

Notes on totally umbilical submanifolds in constant curvature spaces

By Tamao NAGAI and Hidemaro KÔJYÔ

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Introduction. Let E^n be an n -dimensional Euclidean space and X_x be a position vector of a point $x \in E^n$ with respect to a fixed origin. Then a mapping $x \rightarrow X_x$ defines a position vector field in E^n and it is a homothetic Killing vector field. The position vector field in E^n plays an important role in the investigations of submanifolds in E^n . From this viewpoint, Y. Katsurada [2]¹⁾ introduced the idea such that a conformal Killing vector field is available for the study of hypersurfaces in an n -dimensional Riemannian space M^n . By virtue of this idea, various results for global properties of closed orientable hypersurfaces in E^n have been generalized for those in M^n [4]. In the present paper, a closed submanifold means a compact connected submanifold without boundary.

Now, an odd dimensional sphere S^{2n+1} has a normal contact metric structure [8]. Making use of the properties of this structure, M. Okumura [7] gave a condition for a closed orientable submanifold of codimension 2 in S^{2n+1} to be totally umbilic.

A skew symmetric tensor field $T_{i_1 \dots i_p}$ in M^n is called a conformal Killing tensor field of degree p ([9], [1]), if there exists a skew symmetric tensor field $\rho_{i_1 \dots i_{p-1}}$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} T_{i_1 \dots i_p; i} + T_{i i_2 \dots i_p; i_1} \\ = 2\rho_{i_2 \dots i_p} g_{i_1 i} \\ - \sum_{h=2}^p (-1)^h \{ \rho_{i_1 \dots i_h \dots i_p} g_{i i_h} + \rho_{i \dots i_h \dots i_p} g_{i_1 i_h} \}, \end{aligned}$$

where the symbol \wedge over i_h indicates the index i_h is to be omitted and the symbol $;$ means the covariant differentiation with respect to the Christoffel symbols formed with the metric tensor g_{ij} of M^n . Then we can see that the structure tensor field of a normal contact metric space is a conformal Killing tensor field of degree 2. M. Morohashi [5] has shown that S^n admits a conformal Killing tensor field of degree p for any positive integer

1) Numbers in brackets refer to the references at the end of this paper.

p such that $p \leq n$. Then he used this tensor field for the study of submanifolds of codimension p in S^n and gave a certain generalization of the theorem due to M. Okumura. This result suggested to us that a conformal Killing tensor field of degree p in M^n may be used effectively for the study of submanifolds of codimension p in M^n . In particular, when an ambient space is a constant curvature space we have

THEOREM (M. Morohashi [6]). *Let $M^{m+p}(c)$ and V^m ($m, p \geq 2$) be an $(m+p)$ -dimensional Riemannian space of constant curvature c and an m -dimensional closed orientable submanifold in $M^{m+p}(c)$ respectively. If*

- (i) $M^{m+p}(c)$ admits a conformal Killing tensor field $T_{i_1 \dots i_p}$
 - (ii) the mean curvature vector field of V^m is parallel with respect to the connection induced on the normal bundle of V^m ,
 - (iii) the connection induced on the normal bundle of V^m is trivial,
 - (iv) $T_{i_1 \dots i_p} N_{m+1}^{i_1} \dots N_{m+p}^{i_p}$ has fixed sign on V^m ,
- then V^m is a totally umbilical submanifold.

The purpose of the present paper is to show that a totally umbilical submanifold is characterized by the existence of a certain tensor field along the submanifold. §1 is devoted to give some notations and fundamental formulas in the theory of submanifolds in a Riemannian space. In §2 we give some lemmas for a submanifold with parallel mean curvature vector field. In §3 we give a necessary and sufficient condition for a closed orientable submanifold to be totally umbilic.

§1. Preliminaries. Let $M^{m+p}(c)$ be an $(m+p)$ -dimensional Riemannian space of constant curvature c covered by a system of coordinate neighborhoods $\{U; x^i\}$ and denote by g_{ij} , Γ_{ij}^h and R_{ihjk} the metric tensor, the Christoffel symbols formed with g_{ij} and the curvature tensor respectively. Then we have

$$(1.1) \quad R_{ihjk} = c(g_{ik}g_{hj} - g_{ij}g_{hk}).$$

We then consider an m -dimensional Riemannian space V^m covered by a system of coordinate neighborhoods $\{V; u^\alpha\}$ and denote by $g_{\alpha\beta}$, $\Gamma'_{\alpha\beta}{}^\gamma$ and $R'_{\delta\alpha\beta\gamma}$ the metric tensor, the Christoffel symbols formed with $g_{\alpha\beta}$ and the curvature tensor respectively.

We assume that V^m is isometrically immersed in $M^{m+p}(c)$ by the immersion: $V^m \rightarrow M^{m+p}(c)$ and represent the immersion by

2) N_p^i ($P=m+1, \dots, m+p$) denote the contravariant components of p mutually orthogonal unit vectors normal to V^m .

$$x^i = x^i(u^\alpha) \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, m+p; \alpha = 1, 2, \dots, m).^{3)}$$

Since the immersion is isometric, we have

$$g_{\alpha\beta} = g_{ij} B_\alpha^i B_\beta^j. \quad (B_\alpha^i = \partial x^i / \partial u^\alpha)$$

We choose p mutually orthogonal unit vectors N_P^i ($P = m+1, \dots, m+p$)⁴⁾ normal to V^m . Denoting by the symbol ∇ the covariant differentiation along V^m due to van der Waerden-Bortolotti, we have the following formulas of Gauss and Weingarten for V^m :

$$(1.2) \quad B_{\alpha;\beta}^i = \sum_P b_{P\alpha\beta} N_P^i,$$

$$(1.3) \quad N_{P;\alpha}^i = -b_{P\alpha}^\beta B_\beta^i + \Gamma_{P\alpha}^{\prime\prime Q} N_Q^i,$$

where $b_{P\alpha\beta}$ denotes the second fundamental tensor with respect to the normal vector N_P^i , $b_{P\alpha}^\beta = g^{\beta\gamma} b_{P\alpha\gamma}$ and $\Gamma_{P\alpha}^{\prime\prime Q}$ indicate components of a connection induced on the normal bundle of V^m , that is

$$\Gamma_{P\alpha}^{\prime\prime Q} = (N_{P;\alpha}^i + \Gamma_{kj}^i N_P^k B_\alpha^j) N_{Qi}.$$

By means of (1.1)-(1.3) we have the following Gauss and Codazzi equations:

$$(1.4) \quad R_{\delta\alpha\beta\gamma}^i = c(g_{\alpha\beta} g_{\delta\gamma} - g_{\alpha\gamma} g_{\delta\beta}) + \sum_P (b_{P\alpha\beta} b_{P\delta\gamma} - b_{P\alpha\gamma} b_{P\delta\beta}),$$

$$(1.5) \quad b_{P\alpha\beta;\gamma} - b_{P\alpha\gamma;\beta} - b_{Q\alpha\beta} \Gamma_{P\gamma}^{\prime\prime Q} + b_{Q\alpha\gamma} \Gamma_{P\beta}^{\prime\prime Q} = 0.$$

When there exist p mutually orthogonal unit normal vector fields N_P^i such that $\Gamma_{P\alpha}^{\prime\prime Q} = 0$ ($P, Q = m+1, \dots, m+p; \alpha = 1, \dots, m$), we say that the connection induced on the normal bundle of V^m is trivial. It has been shown that the connection induced on the normal bundle of V^m is trivial if and only if

$$(1.6) \quad b_{P\alpha}^\gamma b_{Q\gamma}^\beta = b_{Q\alpha}^\gamma b_{P\gamma}^\beta \quad (P, Q = m+1, \dots, m+p)$$

be satisfied.

Let N^i be an arbitrary vector field in the normal bundle of V^m . When $(N^i;_\alpha)^\perp = 0$, i. e., the vector $N^i;_\alpha$ is tangent to V^m everywhere, the vector field N^i is said to be parallel with respect to the connection induced on the normal bundle of V^m , where $(\)^\perp$ denotes the normal part of a vector in the round bracket.

The invariant normal vector field H^i defined by

$$(1.7) \quad H^i = \frac{1}{m} \sum_P b_{P\alpha}^\alpha N_P^i$$

3) The Latin indices i, j, k, \dots and the Greek indices $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \dots$ run over the range $1, 2, \dots, m+p$ and $1, 2, \dots, m$, respectively.

4) The capital Latin indices P, Q, R, \dots run over the range $m+1, \dots, m+p$.

is called the mean curvature vector field of V^m and its magnitude H is called the mean curvature.

Denote by $\kappa_{P_1}, \kappa_{P_2}, \dots, \kappa_{P_m}$ the eigen values of $b_{P\alpha\beta}$ relative to $g_{\alpha\beta}$ and put

$$(1.8) \quad H_P = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{\alpha} \kappa_{P\alpha} \left(= \frac{1}{m} b_{P\alpha}^{\alpha} \right).$$

H_P is called the 1-st mean curvature of V^m with respect to N_P . At a point of V^m , if we have $\kappa_{P_1} = \kappa_{P_2} = \dots = \kappa_{P_m}$ for a fixed integer P then the point is said to be umbilic with respect to N_P . A point of V^m is umbilic with respect to N_P if and only if

$$(1.9) \quad b_{P\alpha\beta} = H_P g_{\alpha\beta}$$

be satisfied at the point. When (1.9) holds good for $P = m+1, \dots, m+p$ at every point of V^m , the submanifold V^m is said to be totally umbilic. From the identity

$$b_{P\alpha\beta} b_P^{\alpha\beta} - \frac{1}{m} (b_{P\gamma}^{\gamma})^2 = \left(b_{P\alpha\beta} - \frac{1}{m} b_{P\gamma}^{\gamma} g_{\alpha\beta} \right) \left(b_P^{\alpha\beta} - \frac{1}{m} b_{P\gamma}^{\gamma} g^{\alpha\beta} \right),$$

and the positive definiteness of the Riemannian metric $g_{\alpha\beta}$ we have

LEMMA 1.1. *Let V^m be a submanifold in M^{m+p} . Then V^m is totally umbilic if and only if*

$$b_{P\alpha\beta} b_P^{\alpha\beta} = \frac{1}{m} (b_{P\gamma}^{\gamma})^2 \quad (P = m+1, \dots, m+p)$$

be satisfied at every point of V^m .

§ 2. Submanifolds with parallel mean curvature vector field. By virtue of (1.3) and (1.7) we get

LEMMA 2.1. *Let V^m be a submanifold in M^{m+p} . Then the mean curvature vector field H^i is parallel with respect to the connection induced on the normal bundle of V^m if and only if $b_{P\alpha;\beta}^{\alpha} = b_{Q\alpha}^{\alpha} \Gamma_{P\beta}^{\prime\prime Q}$.*

Furthermore, by means of (1.5) and Lemma 2.1 it follows that

LEMMA 2.2. *Let V^m be a submanifold in $M^{m+p}(c)$ and the mean curvature vector field H^i is parallel with respect to the connection induced on the normal bundle of V^m , then $b_{P\alpha;\beta}^{\beta} = b_{Q\alpha}^{\beta} \Gamma_{P\beta}^{\prime\prime Q}$.*

If the mean curvature H of V^m does not vanish everywhere on V^m , we have a uniquely determined unit normal vector at every point of V^m which has the same direction with the mean curvature vector H^i at the point. This is called the Euler vector field and we denote it by N_E^i . Thus,

for a submanifold V^m with $H \neq 0$ we can choose p vectors $\{N_{E^i}^i, N_{m+2}^i, \dots, N_{m+p}^i\}$ as a set of p mutually orthogonal unit vectors normal to V^m . In this case, from (1.7) and (1.8) we have

$$(2.1) \quad H_P = \frac{1}{m} b_{P\alpha}^\alpha = 0. \quad (P = m+2, \dots, m+p)$$

Then we get

$$(2.2) \quad H = H_E = \frac{1}{m} b_{E\alpha}^\alpha,$$

where we have used the index E in place of $m+1$. Then we have

LEMMA 2.3. (K. Yano [10]) *Let V^m be a submanifold of M^{m+p} and $H \neq 0$ everywhere on V^m . Then the following statements (i) and (ii) are equivalent:*

(i) $H = \text{const.}$ and $\Gamma''_{E\alpha}^P = 0$. ($P = m+2, \dots, m+p$; $\alpha = 1, \dots, m$)

(ii) *The mean curvature vector field H^i is parallel with respect to the connection induced on the normal bundle of V^m .*

Furthermore, we have

LEMMA 2.4. *Let V^m be a totally umbilical submanifold in $M^{m+p}(c)$ and $H \neq 0$ everywhere on V^m . Then the connection induced on the normal bundle of V_m is trivial and the mean curvature vector field H^i is parallel with respect to the connection induced on the normal bundle of V^m .*

§ 3. Characterizations of totally umbilical submanifolds.

THEOREM 3.1. *Let V^m be a closed orientable submanifold in $M^{m+p}(c)$ ($m \geq 2$, $p \geq 3$) and the mean curvature H does not vanish everywhere on V^m . Then V^m is totally umbilic if and only if*

(i) *there exists a skew symmetric tensor field $T_{i_1 \dots i_p}$ along V^m such that*

$$\begin{aligned} & T_{i_1 \dots i_a \dots i_p; \alpha} N_{m+1}^{i_1} \dots B_\beta^{i_a} \dots N_{m+p}^{i_p} \\ & + T_{i_1 \dots i_a \dots i_p; \beta} N_{m+1}^{i_1} \dots B_\alpha^{i_a} \dots N_{m+p}^{i_p} = \Phi_{m+a} g_{\alpha\beta} \end{aligned}$$

for some functions Φ_{m+a} ($a = 1, \dots, p$) and

$$T_{i_1 \dots i_p} N_{m+1}^{i_1} \dots N_{m+p}^{i_p}$$

has fixed sign on V^m ,

(ii) *the mean curvature vector field H^i is parallel with respect to the connection induced on the normal bundle of V^m ,*

(iii) *the connection induced on the normal bundle of V^m is trivial.*

PROOF. The condition (i) for a skew symmetric tensor field $T_{i_1 \dots i_p}$ is

independent on the choice of a set of p mutually orthogonal unit normal vector fields $\{N_{m+1}^i, \dots, N_{m+p}^i\}$ (Cf. [6]). Then we prove Theorem 3.1 with respect to a suitable set of p mutually orthogonal unit normal vector fields.

Let V^m be a totally umbilical submanifold in $M^{m+p}(c)$ and $H \neq 0$ everywhere on V^m . Then we can choose $\{N_{E^i}^i, N_{m+2}^i, \dots, N_{m+p}^i\}$ as a set of p mutually orthogonal unit normal vector fields along V_m . From Lemma 2.4, V^m satisfies (ii) and (iii). Now, we put

$$(3.1) \quad T_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_p} = \sum_{\sigma \in S(i_1, \dots, i_p)} \text{sgn}(\sigma) N_{E^{\sigma(i_1)}} N_{m+2\sigma(i_2)} \dots N_{m+p\sigma(i_p)},$$

where $S(i_1, \dots, i_p)$ denotes the symmetric group of all permutations of p integers i_1, \dots, i_p . Then $T_{i_1 \dots i_p}$ is a skew symmetric tensor field along V^m . In this case $T_{i_1 \dots i_p} N_{E^i}^{i_1} N_{m+2}^{i_2} \dots N_{m+p}^{i_p} = 1$ on V^m and we can easily verify that $T_{i_1 \dots i_p}$ satisfies the first relation of (i) for $\Phi_{m+1} = -2H$ and $\Phi_{m+a} = 0$ ($a=2, \dots, p$). Therefore the skew symmetric tensor field $T_{i_1 \dots i_p}$ defined by (3.1) satisfies (i).

Next, we show that if we assume (i)-(iii), then V^m is a totally umbilical submanifold.

Let $\{N_{m+1}^i, \dots, N_{m+p}^i\}$ be a set of p mutually orthogonal unit normal vector fields and with respect to this set $\Gamma''_{P\alpha} = 0$ ($P, Q = m+1, \dots, m+p$; $\alpha = 1, \dots, m$). Then, by means of Lemma 2.1 and Lemma 2.2 it follows that

$$(3.2) \quad b_{P\alpha}^\alpha = 0, \quad b_{P\alpha}^\beta = 0. \quad (P = m+1, \dots, m+p)$$

Now we put

$$\xi_\alpha = \sum_{a=1}^p b_{m+a}^r T_{i_1 \dots i_a \dots i_p} N_{m+1}^{i_1} \dots B_r^a \dots N_{m+p}^{i_p},$$

$$\eta_\alpha = \sum_{a=1}^p b_{m+a}^r T_{i_1 \dots i_a \dots i_p} N_{m+1}^{i_1} \dots B_a^a \dots N_{m+p}^{i_p}.$$

By means of (1.2), (1.3), (3.2) and skew symmetric property of $T_{i_1 \dots i_p}$ we obtain

$$\xi^\alpha_{;\alpha} = f \sum_P b_P^r b_{P\beta r} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{a=1}^p b_{m+a}^{\beta r} (T_{i_1 \dots i_a \dots i_p; \beta} N_{m+1}^{i_1} \dots B_r^a \dots N_{m+p}^{i_p} + T_{i_1 \dots i_a \dots i_p; r} N_{m+1}^{i_1} \dots B_\beta^a \dots N_{m+p}^{i_p}),$$

$$\eta^\alpha_{;\alpha} = f \sum_P (b_{P r}^r)^2 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{a=1}^p b_{m+a}^r (T_{i_1 \dots i_a \dots i_p; a} N_{m+1}^{i_1} \dots B_\beta^a \dots N_{m+p}^{i_p} + T_{i_1 \dots i_a \dots i_p; \beta} N_{m+1}^{i_1} \dots B_a^a \dots N_{m+p}^{i_p}) g^{\alpha\beta},$$

where we put $f = T_{i_1 \dots i_p} N_{m+1}^{i_1} \dots N_{m+p}^{i_p}$. Making use of our assumption (i), we get from the above equations

$$\xi^{\alpha}_{;\alpha} = f \sum_P b_P^{\beta r} b_{P\beta r} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{a=1}^p \Phi_{m+a} b_{m+a r},$$

$$\eta^{\alpha}_{;\alpha} = f \sum_P (b_{P r})^2 + \frac{m}{2} \sum_{a=1}^p \Phi_{m+a} b_{m+a r}.$$

Integrating both sides of these equations over V^m and applying the Green's theorem we get

$$(3.3) \quad \int_{V^m} \left\{ f \sum_P b_P^{\beta r} b_{P\beta r} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{a=1}^p \Phi_{m+a} b_{m+a r} \right\} dV = 0,$$

$$(3.4) \quad \int_{V^m} \left\{ f \sum_P (b_{P r})^2 + \frac{m}{2} \sum_{a=1}^p \Phi_{m+a} b_{m+a r} \right\} dV = 0,$$

where dV denotes the volume element of V^m . Then, from (3.3) and (3.4) we obtain

$$(3.5) \quad \int_{V^m} f \left\{ m \sum_P b_P^{\beta r} b_{P\beta r} - \sum_P (b_{P r})^2 \right\} dV = 0.$$

Therefore, from our assumption (i) and Lemma 1.1, we can see that V^m is a totally umbilical submanifold.

When $p=2$, that is, V^m is a closed orientable submanifold of codimension 2 with $H \neq 0$, by virtue of Lemma 2.3 the connection induced on the normal bundle is trivial if the mean curvature vector field H^i is parallel with respect to the connection induced on the normal bundle. Then we get

COROLLARY 3. *Let V^m be a closed orientable submanifold in $M^{m+2}(c)$ and $H \neq 0$ everywhere on V^m . Then V^m is totally umbilic if and only if*

(i) *there exists a skew symmetric tensor field T_{ij} along V^m such that*

$$T_{ij;\alpha} B_{\beta}^i N_{m+a}^j + T_{ij;\beta} B_{\alpha}^i N_{m+a}^j = \Phi_{m+a} g_{\alpha\beta}$$

for some functions Φ_{m+a} ($a=1, 2$) and $T_{ij} N_{m+1}^i N_{m+2}^j$ has fixed sign on V^m ,

(ii) *the mean curvature vector field H^i is parallel with respect to the connection induced on the normal bundle of V^m .*

Finally we consider the case of $p=1$. When V^m is a hypersurface in M^{m+1} , the Gauss and Weingarten formulas are

$$(3.6) \quad B_{\alpha;\beta}^i = b_{\alpha\beta} N^i, \quad N^i_{;\alpha} = -b_{\alpha}^{\beta} B_{\beta}^i,$$

and the mean curvature vector field H^i is

$$(3.7) \quad H^i = H N^i = \frac{1}{m} b_r^i N^i,$$

where $b_{\alpha\beta}$, N^i and H denotes the second fundamental tensor, contravariant

component of a unit normal vector and mean curvature of V^m respectively. By means of (3.6) and (3.7) it follows that $H = \text{const.}$ if and only if $(H^i_{;a})^\perp = 0$.

Making use of the method of Y. Katsurada [3] for the study of hypersurface in an Einstein space, we get

COROLLARY 3.3. *Let V^m be a closed orientable hypersurface in an Einstein space R^{m+1} and $H \neq 0$ everywhere on V^m . Then V^m is an umbilical hypersurface if and only if*

(i) *there exists a vector field T_i along V^m such that*

$$T_{i;\alpha} B_\beta^i + T_{i;\beta} B_\alpha^i = \Phi g_{\alpha\beta}$$

for some function Φ , and $T_i N^i$ has fixed sign on V^m ,

(ii) *$H = \text{const.}$*

PROOF. Let V^m be an umbilical hypersurface in an Einstein space R^{m+1} . In this case the Codazzi equation is

$$(3.8) \quad R_{ihjk} N^i B_\alpha^h B_\beta^j B_\gamma^k = b_{\alpha\beta;\gamma} - b_{\alpha\gamma;\beta}.$$

Since $b_{\alpha\beta} = H g_{\alpha\beta}$, from (3.8) we get (ii). Furthermore, if we put $T_i = N_i$, we have (i).

Next, we show that if we assume (i) and (ii), a closed orientable hypersurface V^m in R^{m+1} is an umbilical hypersurface. We put

$$\xi_\alpha = T_i B_\alpha^i, \quad \eta_\alpha = b_\alpha^r T_i B_r^i.$$

By means of (3.6) it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \xi^\alpha_{;\alpha} &= \frac{1}{2} g^{\alpha\beta} (T_{i;\beta} B_\alpha^i + T_{i;\alpha} B_\beta^i) + b_\alpha^r T_i N^i, \\ \eta^\alpha_{;\alpha} &= b^r_{\alpha;\alpha} T_i B_r^i + b_\alpha^r b_r^\alpha T_i N^i + \frac{1}{2} b^{\alpha\beta} (T_{i;\beta} B_\alpha^i + T_{i;\alpha} B_\beta^i). \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, from (3.8) we get $b^r_{\alpha;\alpha} = g^{r\beta} b_{\alpha;\beta}$. Then from our assumptions (i) and (ii) we have

$$\xi^\alpha_{;\alpha} = \frac{m}{2} \Phi + b_\alpha^r T_i N^i, \quad \eta^\alpha_{;\alpha} = \frac{1}{2} b_\alpha^r \Phi + b_\alpha^r b_r^\alpha T_i N^i.$$

Integrating both sides of above equations over V^m and applying the Green's theorem we have

$$\int_{V^m} \left\{ \frac{m}{2} \Phi + b_\alpha^r T_i N^i \right\} dV = 0, \quad \int_{V^m} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} b_\alpha^r \Phi + b_\alpha^r b_r^\alpha T_i N^i \right\} dV = 0.$$

Then, from our assumption (ii) we obtain

$$\int_{V^m} \{mb_\alpha^r b_r^\alpha - (b_r^r)^2\} T_i N^i dV = 0.$$

Thus, from our assumption (i) and Lemma 1.1, we can see that V^m is an umbilical hypersurface.

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Department of Mathematics
Hokkaido University