

ISOMETRIC IMMERSION OF MINIMAL SPHERICAL  
SUBMANIFOLD VIA THE SECOND STANDARD  
IMMERSION OF THE SPHERE\*

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**Abstract.** Let  $M^n$  be a  $n$ -dimensional compact connected minimal submanifold of the unit sphere  $S^{n+p}(1)$ . In this paper we study the isometric immersion of  $M^n$  into  $SM(n+p+1)$  via the second standard immersion of  $S^{n+p}(1)$ . We obtain some integral inequalities in terms of the spectrum of the Laplace operator of  $M^n$ , and find some restrictions on such immersions.

1. Introduction and Preliminaries

Let  $\phi : M^n \rightarrow R^m$  be an isometric immersion of a compact connected  $n$ -dimensional Riemannian manifold  $M^n$  into a Euclidean  $m$ -space. Denote the spectrum of the Laplace-Beltrami operator  $\Delta$  acting on differentiable functions in  $C^\infty(M)$  by

$$Spec(M) = \{0 = \lambda_0 < \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_k < \cdots \uparrow \infty\}$$

If we extend *triangle* to  $R^m$ -valued functions on  $M^n$  in a natural fashion, then we have the following spectral decomposition of  $\phi$  (in  $L^2$ -sense)

$$\phi = \phi_0 + \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} \phi_t,$$

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$$\Delta\phi_t = \lambda_t\phi_t; \quad \phi_t : M^n \rightarrow R^m,$$

where  $\phi_0$  is the center of mass of  $M$  in  $R^m$ . If there are exactly  $k$ -nonzero  $\phi'_t$ 's ( $t \geq 0$ ) in the decomposition of  $\phi$ , then we say that  $M^n$  is a  $k$ -type submanifold of  $R^m$ . Moreover, if  $\phi_t = 0$  for all  $t > q$ , and  $t < p$ , ( $1 \leq p \leq q$ ) then  $M^n$  is called a  $k$ -type submanifold of  $R^m$  with order  $[p, q]$ , and the corresponding eigenvalues are called the  $k$ -type eigenvalues of  $M^n$ . If  $p = q$ , we simply say that  $M^n$  has order  $p$ . In this case, by a result of Takahashi [10],  $M^n$  is a minimal submanifold of a hypersphere  $S^{m-1}(r)$  in  $R^m$  with  $r^2 = \frac{n}{\lambda_p}$ . For more detail concerning submanifolds of finite type, see [4].

Let  $S^m(1)$  be the unit sphere in  $R^{m+1}$  with canonical inner product  $\langle, \rangle$ . If we take each  $x$  in  $S^m(1)$  as an  $1 \times (m+1)$  row matrix, the second standard immersion  $f$  of  $S^m(1)$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned} f : S^m(1) &\rightarrow SM(m+1) \\ f(x) &= x^t x \quad \forall x \in S^m(1) \end{aligned}$$

where  $x^t$  is the transpose of  $x$ , and  $SM(m+1)$  is the set of all  $(m+1) \times (m+1)$  symmetric matrices over real numbers with a Riemannian metric  $g$  which is given by

$$g(P, Q) = \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(P \cdot Q) \quad \forall P, Q \in SM(m+1).$$

The second fundamental form  $\sigma$  of  $f$  satisfies the following condition:

$$\begin{aligned} g(\sigma(X, Y), \sigma(V, W)) &= 2 \langle X, Y \rangle \langle V, W \rangle + \langle X, V \rangle \langle Y, W \rangle \\ &\quad + \langle X, W \rangle \langle Y, V \rangle, \end{aligned}$$

If  $\psi : M^n \rightarrow S^{n+p}(1)$  is a minimal immersion and  $f : S^{n+p}(1) \rightarrow SM(n+p+1)$  is the second standard immersion of  $S^{n+p}(1)$ , then  $\phi = f \circ \psi$  gives an isometric immersion of  $M^n$  into  $SM(n+p+1)$ . Suppose that the immersion  $\psi$  is full, i.e.,  $\psi(M^n)$  is not contained in any great hypersphere of  $S^{n+p}(1)$ . A. Ros [8] has proved that  $\phi$  is of 2-type if and only if  $M^n$  is Einstein and  $T = k \langle, \rangle$ , where  $T$  is a tensor field restricted on the normal bundle of  $\psi$  and  $\langle, \rangle$  is the canonical inner product on  $S^{n+p}(1)$ . It is known that ([8])  $f(S^{n+p}(1))$  is

contained in a hypersphere  $S^N(r)$  of  $SM(n+p+1)$  with center  $\frac{1}{n+p+1}I$  and radius  $r = [\frac{n+p}{2(n+p+1)}]^{1/2}$  as a minimal submanifold, and  $\phi(M^n)$  is mass symmetric in  $S^N(r)$ , i.e.,  $\phi_0 = \frac{1}{n+p+1}I$ , where  $I$  is the  $(n+p+1) \times (n+p+1)$  identity matrix. In this paper, we shall study some geometric inequalities involving these  $k$ -type eigenvalues of  $M^n$ ,  $|h|^2$ , and the scalar curvature of  $M^n$ , and find some restrictions on the manifold  $M^n$ , in order to have the isometric immersion of  $M^n$  into  $SM(n+p+1)$ .

## 2. Eigenvalue Inequalities

Let  $M^n$  be a  $n$ -dimensional compact connected minimal submanifold of the unit sphere  $S^{n+p}(1)$ , and  $f, \psi, \phi, g, h$  and  $\sigma$  be defined as in the introduction.

**Lemma 1.** (Ros [8])

- (1)  $g(\phi - \phi_0, \phi - \phi_0) = \frac{n+p}{2(n+p+1)}$ ;
- (2)  $g(\phi, \Delta\phi) = n$ ;
- (3)  $g(\Delta\phi, \Delta\phi) = 2n(n+1)$ ;
- (4)  $g(\Delta^2\phi, \Delta\phi) = 4n(n+1)^2 + 4|h|^2$ .

**Lemma 2.** Let  $M^n$  be a full-immersed minimal submanifold of  $S^{n+p}(1)$  with second fundamental form  $h$ ,  $\bar{H}$  be the mean curvature vector field of  $M^n$  in  $SM(n+p+1)$  via the second standard immersion of  $S^{n+p}(1)$ . Then,

$$(1) |\bar{H}|^2 = \frac{2(n+1)}{n},$$

$$\text{and } (2) |\Delta\bar{H}|^2 \leq \frac{8(n+1)^3}{n} + \frac{8(n+1)}{n^2}|h|^2 + \frac{8}{n^2}|h|^4,$$

with equality holds iff at most two of  $(h_{ij}^\alpha)$  are nonzero which can be transformed simultaneously by an orthogonal matrix into a scalar multiples of  $\tilde{A}$  and  $\tilde{B}$  respectively, where

$$\tilde{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}; \quad \tilde{B} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

**Proof.** (1) can be obtained from Lemma 1 (3).

To prove (2), let us recall that (c.f.[8])

$$\Delta^2 \phi = 2(n + 1)\Delta\phi + 2 \sum_{i,j,\alpha,\beta} h_{ij}^\alpha h_{ij}^\beta \alpha(\xi_\alpha, \xi_\beta) - 2 \sum_{i,j,k,\alpha} h_{ij}^\alpha h_{ij}^\alpha \sigma(E_j, E_k)$$

where  $E_i, E_j, E_k, \dots;$  are tangent vectors to  $M^n$ , and  $\xi_\alpha, \xi_\beta, \xi_\gamma, \dots;$  are normal vectors to  $M^n$ ;  $i, j, k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ; and  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma = n + 1, \dots, n + p$ . Let  $H_\alpha = (h_{ij}^\alpha)$ . By a direct computation we have

$$|\Delta \bar{H}|^2 = \frac{1}{n^2} g(\Delta^2 \phi, \Delta^2 \phi),$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} g(\Delta^2 \phi, \Delta^2 \phi) &= g(\Delta^2 \phi, 2(n + 1)\Delta\phi + 2 \sum_{i,j,\alpha,\beta} h_{ij}^\alpha h_{ij}^\beta \sigma(\xi_\alpha, \xi_\beta) \\ &\quad - 2 \sum_{i,j,k,\alpha} h_{ij}^\alpha h_{ij}^\alpha \sigma(E_j, E_k)) \\ &= g(\Delta^2 \phi, 2(n + 1)\Delta\phi) + g(\Delta^2 \phi, 2 \sum_{i,j,\alpha,\beta} h_{ij}^\alpha h_{ij}^\beta \sigma(\xi_\alpha, \xi_\beta)) \\ &\quad - g(\Delta^2 \phi, 2 \sum_{i,j,k,\alpha} h_{ij}^\alpha h_{ij}^\alpha \sigma(E_j, E_k)) \\ &= \underbrace{2(n + 1)g(\Delta^2 \phi, \Delta\phi)}_I + \underbrace{2 \sum_{i,j,\alpha,\beta} h_{ij}^\alpha h_{ij}^\beta g(\Delta^2 \phi, \sigma(\xi_\alpha, \xi_\beta))}_{II} \\ &\quad - \underbrace{2 \sum_{i,j,k,\alpha} h_{ij}^\alpha h_{ij}^\alpha g(\Delta^2 \phi, \sigma(E_j, E_k))}_{III}. \end{aligned}$$

Here

$$\begin{aligned} I &= 2(n + 1)[4n(n + 1)^2 + 4 |h|^2] \quad \text{by Lemma 1 (4),} \\ II &= 2 \sum_{i,j,\alpha,\beta} h_{ij}^\alpha h_{ij}^\beta g(2(n + 1)\Delta\phi + 2 \sum_{s,t,\gamma,\tau} h_{st}^\gamma h_{st}^\tau \sigma(\xi_\gamma, \xi_\tau) \\ &\quad - 2 \sum_{s,t,u,\gamma} h_{st}^\gamma h_{su}^\gamma \sigma(E_t, E_u), \sigma(\xi_\alpha, \xi_\beta)) \\ &= 4(n + 1) \sum_{i,j,\alpha,\beta} h_{ij}^\alpha h_{ij}^\beta g(- \sum_i \sigma(E_i, E_i), \sigma(\xi_\alpha, \xi_\beta)) \\ &\quad + 4 \sum_{i,j,s,t,\alpha,\beta,\gamma,\tau} h_{ij}^\alpha h_{ij}^\beta h_{st}^\gamma h_{st}^\tau g(\sigma(\xi_\gamma, \xi_\tau), \sigma(\xi_\alpha, \xi_\beta)) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& -4 \sum_{i,j,s,t,u,\alpha,\beta,\gamma} h_{ij}^\alpha h_{ij}^\beta h_{st}^\gamma h_{su}^\gamma g(\sigma(E_t, E_u), \sigma(\xi_\alpha, \xi_\beta)) \\
& = 4(n+1) \sum_{i,j,\alpha,\beta} h_{ij}^\alpha h_{ij}^\beta (-2n\delta_\alpha^\beta) \\
& \quad + 4 \sum_{i,j,s,t,\alpha,\beta,\gamma,\tau} h_{ij}^\alpha h_{ij}^\beta h_{st}^\gamma h_{st}^\tau (2\delta_\gamma^\tau \delta_\alpha^\beta + \delta_\gamma^\alpha \delta_\tau^\beta + \delta_\tau^\alpha \delta_\gamma^\beta) \\
& \quad - 4 \sum_{i,j,s,t,u,\alpha,\beta,\gamma} h_{ij}^\alpha h_{ij}^\beta h_{st}^\gamma h_{su}^\gamma (2\delta_t^u \delta_\alpha^\beta) \\
& = -8n(n+1) |h|^2 + 8 |h|^4 + 4 \sum_{i,j,s,t,\alpha,\beta} h_{ij}^\alpha h_{ij}^\beta h_{st}^\alpha h_{st}^\beta \\
& \quad + 4 \sum_{i,j,s,t,\alpha,\beta} h_{ij}^\alpha h_{ij}^\beta h_{st}^\alpha h_{st}^\beta - 8 |h|^4 \\
& = -8n(n+1) |h|^2 + 8 \sum_{i,j,s,t,\alpha,\beta} h_{ij}^\alpha h_{ij}^\beta h_{st}^\alpha h_{st}^\beta.
\end{aligned}$$

By a similar calculation we also have

$$III = 8n(n+1) |h|^2 + 8 \sum_{i,j,k,s,\alpha,\beta} h_{ij}^\alpha h_{ik}^\alpha h_{sj}^\beta h_{sk}^\beta.$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}
g(\Delta^2 \phi, \Delta^2 \phi) & = I + II + III \\
& = 2(n+1)[4n(n+1)^2 + 4 |h|^2] \\
& \quad + 8 \left[ \sum_{i,j,s,t,\alpha,\beta} h_{ij}^\alpha h_{ij}^\beta h_{st}^\alpha h_{st}^\beta + \sum_{i,j,k,s,\alpha,\beta} h_{ij}^\alpha h_{ik}^\alpha h_{sj}^\beta h_{sk}^\beta \right] \\
& = 2(n+1)[4n(n+1)^2 + 4 |h|^2] \\
& \quad + 8 \left[ \sum_{\alpha,\beta} \text{Tr}(H_\alpha H_\beta)^2 + \sum_{\alpha,\beta} \text{Tr}(H_\alpha H_\beta H_\beta H_\alpha) \right] \\
& = 2(n+1)[4n(n+1)^2 + 4 |h|^2] \\
& \quad + 8 \left[ \sum_{\alpha,\beta} \text{Tr}(H_\alpha H_\beta)^2 + \sum_{\alpha,\beta} \text{Tr}(H_\alpha^2 H_\beta^2) \right] \\
& \leq 8n(n+1)^3 + 8(n+1) |h|^2 + 8 \sum_{\alpha,\beta} \text{Tr} H_\alpha \text{Tr} H_\beta^2 \\
& = 8n(n+1)^3 + 8(n+1) |h|^2 + 8 |h|^4
\end{aligned}$$

the inequality above and rest of the proof are due to the following lemma 3 which is a slight modification of a lemma in [5].

Q.E.D.

**Lemma 3.** *Let  $A$  and  $B$  be symmetric  $(n \times n)$ -matrices. Then*

$$\text{Tr}(AB + BA)^2 \leq 2\text{Tr}A^2 \cdot \text{Tr}B^2$$

and the equality holds for nonzero matrices  $A$  and  $B$  if only if  $A$  and  $B$  can be transformed simultaneously by an orthogonal matrix into scalar multiples of  $\tilde{A}$  and  $\tilde{B}$  respectively, where

$$\tilde{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \tilde{B} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Moreover, if  $A_1, A_2,$  and  $A_3$  are  $(n \times n)$ -symmetric matrices and satisfy

$$\text{Tr}(A_\alpha A_\beta + A_\beta A_\alpha)^2 = 2\text{Tr}A_\alpha^2 A_\beta^2 \quad 1 \leq \alpha, \beta \leq 3,$$

then at least one of the  $A'_\alpha$ s must be zero.

**Proof.** We may assume that  $B$  is diagonal and denote the diagonal entries in  $B$  by  $b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n$ . Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Tr}(AB + BA)^2 &= \sum_{i,j=1}^n a_{ij}^2 (b_i + b_j)^2 \leq 2 \sum_{i,j=1}^n a_{ij}^2 (b_i^2 + b_j^2) \\ &\leq 2 \sum_{i,j=1}^n a_{ij}^2 \sum_{k=1}^n b_k^2 = 2\text{Tr}A^2 \text{Tr}B^2. \end{aligned} \quad (*)$$

Now, suppose that  $A$  and  $B$  are nonzero matrices and the equality holds. Then all equalities hold in (\*). From the second equality in (\*), it follows that

$$b_i = b_j \quad \text{if} \quad a_{ij} \neq 0, \quad 1 \leq i, j \leq n.$$

Without loss of generality, we may assume that  $a_{12} \neq 0$ , then  $b_1 = b_2$ . From the third equality, we obtain that  $b_3 = b_4 = \dots = b_n = 0$ . Since  $B \neq 0$ , it

implies that  $b_1 = b_2 \neq 0$ , and it is easy to see that  $a_{11} = a_{12} = a_{21} = a_{22} \neq 0$  and  $a_{ij} = 0$  otherwise. If  $A_1, A_2, A_3$  are three  $(n \times n)$ -symmetric matrices satisfy the equality in (\*), the argument above tell us that one of the them can be transformed to a scalar multiple of  $\tilde{A}$  as well as to a scalar multiple od  $\tilde{B}$ , but  $\tilde{A}$  and  $\tilde{B}$  are not orthogonally equivalent, that one be zero. Q.E.D.

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $M^n$  be a full-immersed compact connected monomal submanifold of  $S^{n+p}(1)$ . Then*

$$4 \int_M \rho dv \leq \{4n(n+1)^2 + n(\lambda_1\lambda_2 + \lambda_2\lambda_3 + \lambda_1\lambda_3) - 2n(n+1)(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \lambda_3) - \frac{\lambda_1\lambda_2\lambda_3}{2(n+pN1)} + 4n(n-1)\} \text{vil}(M),$$

with equality holds if and only if either

- (1)  $M^n$  is 2-type in  $SM(n+p+1)$  with order  $[1, 2]$ , or  $[1, 3]$ , or  $[2, 3]$ ,
- (2)  $M^n$  is 3-type in  $SM(n+p+1)$  with order  $[1, 3]$ ,

where  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3$  are the first three nonzero eignvalues in  $\text{Spec}(M)$ , and  $\rho$  is the scalar curvature of  $M^n$ .

**Proof.** Let

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega_1 &= \int_M g(\Delta\phi, \phi)dv - \lambda_1 \int_M g(\phi - \phi_0, \phi - \phi_0)dv; \\ \Omega_2 &= \int_M g(\Delta\phi, \Delta\phi)dv - \lambda_1 \int_M g(\Delta\phi, \phi)dv; \\ \Omega_3 &= \int_M g(\Delta^2\phi, \Delta\phi)dv - \lambda_1 \int_M g(\Delta\phi, \Delta\phi)dv; \\ a_i &= \int_M g(\phi_i, \phi_i)dv \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, . \end{aligned}$$

By the orthogonality of the decomposition of  $\phi$ , we know that

$$g(\phi_i, \phi_j) = 0 \quad \text{if} \quad i \neq j.$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned}\Omega_1 &= \sum_{t=2}^{\infty} (\lambda_t - \lambda_1) a_t; \\ \Omega_2 &= \sum_{t=2}^{\infty} \lambda_t (\lambda_t - \lambda_1) a_t; \\ \Omega_3 &= \sum_{t=2}^{\infty} \lambda_t^2 (\lambda_t - \lambda_1) a_t.\end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\Omega_3 - (\lambda_2 + \lambda_3)\Omega_2 + \lambda_2\lambda_3\Omega_1 = \sum_{t=4}^{\infty} \Pi_{i=1}^3 (\lambda_t - \lambda_i) \geq 0.$$

The theorem follows from Lemma 1 and the relation  $\rho = n(n-1) - |h|^2$  for spherical minimal submanifold. Q.E.D.

**Remark.** (1) A similar inequality involving only  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2$  was given by Ros ([8]). When  $n = 2$ , it was proved in [2].

(2)  $M^n$  can not be 1-type in  $SM(n+p+1)$  via  $\phi$ , we shall give the proof in next section.

In the case of 3-type, we have the following.

**Theorem 2.** *If  $M^n$  is a full-immersed compact connected minimal submanifold of  $S^{n+p}(1)$ , and has only three nonzero eigenvalues  $\lambda_{p_1}, \lambda_{p_2}$  and  $\lambda_{p_3}$  ( $1 \leq p_1 \leq p_2 \leq p_3$ ) in  $\text{Spec}(M)$ . Then*

$$\begin{aligned}(1) \quad 4 \int_M \rho dv &= \{4n(n+1)^2 + n(\lambda_{p_1}\lambda_{p_2} + \lambda_{p_2}\lambda_{p_3} + \lambda_{p_3}\lambda_{p_1}) \\ &\quad - 2n(n+1)(\lambda_{p_1} + \lambda_{p_2} + \lambda_{p_3}) - \frac{\lambda_{p_1}\lambda_{p_2}\lambda_{p_3}}{2(n+p+1)} \\ &\quad + 4n(n-1)\} \text{vol}(M),\end{aligned}$$

and

$$(2) \quad (\lambda_{p_1} + \lambda_{p_3}) - \frac{\lambda_{p_1}\lambda_{p_3}(n+1)}{2n(n+p+1)} \geq 2(n+1) \geq \max \left\{ \begin{aligned} &(\lambda_{p_1} + \lambda_{p_2} - \frac{\lambda_{p_1}\lambda_{p_2}(n+1)}{2n(n+p+1)}); \\ &(\lambda_{p_2} + \lambda_{p_3}) - \frac{\lambda_{p_2}\lambda_{p_3}(n+1)}{2n(n+p+1)}. \end{aligned} \right\}$$



**Proof.** Only need to explain (2), that is a direct result by solving  $a'_{p_i}$ 's  $i = 1, 2, 3$ . From the proof of Theorem 1, it can obtained

$$\begin{aligned} a_{p_1} &= \frac{\text{vol}(M)}{(\lambda_{p_1} - \lambda_{p_2})(\lambda_{p_1} - \lambda_{p_3})} \left\{ \frac{\lambda_{p_2} \lambda_{p_3} (n+p)}{2(n+p+1)} + [2(n+1) - (\lambda_{p_2} + \lambda_{p_3})]n \right\}; \\ a_{p_2} &= \frac{\text{vol}(M)}{(\lambda_{p_2} - \lambda_{p_1})(\lambda_{p_2} - \lambda_{p_3})} \left\{ \frac{\lambda_{p_1} \lambda_{p_3} (n+p)}{2(n+p+1)} + [2(n+1) - (\lambda_{p_1} + \lambda_{p_3})]n \right\}; \\ a_{p_3} &= \frac{\text{vol}(M)}{(\lambda_{p_3} - \lambda_{p_1})(\lambda_{p_3} - \lambda_{p_2})} \left\{ \frac{\lambda_{p_1} \lambda_{p_2} (n+p)}{2(n+p+1)} + [2(n+1) - (\lambda_{p_1} + \lambda_{p_2})]n \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

All  $a'_{p_i}$ 's  $\geq 0$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3$ .

Q.E.D.

**Theorem 3.** Let  $M^n$  be a full-immersed compact connected minimal submanifold of  $S^{n+p}(1)$  with second fundamental form  $h$ . Then

$$\int_M |h|^2 \left\{ \frac{8}{n^2} |h|^2 - \left[ 4 \sum_{i=1}^4 \lambda_i - \frac{8(n+1)}{n^2} \right] \right\} \geq \Gamma \cdot \text{vol}(M)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma &= n \sum_{1 \leq i < j < k \leq 4} \lambda_i \lambda_j \lambda_k + 4n(n+1)^2 \sum_{i=1}^4 \lambda_i - 2n(n+1) \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq 4} \lambda_i \lambda_j \\ &\quad - \frac{n+p}{2(n+p+1)} \prod_{i=1}^4 \lambda_i - \frac{8(n+1)(2n^2 + 2n + 1)}{n^2}. \end{aligned}$$

**Corollary 1.** If  $\Gamma \geq 0$ , then

$$|h|^2 < \frac{n^2}{2} \sum_{i=1}^4 \lambda_i - (n+1) \text{ implies } |h| = 0$$

i.e.,  $M^n$  is totally geodesic in  $S^{n+p}(1)$ .

**Proof.** Let  $\Omega_1, \Omega_2, \Omega_3$  be the same as in the proof of Theorem 1. Let

$$\Omega_4 = \int_M g(\Delta^2 \phi, \Delta^2 \phi) dv - \lambda_1 \int_M g(\Delta^2 \phi, \Delta \phi) dv$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Omega_4^* &= \frac{8}{n^2} \int_M |h|^4 dv + \frac{8(n+1)}{n^2} \int_M |h|^2 dv + \frac{8(n+1)^3}{n} \text{vol}(M) \\
 &\quad - \lambda_1 \int_M g(\Delta^2, \Delta\phi) dv \\
 &= \frac{8}{n^2} \int_M |h|^4 dv + \left[ \frac{8(n+1)}{n^2} - 4\lambda_1 \right] \int_M |h|^2 dv \\
 &\quad + \left[ \frac{8(n+1)^3}{n} - 4n(n+1)^2 \lambda_1 \right] \text{vol}(M).
 \end{aligned}$$

By a similar argument as we have used in the proof Theorem 1, we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\Omega_4^* - (\lambda_2 + \lambda_3 + \lambda_4)\Omega_3 + (\lambda_2\lambda_3 + \lambda_2\lambda_4 + \lambda_3\lambda_4)\Omega_2 - \lambda_2\lambda_3\lambda_4\Omega_1 \\
 &\geq \Omega_4 - (\lambda_2 + \lambda_3 + \lambda_4)\Omega_3 + (\lambda_2\lambda_3 + \lambda_2\lambda_4 + \lambda_3\lambda_4)\Omega_2 - \lambda_2\lambda_3\lambda_4\Omega_1 \\
 &= \sum_{t=5}^{\infty} (\lambda_t - \lambda_4)(\lambda_t - \lambda_3)(\lambda_t - \lambda_2)(\lambda_t - \lambda_1)a_t \geq 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

Combine Lemma 1 and Lemma 2, by a long but direct computation, the theorem follows. Q.E.D.

**Remark.** The corollary gives a pinch theorem of Simons type ([9]) in terms of the spectrum of  $M^n$ , this shows a relation between the study of  $\text{Spec}(M^n)$  and pinch condition on  $|h|^2$ .

### 3. Some Restrictions

In section 2, we always assume that  $M^n$  is full-immersed into  $S^{n+p}(1)$ , for such minimal submanifolds we have the following result.

**Theorem 4.** *If  $M^n$  is a full-immersed compact connected minimal submanifold of  $S^{n+p}(1)$ . Then  $M^n$  can not be immersed into any hypersphere of  $SM(n+p+1)$  as a minimal submanifold via the standard immersion of  $S^{n+p}(1)$ .*

**Proof.** It is equivalent to show that  $M^n$  can not be 1-type submanifold of  $SM(n+p+1)$  under the isometric immersion  $\phi$  (defined in section 1). Suppose

$M^n$  is of 1-type under  $\phi$  with order  $k$ , then the Lemma 1 produces the following equalities:

$$\begin{aligned} a_k &= \frac{n+p}{2(n+p+1)} \cdot \text{vol}(M); \\ \lambda_k a_k &= n \cdot \text{vol}(M); \\ \lambda_k^2 a_k &= 2n(n+1) \cdot \text{vol}(M); \\ \lambda_k^3 a_k &= 4n(n+1)^2 \cdot \text{vol}(M) + 4 \int_M |h|^2 dv. \end{aligned}$$

It implies that  $p = 0$  and  $|h|^2 = 0$ .

Q.E.D.

After the first version of this paper was written, Prof. Dimitric kindly informed me that a much more general result 1-type submanifolds of  $SM(n+p+1)$  was proved in his paper [6], and he also pointed out that a necessary condition for theorem 5 was missed in the original manuscript of this paper, I would like to express my thanks to him.

When  $S^n \rightarrow S^{n+p}$  as a totally geodesic submanifold, it is known that  $S^n$  will be of 1-type in  $SM(n+p+1)$  via the second standard immersion of  $s^{n+p}$  ([6]). However,  $S^n$  could be isometrically immersed into  $S^{n+p}$  as a minimal submanifold many different ways. Suggested by the classical Bernstein conjecture, S. S. Chern proposed the following "spherical Bernstein conjecture" in the international congress of mathematics at Nice: "If  $S^{n-1}(1)$  is imbedded as a minimal hypersurface of  $S^n(1)$ , then it is an equator." The spherical Bernstein conjecture was disproved by W. Y. Hsiang in the dimension  $n = 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 12$  and  $14$ , he constructed infinitely many counterexamples in each of the above dimensions ([7]), later Tomtier gave counterexamples in even dimensions ([11]). For those full immersed hypersphers of sphers, according to theorem 4 they can not be of 1-type via the second immersion of the sphers. In addition, we also have the following general restrictions:

**Theorem 5.** *If  $S^n(1)$  isometrically full immersed into  $S^{n+1}(1)$  as a mass symmetric submanifold, then it can not be of finite-type in  $SM(n+2)$  with order  $[p, q]$  ( $p \geq 2$ ) via the second standard immersion of  $S^{n+1}(1)$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $f : S^{n+1}(1) \rightarrow SM(n+2)$  be the second standard immersion of  $S^{n+1}(1)$ , and  $S^N(r)$  be the hypersphere of  $SM(n+2)$  in which  $f(S^{n+1}(1))$  is minimal, then by Takahashi ([10])

$$r^2 = \frac{n+1}{\lambda_2(S^{n+1}(1))} = \frac{n+1}{2(n+2)}.$$

Suppose  $\psi : S^n(1) \rightarrow S^{n+1}(1)$  is an isometric full immersion such that

$$\phi = f \circ \psi : S^n(1) \rightarrow S^N(r) \subset SM(n+2)$$

is of finite type with order  $[p, q]$ , then  $\phi(S^n(1))$  is mass symmetric in  $S^N(r)$ , by a well known result in [4],

$$\lambda_2 S^n(1) \leq \frac{n}{r^2};$$

That is

$$\begin{aligned} 2(n+1) &\leq \frac{2n(n+2)}{n+2}; \\ (n+2)(n+1) &\leq n(n+2); \\ n+1 &\leq n. \end{aligned}$$

This is a contradiction.

Q.E.D.

By a similar argument, we have

**Corollary 2.** *If  $S^n(1)$  isometrically full immersed into  $S^m(1)$  ( $m > n$ ) as a mass symmetric submanifold, then it can not be of finite type with order  $[p, q]$  ( $p \geq k \geq 2$ ) in the  $k^{\text{th}}$  eigenspace of  $S^m(1)$  via the  $k^{\text{th}}$  standard immersion of  $S^m(1)$ .*

**Proof.** Observe that  $\lambda_k(S^n(1)) = k(k+n-1)$ , and  $S^m(1)$  is a minimal submanifold of some hypersphere  $S^N(r)$  in  $R^{N+1}$  by its  $k^{\text{th}}$  standard immersion into  $R^{N+1}$ , rest of the argument identical with that of Theorem 5. Q.E.D.

**Remark.** A similar version of Theorem 5 for  $RP^n$  can be found in [4].

Let  $\phi : \overline{M}^m \rightarrow R^{N+1}$  be an isometric immersion of a compact connected Riemannian manifold of 1-type, and  $S^N(r)$  be the hypersphere of  $R^{N+1}$  in which

$\overline{M}^m$  is minimal. Suppose  $\Delta\phi = \lambda_i\phi$ , where  $\Delta$  is the Laplace-Beltrami operator on  $C^\infty(\overline{M})$  and  $\lambda_i$  is the  $i^{\text{th}}$  eigenvalue of  $\Delta$ , then

$$r^2 = \lambda_i(\overline{M})$$

and  $\phi(\overline{M}^m)$  is mass symmetric in  $S^N(r)$ , up to a congruence we may assume that  $S^N(r)$  is centered at the origin of  $R^{N+1}$ . Denote such 1-type submanifold by  $(\overline{M}^m, \lambda_i)$ .

By Wallach [12], if  $\overline{M} = \frac{G}{H}$  is a homogeneous Riemannian manifold with a  $G$ -invariant metric where  $G$  is a compact connected Lie group and the isotropy representation of the closed subgroup  $H$  is irreducible, then  $\overline{M}$  is a such submanifold of 1-type. For instance,  $(S^m, m)$ ,  $(S^m, 2(m+1))$ ,  $(RP^m, 2(m+1))$ ,  $(CP^m, 2(m+2))$ , etc..

Let  $M^n$  be a submanifold of  $(\overline{M}^m, \lambda_i)$  then  $M^n$  is mass symmetric in  $\overline{M}^m$  if and only if it is mass symmetric in  $S^N(r)$ . It is known that all the minimal submanifolds of  $(S^m(1), 2(m+1))$ , and all the Kaehler submanifolds of  $(CP^m, 2(m+2))$  are mass symmetric submanifolds. Theorem 5 inspires the following general result

**Theorem 6.** *Let  $M^n$  be an  $n$ -dimensional submanifold of  $(\overline{M}^m, \lambda_i)$ , it satisfies*

$$\begin{aligned} Ric(M^n) &\geq (n-1)kg \\ k &\geq \frac{1}{m}\lambda_i(\overline{M}) \end{aligned}$$

where  $g$  is the Riemannian metric on  $M^n$ ,  $k > 0$  is a constant.

Then  $M^n$  can not be isometrically immersed into  $\overline{M}^m$  as a mass symmetric submanifold unless  $M^n = S^n(\frac{1}{\sqrt{k}})$ ,  $\lambda_i(\overline{M}^m) = mk$ . In particular, if  $\overline{M}^m = S^m(\frac{1}{\sqrt{k}})$ ,  $S^n(\frac{1}{\sqrt{k}})$  is the only mass symmetric submanifold (up to a congruence) of  $\overline{M}^m$  with  $Ric(M^n) \geq (n-1)kg$ .

**Proof.** If  $M^n$  is a mass symmetric submanifold of  $(\overline{M}^m, \lambda_i)$  and  $S^N(r)$  is the sphere in which  $\overline{M}^m$  is minimal, then by B. Y. Chen [4]

$$\lambda_1(M^n) \leq \frac{n}{r^2}$$

where  $r^2 = \frac{m}{\lambda_i(\overline{M}^m)}$  (Takahashi [8]) that is

$$\lambda_1(M) \leq \frac{n\lambda_i(\overline{M}^m)}{m}$$

But from a result of Lichnerowicz (see [3])

$$\lambda_1(M^n) \geq nk$$

it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{n}{m}\lambda_i(\overline{M}^m) &\geq nk \\ k &\leq \frac{1}{m}\lambda_i(\overline{M}^m) \end{aligned}$$

By the hypohese, the this is possible only if  $mk = \lambda_i(\overline{M}^m)$  and  $\lambda_1(M) = nk$ . Therefore  $M^n$  must be  $S^n(\frac{1}{\sqrt{k}})$  by obata [3]. Q.E.D.

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