure (5).

**Remark 2.1.** *If we consider the pair  $(\alpha, \beta) = (1, 0)$ , this definition of warped G<sub>2</sub>-structure is exactly the one already given in [11].*

The metrics  $g_{\omega, \psi_\pm}$  and  $g_\varphi$  on the base manifold  $M^6$  and the warped product  $M^6 \times_f S^1$  respectively define two star operators  $*_6$  and  $*_7$  related by the following:

**Lemma 2.2** (Lemma 3.2, [11]). *Let  $\eta \in \Omega^k(M^6)$  be a differential  $k$ -form on  $M^6$ , and let  $*_6$  and  $*_7$  be the Hodge star operator determined by the SU(3)-structure and the warped G<sub>2</sub>-structure, respectively. Then*

$$\begin{aligned} *_7\eta &= f *_6\eta \wedge ds, \\ *_7(\eta \wedge ds) &= (-1)^k f^{-1} *_6\eta. \end{aligned}$$

Hence from (5) and the previous lemma it can be checked that

$$(6) \quad *_7\varphi = \frac{1}{2}\omega^2 + f(\alpha\psi_- + \beta\psi_+) \wedge ds.$$

**Remark 2.3.** *The key idea of this section is to study how the G<sub>2</sub>-geometry of the warped product  $M^6 \times_f S^1$  forces conditions on the SU(3)-geometry of the base  $M^6$ . Having this idea in mind, we are going to describe the torsion forms (4) of the warped G<sub>2</sub>-structure in terms of the torsion forms of the SU(3)-structure and the warping function.*

In the spirit of [20, Theorem 3.4] we can prove:

**Theorem 2.4.** *Let  $(M^6, \omega, \psi_{\pm})$  be an SU(3)-manifold with torsion forms  $\pi_0, \sigma_0, \pi_1, \nu_1, \pi_2, \sigma_2$  and  $\nu_3$ . Then, the torsion forms (4) of a warped G<sub>2</sub>-manifold  $(M^7 = M^6 \times_f S^1, \varphi)$  are given by*

$$\begin{aligned}
\tau_0 &= \frac{12}{7}(\alpha\pi_0 - \beta\sigma_0), \\
\tau_1 &= \frac{1}{2}(\alpha\sigma_0 + \beta\pi_0)fds + \frac{1}{6}\eta_1, \\
(7) \quad \tau_2 &= -\alpha\sigma_2 - \beta\pi_2 + \frac{f}{3} *_6 (\eta_2 \wedge \omega^2) \wedge ds - \frac{1}{3} *_6 (\eta_2 \wedge (\alpha\psi_- + \beta\psi_+)), \\
\tau_3 &= \left[ \frac{2}{7}(\alpha\pi_0 - \beta\sigma_0)f\omega - \frac{f}{2} *_6 (\eta_3 \wedge (\alpha\psi_+ - \beta\psi_-)) + f(\alpha\pi_2 - \beta\sigma_2) \right] \wedge ds - \frac{1}{2} *_6 (\eta_3 \wedge \omega) - \\
&\quad \frac{3}{14}(\alpha\pi_0 - \beta\sigma_0)(\alpha\psi_+ - \beta\psi_-) - *_6\nu_3,
\end{aligned}$$

where  $\eta_i$  are the following 1-forms:

$$\eta_1 = \frac{1}{f}d_6f + \pi_1 + \nu_1, \quad \eta_2 = \frac{1}{f}d_6f + \pi_1 - 2\nu_1, \quad \eta_3 = \frac{1}{f}d_6f - \pi_1 + \nu_1.$$

*Proof.* The result holds after long computations where the definition of the spaces  $\Omega_d^k(M^6)$  are used. As hint, let us write down the expressions for  $d\varphi$ ,  $*_7(d\varphi)$  and  $d(*_7\varphi)$ . From (5) and (6) one gets:

$$\begin{aligned}
d\varphi &= \left( df \wedge \omega - \frac{3}{2}f\sigma_0\psi_+ + \frac{3}{2}f\pi_0\psi_- + f\nu_1 \wedge \omega + f\nu_3 \right) \wedge ds \\
&\quad + (\alpha\pi_0 - \beta\sigma_0)\omega^2 + \pi_1 \wedge (\alpha\psi_+ - \beta\psi_-) - (\alpha\pi_2 - \beta\sigma_2) \wedge \omega, \\
*_7(d\varphi) &= -f^{-1} *_6 (df \wedge \omega) + \frac{3}{2}\sigma_0\psi_- + \frac{3}{2}\pi_0\psi_+ - *_6(\nu_1 \wedge \omega) - *_6\nu_3 \\
&\quad + [2f(\alpha\pi_0 - \beta\sigma_0)\omega + f *_6 (\pi_1 \wedge (\alpha\psi_+ - \beta\psi_-)) + \alpha f \pi_2 - \beta f \sigma_2] \wedge ds,
\end{aligned}$$

$$d(*_7\varphi) = \nu_1 \wedge \omega^2 + [-f(\alpha\sigma_2 + \beta\pi_2) \wedge \omega + f(\alpha\sigma_0 + \beta\pi_0)\omega^2 + (df + f\pi_1) \wedge (\alpha\psi_- + \beta\psi_+)] \wedge ds.$$

Finally, from (4) and using Lemma 2.2 the result is achieved after long and standard computations.  $\square$

Most of the Fernández-Gray classes of G<sub>2</sub>-structures are characterized in terms of the cancellation of some of their torsion forms (see Table 2). Using expressions (7), the cancellations of  $\tau_0, \tau_1, \tau_2$  and  $\tau_3$  are expressed by using the SU(3)-torsion forms of the base  $M^6$  and the warping function  $f$ .

**Corollary 2.5.** *Let  $(M^6, \omega, \psi_{\pm})$  be an SU(3)-manifold. Thus, the torsion forms of the warped G<sub>2</sub>-structure satisfy:*

$$\begin{aligned}
\tau_0 = 0 &\iff \left\{ \begin{array}{l} i) \quad \alpha\pi_0 - \beta\sigma_0 = 0. \end{array} \right. \\
\tau_1 = 0 &\iff \left\{ \begin{array}{l} ii) \quad \alpha\sigma_0 + \beta\pi_0 = 0, \\ iii) \quad \eta_1 = 0. \end{array} \right. \\
\tau_2 = 0 &\iff \left\{ \begin{array}{l} iv) \quad \eta_2 = 0, \\ v) \quad \alpha\sigma_2 + \beta\pi_2 = 0. \end{array} \right. \\
\tau_3 = 0 &\iff \left\{ \begin{array}{l} vi) \quad \alpha\pi_0 - \beta\sigma_0 = 0, \\ vii) \quad \eta_3 = 0, \\ viii) \quad \alpha\pi_2 - \beta\sigma_2 = 0, \\ ix) \quad \nu_3 = 0, \end{array} \right.
\end{aligned}$$

In Table 3 we show how the G<sub>2</sub>-geometry of the warped product  $M^6 \times_f S^1$  forces conditions on the SU(3)-geometry of the base  $M^6$ .

**Remark 2.6.** *From Corollary 2.5,  $\tau_3 = 0$  implies  $\tau_0 = 0$ , therefore nearly Parallel structures can not be achieved as warped G<sub>2</sub>-structures of the form (5).*

Class	G <sub>2</sub> -torsion forms	SU(3)-torsion forms	Class
$\mathcal{P}$	$\tau_0 = \tau_1 = \tau_2 = \tau_3 = 0$	$\sigma_i = \pi_i = \nu_i = 0$ $d_6 f = 0$	0
$\mathcal{X}_2$	$\tau_0 = \tau_1 = \tau_3 = 0$	$\pi_0 = \sigma_0 = \pi_1 = \nu_3 = 0$ $\alpha \pi_2 - \beta \sigma_2 = 0$ $\frac{1}{f} d_6 f = -\nu_1$	$\mathcal{W}_2^\pm \oplus \mathcal{W}_4$
$\mathcal{X}_3$	$\tau_0 = \tau_1 = \tau_2 = 0$	$\pi_0 = \sigma_0 = \nu_1 = 0$ $\alpha \sigma_2 + \beta \pi_2 = 0$ $\frac{1}{f} d_6 f = -\pi_1$	$\mathcal{W}_2^\pm \oplus \mathcal{W}_3 \oplus \mathcal{W}_5$
$\mathcal{X}_4$	$\tau_0 = \tau_2 = \tau_3 = 0$	$\sigma_2 = \pi_2 = \nu_3 = 0$ $\frac{1}{f} d_6 f = \frac{1}{2} \nu_1 = \frac{1}{3} \pi_1$	$\mathcal{W}_1^\pm \oplus \mathcal{W}_4 \oplus \mathcal{W}_5$
$\mathcal{X}_1 \oplus \mathcal{X}_3$	$\tau_1 = \tau_2 = 0$	$\alpha \sigma_0 + \beta \pi_0 = 0$ $\alpha \sigma_2 + \beta \pi_2 = 0$ $\nu_1 = 0, \frac{1}{f} d_6 f = -\pi_1$	$\mathcal{W}_1^\pm \oplus \mathcal{W}_2^\pm \oplus \mathcal{W}_3 \oplus \mathcal{W}_5$

TABLE 3. Relation between torsion forms of the warped G<sub>2</sub>-structure and the SU(3)-structure3. THE LAPLACIAN FLOW AND COFLOW OF WARPED G<sub>2</sub>-STRUCTURE OF THE FORM  $M^6 \times_f S^1$ 

Recall the definitions of the Laplacian flow and coflow, that are respectively:

$$(LF) \begin{cases} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \varphi(t) = \Delta_t \varphi(t), \\ d_7 \varphi(t) = 0, \end{cases} \quad (LcF) \begin{cases} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (*_t \varphi(t)) = -\Delta_t (*_t \varphi(t)), \\ d_7 (*_t \varphi(t)) = 0, \end{cases}$$

where  $\varphi(t)$  is a one-parameter family of G<sub>2</sub>-structures and  $\Delta_t, *_t$  denote the Laplacian and the Hodge star operator induced by  $\varphi(t)$  for every  $t$ .

Our objective in this section is to particularize the Laplacian flow and coflow considering one-parameter families of G<sub>2</sub>-structures obtained as warped products, i.e.

$$(8) \quad \varphi(t) = f(t)\omega(t) \wedge ds + (\alpha\psi_+(t) + \beta\psi_-(t)).$$

From the previous expression, we derive the following:

$$(9) \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \varphi(t) &= \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} f(t)\omega(t) + f(t) \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \omega(t) \right) \wedge ds + \alpha \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \psi_+(t) - \beta \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \psi_-(t), \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (*_7 \varphi(t)) &= \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial t} f(t) (\beta\psi_+(t) + \alpha\psi_-(t)) + f(t) \left( \beta \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \psi_+(t) + \alpha \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \psi_-(t) \right) \right] \wedge ds + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \omega^2(t). \end{aligned}$$

Now we focus on the 3-form  $\Delta_7 \varphi$ , resp. the 4-form  $\Delta_7 *_7 \varphi$ . For a generic G<sub>2</sub>-structure, considering the formulas given in (3) of the exterior derivatives of  $\varphi$  and  $*_7 \varphi$ , a description of the Laplacian in terms of the torsion forms can be given as

$$(10) \quad \Delta_7 \varphi = d_7(\tau_2 - 4 *_7(\tau_1 \wedge *_7 \varphi)) + *_7 d_7(\tau_0 \varphi + 3 *_7(\tau_1 \wedge \varphi) + \tau_3).$$

Since the Laplacian commutes with the Hodge star operator,  $\Delta_7 *_7 = *_7 \Delta_7$ , combining (7) and (10) it is also possible to describe  $\Delta_7 *_7 \varphi$  of a warped G<sub>2</sub>-structure in terms of the torsion forms of the SU(3)-structure and the warping function  $f$  for particular classes of G<sub>2</sub>-structures.

Provided that we are interested in the Laplacian flow, resp. coflow, we consider the 3-form  $\Delta_7 \varphi$ , resp. the 4-form  $\Delta_7 *_7 \varphi$ , when  $\varphi$  is closed, resp. coclosed. Let us start with the closed ones:

**Proposition 3.1.** *Let  $\varphi$  be a warped closed G<sub>2</sub>-structure (5) on  $M^6 \times_f S^1$  where  $(\omega, \psi_{\pm})$  is an SU(3)-structure on  $M^6$ . Then  $\Delta_7\varphi$  has the following expression:*

$$\Delta_7\varphi = -d_6(\alpha\sigma_2 + \beta\pi_2) + d_6 * _6 (\nu_1 \wedge (\alpha\psi_- + \beta\psi_+)) + f[\nu_1 \wedge * _6(\nu_1 \wedge \omega^2) - d_6 * _6(\nu_1 \wedge \omega^2)] \wedge ds,$$

where  $\alpha\pi_2 - \beta\sigma_2 = 0$ .

In the particular case that the warping function  $f$  is constant ( $d_6f = 0$ ), then

$$\Delta_7\varphi = -d_6(\alpha\sigma_2 + \beta\pi_2).$$

*Proof.* Since  $\varphi$  is closed,  $\tau_0 = \tau_1 = \tau_3 = 0$  and by (10)

$$\Delta_7\varphi = d_7\tau_2,$$

where in view of (7)

$$\tau_2 = -\alpha\sigma_2 - \beta\pi_2 + * _6(\nu_1 \wedge (\alpha\psi_- + \beta\psi_+)) - f * _6(\nu_1 \wedge \omega^2) \wedge ds.$$

For the case  $f$  constant, since  $\frac{1}{f}d_6f = -\nu_1$  (see Table 3) then  $\nu_1 = 0$  and the result holds.  $\square$

Consider now coclosed G<sub>2</sub>-structures:

**Proposition 3.2.** *Let  $\varphi$  be a warped coclosed G<sub>2</sub>-structure (5) on  $M^6 \times_f S^1$  where  $(\omega, \psi_{\pm})$  is an SU(3)-structure on  $M^6$ . Then  $\Delta_7 * _7\varphi$  has the following expression:*

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_7 * _7\varphi &= \frac{3}{2}(\alpha\pi_0 - \beta\sigma_0)[(\alpha\pi_0 - \beta\sigma_0)\omega^2 + \pi_1 \wedge (\alpha\psi_+ - \beta\psi_-) - (\alpha\pi_2 - \beta\sigma_2) \wedge \omega] + d_6 * _6(\pi_1 \wedge \omega) \\ &\quad - d_6(* _6\nu_3) + \frac{3}{2}d_6(\alpha\pi_0 - \beta\sigma_0) \wedge (\alpha\psi_+ - \beta\psi_-) \\ &\quad + f\left[2d_6(\alpha\pi_0 - \beta\sigma_0) \wedge \omega + (\alpha\pi_0 - \beta\sigma_0)(-2\pi_1 \wedge \omega - 3\sigma_0\psi_+ + 3\pi_0\psi_- + 2\nu_3) + d_6(\alpha\pi_2 - \beta\sigma_2) \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \pi_1 \wedge * _6(\pi_1 \wedge (\alpha\psi_+ - \beta\psi_-) + d_6 * _6(\pi_1 \wedge (\alpha\psi_+ - \beta\psi_-)) - \pi_1 \wedge (\alpha\pi_2 - \beta\sigma_2))\right] \wedge ds, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\alpha\sigma_i + \beta\pi_i = 0$  for  $i = 0, 2$ .

Moreover, if  $f$  is constant, then

$$\begin{aligned} (11) \quad \Delta_7 * _7\varphi &= \frac{3}{2}(\alpha\pi_0 - \beta\sigma_0)((\alpha\pi_0 - \beta\sigma_0)\omega^2 - (\alpha\pi_2 - \beta\sigma_2) \wedge \omega) - d_6(* _6\nu_3) \\ &\quad + \frac{3}{2}d_6(\alpha\pi_0 - \beta\sigma_0) \wedge (\alpha\psi_+ - \beta\psi_-) \\ &\quad + f\left[2d_6(\alpha\pi_0 - \beta\sigma_0) \wedge \omega + (\alpha\pi_0 - \beta\sigma_0)(-3\sigma_0\psi_+ + 3\pi_0\psi_- + 2\nu_3) + d_6(\alpha\pi_2 - \beta\sigma_2)\right] \wedge ds. \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* The condition  $\varphi$  being coclosed is equivalent to  $\tau_1 = \tau_2 = 0$  and as a consequence of (10):

$$\Delta_7 * _7\varphi = * _7\Delta_7\varphi = d_7(\tau_0\varphi + \tau_3).$$

Now, using (7):

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_7 * _7\varphi &= d_7\left[f\left(2(\alpha\pi_0 - \beta\sigma_0)\omega + * _6(\pi_1 \wedge (\alpha\psi_+ - \beta\psi_-)) + (\alpha\pi_2 - \beta\sigma_2)\right) \wedge ds \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{3}{2}(\alpha\pi_0 - \beta\sigma_0)(\alpha\psi_+ - \beta\psi_-) + * _6(\pi_1 \wedge \omega) - * _6\nu_3\right], \end{aligned}$$

and the result follows. In order to prove (11), observe that  $\pi_1 = 0$  according to Table 3.  $\square$

**Remark 3.3.** *In what follows, and similarly as in [11], we restrict our attention to the case of the warping function  $f$  is constant over the base manifold  $M^6$ .*

In order to obtain solutions of the Laplacian flow of a warped closed G<sub>2</sub>-structure, combining the expressions (9) and Proposition 3.1, we can set the system of equations that must be satisfied:



**Proposition 3.4.** *For a closed warped G<sub>2</sub>-structure (5), the equation of the Laplacian flow (LF) is equivalent to:*

$$\begin{cases} f'(t)\omega(t) + f(t)\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\omega(t) = 0, \\ \alpha\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\psi_+(t) - \beta\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\psi_-(t) = -d_6(\alpha\sigma_2(t) + \beta\pi_2(t)). \end{cases}$$

where  $\alpha\pi_2(t) - \beta\sigma_2(t) = 0$ .

**Remark 3.5.** *For the particular case of  $(\alpha, \beta) = (1, 0)$ , we recover the system already studied by Fino and Raffero in [11, Prop. 5.2].*

Similarly, for the coflow, we get the following system of equations:

**Proposition 3.6.** *For a coclosed warped G<sub>2</sub>-structure (5), the equation of the Laplacian coflow (LcF) is equivalent to:*

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial\omega^2(t)}{\partial t} = -3(\alpha\pi_0(t) - \beta\sigma_0(t))^2\omega^2(t) + 3(\alpha\pi_0(t) - \beta\sigma_0(t))(\alpha\pi_2(t) - \beta\sigma_2(t)) \wedge \omega(t) \\ \quad + 2d_6(*_6\nu_3(t)) - 3d_6(\alpha\pi_0(t) - \beta\sigma_0(t)) \wedge (\alpha\psi_+(t) - \beta\psi_-(t)), \\ \frac{f'(t)}{f(t)}(\beta\psi_+(t) + \alpha\psi_-(t)) + \left(\beta\frac{\partial\psi_+(t)}{\partial t} + \alpha\frac{\partial\psi_-(t)}{\partial t}\right) = \\ \quad -(\alpha\pi_0(t) - \beta\sigma_0(t))[-3\sigma_0(t)\psi_+(t) + 3\pi_0(t)\psi_-(t) + 2\nu_3(t)] \\ \quad - d_6(\alpha\pi_2(t) - \beta\sigma_2(t)) - 2d_6(\alpha\pi_0(t) - \beta\sigma_0(t)) \wedge \omega(t), \end{cases}$$

where  $\alpha\sigma_i(t) + \beta\pi_i(t) = 0$  for  $i = 0, 2$ .

**Corollary 3.7.** *For the particular case of  $(\alpha, \beta) = (0, 1)$ , the Laplacian coflow becomes:*

$$(12) \quad \begin{cases} \frac{\partial\omega^2(t)}{\partial t} = -3\sigma_0(t)^2\omega^2(t) + 3\sigma_0(t)\sigma_2(t) \wedge \omega(t) + 2d_6(*_6\nu_3(t)) - 3d_6\sigma_0(t) \wedge \psi_-(t), \\ \frac{f'(t)}{f(t)}\psi_+(t) + \frac{\partial\psi_+(t)}{\partial t} = -3\sigma_0(t)^2\psi_+(t) + 2\sigma_0(t)\nu_3(t) + d_6\sigma_2(t) + 2d_6\sigma_0(t) \wedge \omega(t). \end{cases}$$

**Remark 3.8.** *For the Laplacian coflow we chose the parameters  $(\alpha, \beta)$  to be  $(0, 1)$  in order to obtain equations depending on the torsion forms  $\sigma_0, \sigma_2$  and  $\nu_3$  (see (2)) which are the ones that appear in the canonical definitions of the SU(3)-structures, nearly Kähler, symplectic half-flat and balanced, respectively (see equations (19), (22) and (28) in the next sections).*

#### 4. NEW SOLUTIONS TO THE LAPLACIAN COFLOW

Our main objective is to provide new solutions  $\varphi(t)$  for the Laplacian coflow (12). In what follows we will consider one parameter families of warped G<sub>2</sub>-structures (8) on  $G \times S^1$ , being  $G$  a Lie group. The underlying SU(3)-structures  $(\omega(t), \psi_+(t), \psi_-(t))$  are left-invariant and can be locally described as

$$(13) \quad \begin{aligned} \omega(t) &= x^{12} + x^{34} + x^{56}, \\ \psi_+(t) &= x^{135} - x^{146} - x^{236} - x^{245}, \quad \psi_-(t) = -x^{246} + x^{235} + x^{145} + x^{136}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\{x^i(t)\}$  denotes for every  $t$  a local adapted basis,  $x^{ij}$  stands for  $x^i(t) \wedge x^j(t)$  and  $x^{ijk}$  stands for  $x^i(t) \wedge x^j(t) \wedge x^k(t)$ . Our ansatz consists on stating that

$$(14) \quad x^i(t) = f_i(t)h^i,$$

where  $f_i(t)$  are differentiable non-vanishing real functions satisfying  $f_i(0) = 1$  and  $\{h^1, \dots, h^6\}$  is an adapted basis for the SU(3)-structure for  $t = 0$ . Notice that (14) defines in fact a global basis since we are considering parallelizable manifolds.

Observe that the volume induced by  $\varphi(t)$  is given by  $\text{vol}_7(t) = f(t)\text{vol}_6(t) \wedge ds$  where

$$\text{vol}_6(t) = x^{123456}(t) = \prod_{i=1}^6 f_i(t) h^{123456} = \prod_{i=1}^6 f_i(t) \text{vol}_6,$$

that is

$$(15) \quad \text{vol}_7(t) = \left( \prod_{i=1}^6 f_i(t) \right) f(t) \text{vol}_6 \wedge ds.$$

Direct computations show:

$$(16) \quad \frac{\partial \omega(t)}{\partial t} = \sum_{k=1}^3 \left( \frac{f'_{2k-1}(t)}{f_{2k-1}(t)} + \frac{f'_{2k}(t)}{f_{2k}(t)} \right) x^{2k-1}(t) \wedge x^{2k}(t).$$

$$(17) \quad \frac{\partial \omega^2(t)}{\partial t} = 2 \sum_{(i,j,k,l) \in \mathcal{J}} \left( \frac{f'_i(t)}{f_i(t)} + \frac{f'_j(t)}{f_j(t)} + \frac{f'_k(t)}{f_k(t)} + \frac{f'_l(t)}{f_l(t)} \right) x^{ijkl},$$

with  $\mathcal{J} = \{(1, 2, 3, 4), (1, 2, 5, 6), (3, 4, 5, 6)\}$ .

$$(18) \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{f'(t)}{f(t)} \psi_+(t) + \frac{\partial \psi_+(t)}{\partial t} &= \left( \frac{f'(t)}{f(t)} + \frac{f'_1(t)}{f_1(t)} + \frac{f'_3(t)}{f_3(t)} + \frac{f'_5(t)}{f_5(t)} \right) x^{135} \\ &\quad - \sum_{(i,j,k) \in \mathcal{I}} \left( \frac{f'(t)}{f(t)} + \frac{f'_i(t)}{f_i(t)} + \frac{f'_j(t)}{f_j(t)} + \frac{f'_k(t)}{f_k(t)} \right) x^{ijk}, \end{aligned}$$

with  $\mathcal{I} = \{(1, 4, 6), (2, 3, 6), (2, 4, 5)\}$ .

As we mentioned before, the G<sub>2</sub>-geometry of the warped product imposes conditions on the SU(3)-geometry of the base  $M^6$ . Concretely, the G<sub>2</sub>-structure is coclosed if and only if the corresponding SU(3)-structure lies on the space  $\mathcal{W}_1^\pm \oplus \mathcal{W}_2^\pm \oplus \mathcal{W}_3 \oplus \mathcal{W}_5$  (see Table 3). Notice that if we consider a one-parameter family of SU(3)-structures  $(\omega(t), \psi_\pm(t))$  belonging to the previous space for any  $t$ , then the corresponding warped G<sub>2</sub>-structure will remain coclosed for any  $t$ . Moreover, in what follows we will impose that  $(\omega(t), \psi_\pm(t))$  belongs to  $\mathcal{W}_1^-$ ,  $\mathcal{W}_2^-$  or  $\mathcal{W}_3$  for any  $t$ . Now we particularize (12) for some interesting cases of SU(3)-structures lying on these particular subspaces.

**4.1. The nearly Kähler case ( $\mathcal{W}_1^-$ ).** Recall that a nearly Kähler SU(3)-structure satisfies

$$(19) \quad d\omega = -\frac{3}{2} \sigma_0 \psi_+, \quad d\psi_+ = 0, \quad d\psi_- = \sigma_0 \omega^2.$$

In particular,  $\sigma_2 = \nu_3 = 0$ . Particularizing (12) for  $\sigma_2(t) = \nu_3(t) = 0$ , we get

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial \omega^2(t)}{\partial t} = -3\sigma_0(t)^2 \omega^2(t) - 3d_6 \sigma_0(t) \wedge \psi_-(t), \\ \frac{f'(t)}{f(t)} \psi_+(t) + \frac{\partial \psi_+(t)}{\partial t} = -3\sigma_0(t)^2 \psi_+(t) + 2d_6 \sigma_0(t) \wedge \omega(t). \end{cases}$$

Observe that with this particular ansatz, the left-hand side of the first equation above is a combination of the 4-forms  $x^{1234}$ ,  $x^{1256}$  and  $x^{3456}$  (see (17)); however, it can be easily proved that if  $\eta$  is a one-form, then  $\eta \wedge \psi_-(t)$  never belongs to the space generated by  $x^{1234}$ ,  $x^{1256}$  and  $x^{3456}$ , unless  $\eta = 0$ . Therefore, we need  $d_6 \sigma_0(t) = 0$ , which means that  $\sigma_0(t)$  is constant as a differentiable function on  $M^6$ .

Now, the previous system simplifies as:

$$(20) \quad \begin{cases} \frac{\partial \omega^2(t)}{\partial t} = -3\sigma_0(t)^2 \omega^2(t), \\ \frac{f'(t)}{f(t)} \psi_+(t) + \frac{\partial \psi_+(t)}{\partial t} = -3\sigma_0(t)^2 \psi_+(t). \end{cases}$$

Let us solve this system (as before, we denote  $f_i(t)f_j(t)$  simply as  $f_{ij}$ ).

**Lemma 4.1.** *If  $\frac{\partial \omega^2(t)}{\partial t} = -3\sigma_0(t)^2 \omega^2(t)$ , then,  $f_{12} = f_{34} = f_{56}$ , where  $f_i(t)$  are the functions in (14).*

*Proof.* Using the symplectic operator  $L : \Omega^q(M) \rightarrow \Omega^{q+2}(M)$  defined by  $L(\eta) = \eta \wedge \omega$ , the previous equation can be expressed as:

$$\frac{\partial \omega^2(t)}{\partial t} + 3\sigma_0(t)^2 \omega^2(t) = 0 \iff L_t \left( 2 \frac{\partial \omega(t)}{\partial t} + 3\sigma_0(t)^2 \omega(t) \right) = 0.$$

It happens that  $L$  is injective for  $q \leq n-1$ , being  $\dim M = 2n$  [2]. Since in our case  $n = 3$ , we have that

$$L_t \left( 2 \frac{\partial \omega(t)}{\partial t} + 3\sigma_0(t)^2 \omega(t) \right) = 0 \iff \frac{\partial \omega(t)}{\partial t} = -\frac{3}{2}\sigma_0(t)^2 \omega(t).$$

Using (16),  $\frac{\partial \omega(t)}{\partial t} = -\frac{3}{2}\sigma_0(t)^2 \omega(t)$  if and only if

$$\left( \frac{f'_1(t)}{f_1(t)} + \frac{f'_2(t)}{f_2(t)} \right) = \left( \frac{f'_3(t)}{f_3(t)} + \frac{f'_4(t)}{f_4(t)} \right) = \left( \frac{f'_5(t)}{f_5(t)} + \frac{f'_6(t)}{f_6(t)} \right) = -\frac{3}{2}\sigma_0(t)^2,$$

which is equivalent to say

$$\frac{d}{dt}(\ln f_{12}) = \frac{d}{dt}(\ln f_{34}) = \frac{d}{dt}(\ln f_{56}) = -\frac{3}{2}\sigma_0(t)^2.$$

In particular,

$$\frac{f_{12}}{f_{34}} = c_1, \quad \frac{f_{12}}{f_{56}} = c_2, \quad \frac{f_{34}}{f_{56}} = c_3,$$

where  $c_i$  are constants. Since  $f_i(0) = 1$ , we obtain that  $f_{12} = f_{34} = f_{56}$ .  $\square$

For the second equation we get:

**Lemma 4.2.** *If  $\frac{f'(t)}{f(t)}\psi_+(t) + \frac{\partial \psi_+(t)}{\partial t} = -3\sigma_0(t)^2 \psi_+(t)$ , then,  $f_1(t) = f_2(t)$ ,  $f_3(t) = f_4(t)$ ,  $f_5(t) = f_6(t)$ , where  $f_i(t)$  are the functions in (14).*

*Proof.* Arguing as before, if  $\frac{f'(t)}{f(t)}\psi_+(t) + \frac{\partial \psi_+(t)}{\partial t} = -3\sigma_0(t)^2 \psi_+(t)$ , then:

$$\frac{d}{dt}(\ln(f(t)f_{135})) = \frac{d}{dt}(\ln(f(t)f_{146})) = \frac{d}{dt}(\ln(f(t)f_{236})) = \frac{d}{dt}(\ln(f(t)f_{245})) = -3\sigma_0(t)^2.$$

In particular, observe that:

$$\frac{d}{dt}(\ln(f(t)f_{ijk})) = \frac{d}{dt}(\ln(f(t)f_{ipq})) \iff \frac{d}{dt} \left( \ln \frac{f(t)f_{ijk}}{f(t)f_{ipq}} \right) = 0 \iff \ln \frac{f_{jk}}{f_{pq}} = c \iff \frac{f_{jk}}{f_{pq}} = 1,$$

where  $c$  is a constant and we have used the fact that  $f_i(0) = 1$ . So:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt}(\ln(f(t)f_{135})) = \frac{d}{dt}(\ln(f(t)f_{146})) = \frac{d}{dt}(\ln(f(t)f_{236})) = \frac{d}{dt}(\ln(f(t)f_{245})) \iff \\ \begin{cases} f_{13} = f_{24}, & f_{14} = f_{23}, & f_{15} = f_{26}, \\ f_{16} = f_{25}, & f_{35} = f_{46}, & f_{36} = f_{45}, \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

$$\iff f_1(t)^2 = f_2(t)^2, \quad f_3(t)^2 = f_4(t)^2, \quad f_5(t)^2 = f_6(t)^2 \iff f_1(t) = f_2(t), \quad f_3(t) = f_4(t), \quad f_5(t) = f_6(t),$$

where for the last equivalence we have used that  $f_i(t)$  are continuous functions satisfying  $f_i(0) = 1$ .  $\square$

We can combine the two previous results to conclude that  $f_i(t) = f_j(t)$  for  $i, j = 1, \dots, 6$ . If we denote  $f_i(t) = F(t)$  for all  $i = 1, \dots, 6$ , then  $(\omega(t), \psi_{\pm}(t))$  has the particular form:

$$(21) \quad \omega(t) = F^2(t) \omega, \quad \psi_+(t) = F^3(t) \psi_+, \quad \psi_-(t) = F^3(t) \psi_-.$$

**Lemma 4.3.** *Let  $(\omega(t), \psi_{\pm}(t))$  be the one-parameter family of SU(3)-structures given in (21) where  $(\omega, \psi_{\pm})$  is a nearly Kähler structure. Then  $(\omega(t), \psi_{\pm}(t))$  is nearly Kähler for all  $t$  if and only if  $\sigma_0(t) = \frac{\sigma_0}{F(t)}$ .*

*Proof.* Equation (21) implies that  $d\omega(t) = F^2(t)d\omega$ , and  $d\psi_-(t) = F^3(t)d\psi_-$ . Since  $(\omega, \psi_\pm)$  is nearly Kähler, one has

$$d\omega(t) = -\frac{3}{2}\sigma_0 F^2(t)\psi_+, \quad d\psi_-(t) = \sigma_0 F^3(t)\omega^2,$$

or equivalently

$$d\omega(t) = -\frac{3}{2}\frac{\sigma_0}{F(t)}\psi_+(t) \quad \text{and} \quad d\psi_-(t) = \frac{\sigma_0}{F(t)}\omega^2(t).$$

Therefore,  $(\omega(t), \psi_\pm(t))$  is nearly Kähler for all  $t$  if and only if  $\sigma_0(t) = \frac{\sigma_0}{F(t)}$ , and the result follows.  $\square$

In the next result we show how to solve the Laplacian coflow in this particular case.

**Proposition 4.4.** *Let  $M^6$  be a manifold endowed with a nearly Kähler structure  $(\omega, \psi_\pm)$ . Then the one-parameter family of warped  $G_2$ -structures on  $M^6 \times_f S^1$  given by*

$$\varphi(t) = \left(1 - \frac{3\sigma_0^2}{2}t\right)^{3/2} (c\omega \wedge ds - \psi_-) \quad \text{and} \quad *_t \varphi(t) = \left(1 - \frac{3\sigma_0^2}{2}t\right)^2 \left(\frac{1}{2}\omega^2 + c\psi_+ \wedge ds\right)$$

is a solution of the Laplacian coflow for  $t \in \left(-\infty, \frac{2}{3\sigma_0^2}\right)$ , being  $f(t) = c\left(1 - \frac{3\sigma_0^2}{2}t\right)^{1/2}$ ,  $c \in \mathbb{R}^*$ .

*Proof.* From Lemmas 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3, the system (20) with  $(\omega(t), \psi_\pm(t))$  nearly Kähler for all  $t$  is equivalent to

$$\begin{cases} 4F'(t)F(t) = -3\sigma_0^2, \\ \frac{f'(t)}{f(t)}F^2(t) + 3F'(t)F(t) = -3\sigma_0^2. \end{cases}$$

whose solution is

$$F(t) = \left(1 - \frac{3\sigma_0^2}{2}t\right)^{1/2}, \quad f(t) = c\left(1 - \frac{3\sigma_0^2}{2}t\right)^{1/2}$$

and the result follows.  $\square$

**Corollary 4.5.** *In the conditions above, the volume form induced by the one-parameter family of warped  $G_2$ -structures on  $M^6 \times_f S^1$  is such that*

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow T^-} \text{vol}_7(t) = 0,$$

where  $T = \frac{2}{3\sigma_0^2}$  is the maximal existence time of the solution.

*Proof.* Just observe that, using (15),  $\text{vol}_7(t) = c\left(1 - \frac{3\sigma_0^2}{2}t\right)^{7/2} \text{vol}_6 \wedge ds$ .  $\square$

**Remark 4.6.** *Not many examples of nearly Kähler manifolds are known. Recently, new complete examples on  $S^6$  and  $S^3 \times S^3$  have been described in [12] and [21]. Next we solve the Laplacian coflow using an explicit example of nearly Kähler structure appeared in [21].*

**Example 4.7.** *Consider the sphere  $S^3$ , viewed as the Lie group  $SU(2)$  with the basis of left-invariant one-forms  $\{\lambda^1, \lambda^2, \lambda^3\}$  satisfying*

$$d\lambda^1 = \lambda^{23}, \quad d\lambda^2 = -\lambda^{13}, \quad d\lambda^3 = \lambda^{12}.$$

Thus,  $\mathfrak{su}(2) \oplus \mathfrak{su}(2)$  is the Lie algebra of  $S^3 \times S^3$  and its structure equations are:

$$\mathfrak{su}(2) \oplus \mathfrak{su}(2) = (\lambda^{23}, -\lambda^{13}, \lambda^{12}, \nu^{23}, -\nu^{13}, \nu^{12})$$

with  $\{\nu^i\}$  the basis of left-invariant 1-forms on the second sphere. The pair  $(\omega, \psi_+)$  with

$$\omega = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{18}(\lambda^1 \wedge \nu^1 + \lambda^2 \wedge \nu^2 + \lambda^3 \wedge \nu^3),$$

$$\psi_+ = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{54}(\lambda^{23} \wedge \nu^1 - \lambda^1 \wedge \nu^{23} - \lambda^{13} \wedge \nu^2 + \lambda^2 \wedge \nu^{13} + \lambda^{12} \wedge \nu^3 - \lambda^3 \wedge \nu^{12}),$$

where  $\omega$  is the Kähler form and  $\psi_+$  is the real part of the complex  $(3,0)$ -form, defines a nearly Kähler  $SU(3)$ -structure on  $S^3 \times S^3$ . Observe that the basis  $\{\lambda^i, \nu^i\}$  is not adapted to the  $SU(3)$ -structure.

Consider  $\{h^1, \dots, h^6\}$  the basis of left-invariant 1-forms on  $S^3 \times S^3$  given by

$$h^1 = \frac{1}{3}\lambda^1 - \frac{1}{6}\nu^1, \quad h^2 = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{6}\nu^1, \quad h^3 = \frac{1}{3}\lambda^2 - \frac{1}{6}\nu^2, \quad h^4 = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{6}\nu^2, \quad h^5 = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{6}\nu^3, \quad h^6 = -\frac{1}{3}\lambda^3 + \frac{1}{6}\nu^3.$$

This basis is adapted to the  $SU(3)$ -structure and  $(\omega, \psi_+)$  turns out to be nearly Kähler with  $\sigma_0 = -2$ . Therefore, in view of Proposition 4.4, the one-parameter family of warped G<sub>2</sub>-structures on  $(S^3 \times S^3) \times_f S^1$  given by

$$\varphi(t) = (1 - 6t)^{3/2} \left[ c(h^{12} + h^{34} + h^{56}) \wedge ds + h^{246} - h^{235} - h^{136} - h^{145} \right]$$

and

$$*_t \varphi(t) = (1 - 6t)^2 \left[ h^{1234} + h^{1256} + h^{3456} + c(h^{135} - h^{146} - h^{236} - h^{245}) \wedge ds \right],$$

where  $f(t) = c(1 - 6t)^{\frac{1}{2}}$ , is a solution of the Laplacian coflow for all  $t \in (-\infty, \frac{1}{6})$ .

**4.2. The symplectic half-flat case ( $\mathcal{W}_2^-$ ).** Recall that a symplectic half-flat  $SU(3)$ -structure satisfies

$$(22) \quad d\omega = 0, \quad d\psi_+ = 0, \quad d\psi_- = -\sigma_2 \wedge \omega.$$

In particular,  $\sigma_0 = \nu_3 = 0$ . Particularizing (12) for  $\sigma_0(t) = \nu_3(t) = 0$ , we get

$$(23) \quad \begin{cases} \frac{\partial \omega^2(t)}{\partial t} = 0, \\ \frac{f'(t)}{f(t)} \psi_+(t) + \frac{\partial \psi_+(t)}{\partial t} = d_6 \sigma_2(t). \end{cases}$$

Now, we get necessary conditions in order to solve the Laplacian coflow. Arguing similarly as Lemma 4.1 and providing that  $\sigma_0(t) = 0$ , it is straightforward to see that the first equation of (23) holds if and only if

$$(24) \quad f_2(t) = \frac{1}{f_1(t)}, \quad f_4(t) = \frac{1}{f_3(t)}, \quad f_6(t) = \frac{1}{f_5(t)}.$$

In this setting, the behaviour of the induced volumen is  $vol_7(t) = f(t) vol_6 \wedge ds$  (see (15)).

The following technical result, that makes use of equation (18), states how to solve the coflow in the symplectic half-flat case:

**Lemma 4.8.** *Consider a warped coclosed G<sub>2</sub>-structure  $\varphi$  on  $M^6 \times_f S^1$  where  $(\omega, \psi_{\pm})$  is a symplectic half-flat  $SU(3)$ -structure. Then  $\varphi(t)$ , given by (8), is a solution of the coflow (23) using the ansatz (14) if and only if  $f(t)$ ,  $f_1(t)$ ,  $f_3(t)$  and  $f_5(t)$  satisfy:*

$$(25) \quad \begin{cases} A_{135}(t) = \frac{f'(t)}{f(t)} + \frac{f'_1(t)}{f_1(t)} + \frac{f'_3(t)}{f_3(t)} + \frac{f'_5(t)}{f_5(t)}, & A_{146}(t) = \frac{f'(t)}{f(t)} + \frac{f'_1(t)}{f_1(t)} - \frac{f'_3(t)}{f_3(t)} - \frac{f'_5(t)}{f_5(t)}, \\ A_{236}(t) = \frac{f'(t)}{f(t)} - \frac{f'_1(t)}{f_1(t)} + \frac{f'_3(t)}{f_3(t)} - \frac{f'_5(t)}{f_5(t)}, & A_{245}(t) = \frac{f'(t)}{f(t)} - \frac{f'_1(t)}{f_1(t)} - \frac{f'_3(t)}{f_3(t)} + \frac{f'_5(t)}{f_5(t)}, \end{cases}$$

where functions  $A_{135}(t)$ ,  $A_{146}(t)$ ,  $A_{236}(t)$ ,  $A_{245}(t)$  are such that

$$d_6 \sigma_2(t) = A_{135}(t)x^{135} - A_{146}(t)x^{146} - A_{236}(t)x^{236} - A_{245}(t)x^{245},$$

and  $(\omega(t), \psi_{\pm}(t))$  is symplectic half-flat for all  $t$ .

In order to obtain examples and inspired in the solutions given in Proposition 4.4, we will consider the functions  $f_i(t)$  of potential type, i.e.

$$(26) \quad f_i(t) = (1 + kt)^{\alpha_i}$$

with  $\alpha_i$  and  $k$  real numbers. Thus the solutions of the coflow are of the form:

$$(27) \quad \begin{aligned} \varphi(t) = f(t) & \left[ (1 + kt)^{\alpha_1 + \alpha_2} h^{12} + (1 + kt)^{\alpha_3 + \alpha_4} h^{34} + (1 + kt)^{\alpha_5 + \alpha_6} h^{56} \right] \wedge ds \\ & - (1 + kt)^{\alpha_2 + \alpha_4 + \alpha_6} h^{246} + (1 + kt)^{\alpha_2 + \alpha_3 + \alpha_5} h^{235} + (1 + kt)^{\alpha_1 + \alpha_4 + \alpha_5} h^{145} + (1 + kt)^{\alpha_1 + \alpha_3 + \alpha_6} h^{136}, \end{aligned}$$

where the basis  $\{h^1, \dots, h^6\}$  is defined in (14).

Next we solve the Laplacian coflow on unimodular solvable Lie algebras.

**Example 4.9.** Consider the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{e}(1, 1) \oplus \mathfrak{e}(1, 1)$  whose structure equations are

$$\mathfrak{e}(1, 1) \oplus \mathfrak{e}(1, 1) := (0, 0, -h^{14}, -h^{13}, h^{25}, -h^{26}).$$

The corresponding connected and simply connected Lie group  $G$  admits a left-invariant symplectic half-flat structure which is given canonically by (1) in basis  $\{h^i\}$ . Let us consider a one-parameter family of SU(3)-structures given by (13) with  $x^i(t) = f_i(t)h^i$  being  $f_i(t)$  of potential type as in (26). The structure equations of  $\mathfrak{e}(1, 1) \oplus \mathfrak{e}(1, 1)$  with respect to the time-dependent basis  $\{x^i(t)\}$  are

$$(0, 0, -(1+kt)^{\alpha_3-\alpha_1-\alpha_4}x^{14}, -(1+kt)^{\alpha_4-\alpha_1-\alpha_3}x^{13}, (1+kt)^{-\alpha_2}x^{25}, -(1+kt)^{-\alpha_2}x^{26}).$$

In order to obtain solutions for the Laplacian coflow, and in view of (24), we can set

$$\alpha_2 = -\alpha_1, \quad \alpha_4 = -\alpha_3, \quad \text{and} \quad \alpha_6 = -\alpha_5.$$

With these values, we impose the preservation of the symplectic half-flat condition. It is easy to verify that  $d\omega(t) = 0$  for all  $t$ ;  $\psi_+(t)$  remains closed if and only if  $\alpha_1 = \alpha_3 = 0$ , since

$$d\psi_+(t) = \left( -(1+kt)^{\alpha_1} + (1+kt)^{-\alpha_1-2\alpha_3} \right) x^{1235} + \left( -(1+kt)^{\alpha_1} + (1+kt)^{-\alpha_1+2\alpha_3} \right) x^{1246}.$$

So,  $(\omega(t), \psi_{\pm}(t))$  is symplectic half-flat for all  $t$  if and only if  $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = \alpha_3 = \alpha_4 = 0$ . Observe that the structure equations are simply:

$$\mathfrak{e}(1, 1) \oplus \mathfrak{e}(1, 1) := (0, 0, -x^{14}, -x^{13}, x^{25}, -x^{26}).$$

Finally, to solve the second equation of (23) we make use of (25). Since  $(\omega(t), \psi_{\pm}(t))$  is symplectic half-flat for all  $t$ ,  $\sigma_2(t) = -*_t d\psi_-(t)$ , see (2), and therefore

$$d\sigma_2(t) = -2x^{135} + 2x^{146} + 2x^{236} + 2x^{245},$$

which means that  $A_{ijk}(t) = -2$ . We obtain the system

$$\begin{cases} \frac{f'(t)}{f(t)} + k\alpha_5(1+kt)^{-1} = -2, \\ \frac{f'(t)}{f(t)} - k\alpha_5(1+kt)^{-1} = -2. \end{cases}$$

which can be solved taking

$$\alpha_5 = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad f(t) = ce^{-2t}, \quad c \in \mathbb{R}^*.$$

Therefore, the one-parameter family of G<sub>2</sub>-structures on  $G \times_f S^1$  given by (27)

$$\varphi(t) = ce^{-2t}(h^{12} + h^{34} + h^{56}) \wedge ds - h^{246} + h^{235} + h^{145} + h^{136}$$

is a solution of the Laplacian coflow for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ . Since  $\lim_{t \rightarrow T} f(t) = 0$ , where  $T = +\infty$  is the maximal existence time of the solution, we obtain that  $\lim_{t \rightarrow T} \text{vol}_7(t) = 0$ .

In [10], the authors classify the 6-dimensional unimodular solvable Lie algebras admitting symplectic half-flat SU(3)-structure and show that all the corresponding solvable Lie groups admit a co-compact discrete subgroup. In addition to the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{e}(1, 1) \oplus \mathfrak{e}(1, 1)$ , in terms of an adapted basis  $\{h^i\}_{i=1}^6$  to the SU(3)-structure, the structure equations of these algebras are the following:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{g}_{5,1} \oplus \mathbb{R} &= (0, 0, 0, h^{15}, 0, h^{13}), \\ A_{5,7}^{-1,-1,1} \oplus \mathbb{R} &= (h^{16}, -h^{26}, -h^{36}, h^{46}, 0, 0), \\ A_{5,17}^{-a,-a,1} \oplus \mathbb{R} &= (ah^{15} + h^{35}, -ah^{25} + h^{45}, -h^{15} + ah^{35}, -h^{25} - ah^{45}, 0, 0), \\ \mathfrak{g}_{6,N3} &= (0, -2h^{35}, 0, -h^{15}, 0, h^{13}), \\ \mathfrak{g}_{6,38}^0 &= (2h^{36}, 0, -h^{26}, h^{25} - h^{26}, -h^{23} - h^{24}, h^{23}), \\ \mathfrak{g}_{6,54}^{0,-1} &= \left( \frac{h^{16}}{\sqrt{2}} + h^{45}, -\frac{h^{26}}{\sqrt{2}}, h^{25} - \frac{h^{36}}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{h^{46}}{\sqrt{2}}, 0, 0 \right), \\ \mathfrak{g}_{6,118}^{0,-1,-1} &= (-h^{15} + h^{36}, h^{25} + h^{46}, -h^{16} - h^{35}, -h^{26} + h^{45}, 0, 0). \end{aligned}$$

In Table 4 we present long time solutions to the Laplacian coflow for G<sub>2</sub>-structures obtained as warped products of solvmanifolds endowed with symplectic half-flat SU(3)-structures. These solutions can be

obtained as follows: consider Lemma 4.8 with the potential functions given in (26) and a warping function also of potential type

$$f(t) = c(1 + kt)^\beta, \quad c \in \mathbb{R}^*.$$

Thus, using (25), we obtain a linear system of equations in  $\alpha_i, \beta$  and  $k$  that can be easily solved. Known the values of  $\alpha_i, \beta$  and  $k$  and considering (27) we can give an explicit description of the solutions of the Laplacian coflow for each example. We also include the value of  $d\sigma_2(t)$  in each case, necessary to compute the parameters of the solutions.

Lie algebra	$d\sigma_2(t)$	$(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_6)$	$\beta$	$k$
$\mathfrak{g}_{5,1} \oplus \mathbb{R}$	$A_{135} = -2(1 + kt)^{-2\alpha_1 - 2\alpha_3 - 2\alpha_5}$	$(\frac{1}{6}, -\frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}, -\frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}, -\frac{1}{6})$	$\frac{1}{6}$	-3
$A_{5,7}^{-1,-1,1} \oplus \mathbb{R}$	$A_{146} = A_{236} = -4(1 + kt)^{2\alpha_5}$	$(0, 0, 0, 0, -\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})$	$\frac{1}{2}$	-4
$A_{5,17}^{-a,-a,1} \oplus \mathbb{R}$	$A_{135} = A_{245} = -4a^2(1 + kt)^{-2\alpha_5}$	$(0, 0, 0, 0, \frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2})$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$-4a^2$
$\mathfrak{g}_{6,N3}$	$A_{135} = -6(1 + kt)^{-2\alpha_1 - 2\alpha_3 - 2\alpha_5}$	$(\frac{1}{6}, -\frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}, -\frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}, -\frac{1}{6})$	$\frac{1}{6}$	-9
$\mathfrak{g}_{6,38}^0$	$A_{236} = -6(1 + kt)^{2\alpha_1 - 4\alpha_3}$	$(-\frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}, -\frac{1}{6}, -\frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6})$	$\frac{1}{6}$	-9
$\mathfrak{g}_{6,54}^{0,-1}$	$A_{146} = A_{236} = -2(1 + kt)^{2\alpha_5}$ $A_{245} = -2(1 + kt)^{2\alpha_1 + 2\alpha_3 - 2\alpha_5}$	$(-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})$	$\frac{3}{2}$	-1
$\mathfrak{g}_{6,118}^{0,-1,-1}$	$A_{135} = A_{245} = -4(1 + kt)^{-2\alpha_5}$ $A_{146} = A_{236} =$ $-2(1 + kt)^{2\alpha_5}(-1 + (1 + kt)^{2\alpha_1 - 2\alpha_3})$	$(0, 0, 0, 0, \frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2})$	$\frac{1}{2}$	-4

TABLE 4. Solutions of the Laplacian coflow in the SHF-case

In particular, in any case  $\lim_{t \rightarrow T^-} f(t) = 0$ , where  $T = \frac{-1}{k}$  is the maximal existence time of the solution, and therefore,  $\lim_{t \rightarrow T^-} \text{vol}_7(t) = 0$ .

4.3. **The balanced case ( $\mathcal{W}_3$ ).** Recall that a balanced SU(3)-structure satisfies

$$(28) \quad d\omega = \nu_3, \quad d\psi_+ = 0, \quad d\psi_- = 0.$$

In particular,  $\sigma_0 = \sigma_2 = 0$ . Particularizing (12) for  $\sigma_0(t) = \sigma_2(t) = 0$ , we get

$$(29) \quad \begin{cases} \frac{\partial \omega^2(t)}{\partial t} = 2d_6(*_6\nu_3(t)), \\ \frac{f'(t)}{f(t)}\psi_+(t) + \frac{\partial \psi_+(t)}{\partial t} = 0. \end{cases}$$

In this case, we can apply Lemma 4.2 with  $\sigma_0(t) = 0$  (compare the second equations in (20) and (29)) obtaining the same conclusion, i.e.,  $f_{2k}(t) = f_{2k-1}(t)$  for  $k = 1, 2, 3$ . Now, the behaviour of the induced volumen is  $\text{vol}_7(t) = f_1(t)^2 f_3(t)^2 f_5(t)^2 f(t) \text{vol}_6 \wedge ds$ .

Similarly to Lemma 4.8, we can set:

**Lemma 4.10.** *Consider a warped coclosed G<sub>2</sub>-structure  $\varphi$  on  $M^6 \times_f S^1$  where  $(\omega, \psi_\pm)$  is a balanced SU(3)-structure. Then  $\varphi(t)$ , given by (8), is a solution of the coflow (29) using the ansatz (14) if and only if  $f(t), f_1(t), f_3(t)$  and  $f_5(t)$  satisfy:*

$$B_{1234}(t) = 2 \left( \frac{f_1'(t)}{f_1(t)} + \frac{f_3'(t)}{f_3(t)} \right), \quad B_{1256}(t) = 2 \left( \frac{f_1'(t)}{f_1(t)} + \frac{f_5'(t)}{f_5(t)} \right), \quad B_{3456}(t) = 2 \left( \frac{f_3'(t)}{f_3(t)} + \frac{f_5'(t)}{f_5(t)} \right),$$

where functions  $B_{1234}(t), B_{1256}(t), B_{3456}(t)$  are such that

$$d_6(*\nu_3(t)) = B_{1234}(t)x^{1234} + B_{1256}(t)x^{1256} + B_{3456}(t)x^{3456},$$

and  $(\omega(t), \psi_\pm(t))$  is balanced for all  $t$ .

The examples that we present in this case are the 6-dimensional nilpotent Lie algebras admitting balanced  $SU(3)$ -structures, that are classified in [22]. In terms of an adapted basis to the balanced  $SU(3)$ -structure, the structure equations are:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{h}_2 &= (0, 0, 0, 0, 2h^{12} + (2\sqrt{2} - 2)h^{13} + (-2 - 2\sqrt{2})h^{24} - 2h^{34}, 4\sqrt{2}h^{12} + 4\sqrt{2}h^{23} - 4\sqrt{2}h^{34}), \\ \mathfrak{h}_3 &= (0, 0, 0, 0, 0, -2h^{12} + 2h^{34}), \\ \mathfrak{h}_4 &= (0, 0, 0, 0, 2h^{13}, h^{14} + h^{23}), \\ \mathfrak{h}_5 &= (0, 0, 0, 0, h^{13} - h^{24}, h^{14} + h^{23}), \\ \mathfrak{h}_6 &= (0, 0, 0, 0, h^{13}, h^{14}), \\ \mathfrak{h}_{19}^- &= (0, 0, -h^{15}, -h^{25}, 0, -h^{13} - h^{24}). \end{aligned}$$

We present long time solutions for the Laplacian coflow of  $G_2$ -structures obtained as warped products of balanced nilmanifolds endowed with  $SU(3)$ -structures. These solutions remain balanced for any  $t$ . As before, with the notation in Lemma 4.10 and functions of potential type (26) giving an explicit description of these solutions is equivalent to obtain the values of the parameters  $\alpha_i, \beta$  and  $k$ . Solving the corresponding linear equations these values are given in Table 5. The solutions  $\varphi(t)$  of the coflow are of the form (27). We also include the value of  $d*\nu_3(t)$  in each case, necessary to compute the parameters of the solutions.

Lie algebra	$d*\nu_3(t)$	$(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_6)$	$\beta$	$k$
$\mathfrak{h}_2$	$B_{1234} = -128(1+kt)^{-4\alpha_1+2\alpha_5}$	$(\frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}, -\frac{1}{6}, -\frac{1}{6})$	$-\frac{1}{6}$	-192
$\mathfrak{h}_3$	$B_{1234} = -8(1+kt)^{-4\alpha_1+2\alpha_5}$	$(\frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}, -\frac{1}{6}, -\frac{1}{6})$	$-\frac{1}{6}$	-12
$\mathfrak{h}_4$	$B_{1234} = -6(1+kt)^{-2\alpha_1-2\alpha_3+2\alpha_5}$	$(\frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}, -\frac{1}{6}, -\frac{1}{6})$	$-\frac{1}{6}$	-9
$\mathfrak{h}_5$	$B_{1234} = -4(1+kt)^{-2\alpha_1-2\alpha_3+2\alpha_5}$	$(\frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}, -\frac{1}{6}, -\frac{1}{6})$	$-\frac{1}{6}$	-6
$\mathfrak{h}_6$	$B_{1234} = -2(1+kt)^{-2\alpha_1-2\alpha_3+2\alpha_5}$	$(\frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}, -\frac{1}{6}, -\frac{1}{6})$	$-\frac{1}{6}$	-3
$\mathfrak{h}_{19}^-$	$B_{1234} = -2(1+kt)^{-2\alpha_1-2\alpha_3+2\alpha_5}$ $B_{1256} = -2(1+kt)^{-2\alpha_1+2\alpha_3-2\alpha_5}$	$(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, 0, 0, 0, 0)$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	-2

TABLE 5. Solutions of the Laplacian coflow in the balanced case

Observe that in these cases,  $\lim_{t \rightarrow T^-} \text{vol}_7(t) = \lim_{t \rightarrow T^-} (1+kt)^{2\alpha_1+2\alpha_3+2\alpha_5+\beta} = \lim_{t \rightarrow T^-} (1+kt)^{-\beta} = 0$ , where  $T = \frac{-1}{k}$  is the maximal existence time of the solution.

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