

## Totally umbilic hypersurfaces

Dedicated to Professor Yoshihiro Tashiro on his 60th birthday

Qing-ming CHENG and Hisao NAKAGAWA

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### Introduction

Let  $M_s^m(c)$  be an  $m$ -dimensional connected semi-Riemannian manifold of index  $s$  and of constant curvature  $c$ , which is called an *indefinite space form of index  $s$*  and is called simply a *space form*, provided that  $s = 0$ . The study of hypersurfaces with constant mean curvature of  $M^{n+1}(c)$  was initiated by Nomizu and Smyth [10], who proved some results. Later, a compact totally umbilical hypersurface of  $M^{n+1}(c)$ ,  $c \geq 0$ , was characterized by Okumura [11] under a certain condition which was given by an inequality between the length of the second fundamental form and the mean curvature. This is also generalized by Hasanis [7] in the complete case.

On the other hand, in connection with the Bernstein-type problem by Calabi [4], Nishikawa [9] and Cheng and Yau [5], complete connected space-like hypersurfaces with constant mean curvature of a de Sitter space  $M_1^{n+1}(c)$ ,  $c > 0$ , are recently treated by Akutagawa [2] and Ramanathan [14] independently.

In this paper, complete hypersurfaces with constant mean curvature of a space form of index  $s$  ( $= 0$  or  $1$ ) are investigated in the two directions. One of the purposes is to give another characterization of complete totally umbilical hypersurfaces of  $M^{n+1}(c)$ ,  $c \geq 0$ . The other is concerned with that of an anti-de Sitter space. In §1, the theory of space-like hypersurfaces of a real space form of index 1 is stated. In §2, a generalization of the theorem due to Okumura [11] and Hasanis [7] is proved. The last section is concerned with space-like hypersurfaces with constant mean curvature of  $M_1^{n+1}(c)$ ,  $c \neq 0$ .

### 1. Preliminaries

Let  $(M', g')$  be an  $(n + 1)$ -dimensional semi-Riemannian manifold of index  $s$  ( $= 0$  or  $1$ ). Throughout this paper, manifolds are always assumed to be connected and geometric objects are assumed to be of class  $C^\infty$ . We choose a local field of orthonormal frames  $e_0, e_1, \dots, e_n$  adapted to the semi-Riemannian metric in  $M'$  and let  $\omega_0, \omega_1, \dots, \omega_n$  denote the dual coframes. Suppose that we

have  $g(e_A, e_B) = \varepsilon_A \delta_{AB}$ ,  $\varepsilon_0 = \pm 1$ ,  $\varepsilon_i = 1$ . Here and in the sequel, the following convention on the range of indices is used, unless otherwise stated:  $A, B, \dots = 0, 1, \dots, n$ ;  $i, j, \dots = 1, \dots, n$ . The connection forms  $\{\omega_{AB}\}$  of  $M'$  are characterized by the equations

$$(1.1) \quad \begin{aligned} d\omega_A + \sum \varepsilon_B \omega_{AB} \wedge \omega_B &= 0, \quad \omega_{AB} + \omega_{BA} = 0, \\ d\omega_{AB} + \sum \varepsilon_C \omega_{AC} \wedge \omega_{CB} &= \Omega_{AB}, \\ \Omega_{AB} &= (-1/2) \sum \varepsilon_C \varepsilon_D R'_{ABCD} \omega_C \wedge \omega_D, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\Omega_{AB}$  (resp.  $R'_{ABCD}$ ) denotes the semi-Riemannian curvature form (resp. components of the semi-Riemannian curvature tensor  $R'$ ) of  $M'$ . A semi-Riemannian manifold  $M'$  is called a *space form of index  $s$*  if  $M'$  is of index  $s$  and of constant sectional curvature. By  $M_s^m(c)$  an  $m$ -dimensional space form of index  $s$  and of constant curvature  $c$  is denoted. Then the components  $R'_{ABCD}$  of the Riemannian curvature tensor  $R'$  for a real space form  $M_s^{n+1}(c)$  are given by

$$R'_{ABCD} = c \varepsilon_A \varepsilon_B (\delta_{AD} \delta_{BC} - \delta_{AC} \delta_{BD}).$$

In particular,  $M_1^n(c)$  is called a *Lorentz space form*.

Standard models of complete connected Lorentz space forms are given as follows. In an  $(n+p)$ -dimensional Euclidean space  $\mathbf{R}^{n+p}$  with a standard basis, a scalar product  $\langle, \rangle$  is defined by

$$\langle x, y \rangle = - \sum_{i=1}^p x_i y_i + \sum_{p+1}^{n+p} x_j y_j,$$

where  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_{n+p})$  and  $y = (y_1, \dots, y_{n+p})$  are in  $\mathbf{R}^{n+p}$ . This is a scalar product of index  $p$  and the space  $(\mathbf{R}^{n+p}, \langle, \rangle)$  is an indefinite Euclidean space, which is simply denoted by  $\mathbf{R}_p^{n+p}$ . Let  $S_1^{n+1}(c)$  be a hypersurface of  $\mathbf{R}_1^{n+2}$  defined by

$$\langle x, x \rangle = r^2 = 1/c.$$

Then  $S_1^{n+1}(c)$  inherits a Lorentz metric from the ambient space  $\mathbf{R}_1^{n+2}$  with constant curvature  $c$ , which is called a *de Sitter space*. On the other hand, let  $H_1^{n+1}(c)$  be a hypersurface of  $\mathbf{R}_2^{n+2}$  defined by

$$\langle x, x \rangle = -r^2 = 1/c.$$

Then  $H_1^{n+1}(c)$  induces a Lorentz metric from the ambient space  $\mathbf{R}_2^{n+2}$  with negative constant curvature  $c$ , which is called an *anti-de Sitter space*. For indefinite Riemannian manifolds, refer to O'Neill [13].

Now, let  $M' = M_s^{n+1}(c)$  be an  $(n+1)$ -dimensional space form of index  $s$  ( $= 0$  or  $1$ ) and of constant curvature  $c$  and let  $M$  be a hypersurface of  $M_0^{n+1}(c)$  or a space-like hypersurface of  $M_1^{n+1}(c)$ . By restricting the canonical forms  $\omega_A$  and the connection forms  $\omega_{AB}$  to the hypersurface  $M$ , they are denoted by the

same symbol respectively. Then we have

$$(1.2) \quad \omega_0 = 0,$$

and the metric on  $M$  induced from the semi-Riemannian metric  $g'$  on the ambient space  $M'$  under the immersion is given by  $g = \sum \omega_i \otimes \omega_i$ . Then  $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$  becomes a field of orthonormal frames on  $M$  with respect to this metric and  $\{\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n\}$  is a field of dual frames on  $M$ . From (1.1) and Cartan's lemma it follows that

$$(1.3) \quad \omega_{0i} = \sum h_{ij} \omega_j, \quad h_{ij} = h_{ji}.$$

The quadratic form  $\alpha = \sum \varepsilon h_{ij} \omega_i \omega_j e_0$  is called the *second fundamental form* on  $M$ , where we put  $\varepsilon = \varepsilon_0$ . That is,

$$(1.4) \quad \alpha(e_i, e_j) = \varepsilon h_{ij} e_0.$$

The connection forms  $\{\omega_{ij}\}$  of  $M$  are characterized by the structure equations

$$(1.5) \quad \begin{aligned} d\omega_i + \sum \omega_{ij} \wedge \omega_j &= 0, \quad \omega_{ij} + \omega_{ji} = 0, \\ d\omega_{ij} + \sum \omega_{ik} \wedge \omega_{kj} &= \Omega_{ij}, \\ \Omega_{ij} &= (-1/2) \sum R_{ijk\ell} \omega_k \wedge \omega_\ell, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\Omega_{ij}$  (resp.  $R_{ijk\ell}$ ) denotes the Riemannian curvature form (resp. components of the Riemannian curvature tensor  $R$ ) of  $M$ . For the semi-Riemannian curvature tensors  $R'$  and  $R$  of  $M'$  and  $M$  respectively, it follows from (1.1) and (1.5) that we have the Gauss equation

$$(1.6) \quad R_{ijk\ell} = c(\delta_{i\ell} \delta_{jk} - \delta_{ik} \delta_{j\ell}) + \varepsilon(h_{i\ell} h_{jk} - h_{ik} h_{j\ell}).$$

The components of the Ricci curvature  $\text{Ric}$  and the scalar curvature  $r$  are given by

$$(1.7) \quad R_{jk} = c(n-1)\delta_{jk} + \varepsilon h h_{jk} - (h_{jk})^2,$$

$$(1.8) \quad r = n(n-1)c + \varepsilon h^2 - h_2,$$

where  $h = \sum h_{jj}$ ,  $(h_{jk})^2 = \sum \varepsilon h_{jr} h_{rk}$  and  $h_2 = \sum (h_{jj})^2$ .

Now, components  $h_{ijk}$  of the covariant derivative of the second fundamental form of  $M$  are given by

$$(1.9) \quad \sum h_{ijk} \omega_k = dh_{ij} - \sum h_{kj} \omega_{ki} - \sum h_{ik} \omega_{kj}.$$

Then, differentiating (1.2) exteriorly, we have the Codazzi equation

$$(1.10) \quad h_{ijk} = h_{ikj}.$$

Similarly components  $h_{ijk\ell}$  of the covariant derivative of  $h_{ijk}$  are given by

$$\sum h_{ijk\ell} \omega_\ell = dh_{ijk} - \sum h_{\ell jk} \omega_{\ell i} - \sum h_{i\ell k} \omega_{\ell j} - \sum h_{ij\ell} \omega_{\ell k},$$

and by a simple calculation the Ricci formula for the second fundamental form is given by

$$(1.11) \quad h_{ijk\ell} - h_{ij\ell k} = -\sum h_{rj} R_{rik\ell} - \sum h_{ir} R_{rjk\ell}.$$

Making use of this relationship, one can compute the Laplacian of the second fundamental form:

$$(1.12) \quad \Delta h_{ij} = \sum h_{ijkk} = \sum h_{kkij} + c(nh_{ij} - h\delta_{ij}) + h(h_{ij})^2 - h_2 h_{ij}.$$

The Laplacian of the function  $h_2$  may be computed by using (1.6), (1.7) and (1.12):

$$(1.13) \quad \begin{aligned} (1/2)\Delta h_2 &= \varepsilon \sum h_{ijk} h_{ijk} + \varepsilon \sum h_{ij} h_{kkij} + c(nh_2 - \varepsilon h^2) \\ &\quad + \varepsilon h h_3 - h_2^2, \end{aligned}$$

where  $h_3 = \sum h_{ij}(h_{ij})^2$ .

First of all, a fundamental property for the generalized maximal principle due to Omori [12] and Yau [15] is introduced and then an inequality by Cai [3] is given.

**THEOREM 1.1.** *Let  $M$  be an  $n$ -dimensional complete Riemannian manifold whose Ricci curvature is bounded from below. Let  $F$  be a  $C^2$ -function bounded from above on  $M$ , then for any  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists a point  $p$  in  $M$  such that*

$$(1.14) \quad \begin{cases} \sup F - \varepsilon < F(p), \\ |\text{grad } F(p)| < \varepsilon, \\ \Delta F(p) < \varepsilon. \end{cases}$$

**LEMMA 1.2.** *Let  $A = (a_{ij})$  be a symmetric  $n \times n$  matrix,  $n \geq 2$ , and put  $A_1 = \text{Tr } A$  and  $A_2 = \sum (a_{ij})^2$ . Then we have*

$$\begin{aligned} \sum (a_{in})^2 - A_1 a_{nn} &\leq [n(n-1)A_2 + (n-2)|A_1|\{(n-1)(nA_2 - A_1^2)\}^{1/2} \\ &\quad - 2(n-1)A_1^2]/n^2. \end{aligned}$$

## 2. Complete hypersurfaces

This section is concerned with complete hypersurfaces with constant mean curvature of a space form. Let  $M' = M^{n+1}(c)$  be an  $(n+1)$ -dimensional space form of constant curvature  $c$  and let  $M$  be a hypersurface of  $M'$ . Then the following formula may be found in [7] and [11]:

$$(2.1) \quad (1/2)\Delta f^2 \geq f^2 [nc + h^2/n - (n-2)|h|f\{n(n-1)\}^{1/2} - f^2],$$

where  $f$  denotes a non-negative function defined by  $f^2 = h_2 - h^2/n$ . So, it is easily seen that if  $f$  vanishes identically on  $M$ , then  $M$  is totally umbilical. By  $S$  the length of the second fundamental form is denoted. Namely, we put  $S = (h_2)^{1/2}$ .

**THEOREM 2.1.** *Let  $M$  be a complete hypersurface with constant mean curvature of an  $(n + 1)$ -dimensional space form  $M^{n+1}(c)$ ,  $c \geq 0$ . If the length  $S$  satisfies*

$$(2.2) \quad \sup S^2 < [n\{2(n-1)c + h^2\} - (n-2)|h|\{h^2 + 4(n-1)c\}^{1/2}]/2(n-1),$$

*then  $M$  is totally umbilical.*

**PROOF.** For any positive constant  $a$ , a function  $F$  defined by  $(f^2 + a)^{1/2}$  is smooth and bounded under the assumption of the length  $S$ . On the other hand, for any point  $x$  and any unit vector  $v$  at  $x$  we choose a local orthonormal frame  $\{e_0, e_1, \dots, e_n\}$  in  $M'$  such that, restricted to  $M$ ,  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  are tangent to  $M$  and  $v = e_n$ . Then (1.7) gives

$$\text{Ric}(v, v) = (n-1)c + hh_{nn} - \sum (h_{in})^2.$$

According to Lemma 1.2, we have

$$(2.3) \quad \begin{aligned} \text{Ric}(v, v) \geq & [n^2(n-1)c - n(n-1)h_2 - (n-2)|h|\{(n-1)(nh_2 - h^2)\}^{1/2} \\ & + 2(n-1)h^2]/n^2, \end{aligned}$$

which yields that the Ricci curvature is bounded from below. This means that Theorem 1.1 due to Omori and Yau can be applied to the function  $F$ . Given any positive number  $\varepsilon$  there exists a point  $p$  in  $M$ , at which  $F$  satisfies (1.14). It follows from these properties that we have

$$(2.4) \quad \Delta f^2(p) < \varepsilon^2 + \varepsilon F(p)$$

by a direct calculation. When  $\varepsilon$  tends to 0, the right hand side converges to 0, because the function  $F$  is bounded. For a convergent sequence  $\{\varepsilon_m\}$  such that  $\varepsilon_m \rightarrow 0$  ( $m \rightarrow \infty$ ) there exists a point sequence  $\{p_m\}$  so that the sequence  $\{F(p_m)\}$  converges to  $F_0$ , by taking a subsequence, if necessary. From the definition of the supremum we have  $F_0 = \sup F$  and hence the definition of  $F$  gives rise to

$$f(p_m) \longrightarrow f_0 = \sup f.$$

(2.1) and (2.4) imply

$$\begin{aligned} f^2(p_m)[nc + h^2/n - (n-2)|h|f(p_m)\{n(n-1)\}^{-1/2} - f^2(p_m)] \\ < (1/2)\Delta f^2(p_m) < \varepsilon_m^2 + \varepsilon_m F(p_m), \end{aligned}$$

from which it follows that

$$f_0^2 [nc + h^2/n - (n-2)|h|f_0\{n(n-1)\}^{-1/2} - f_0^2] \leq 0,$$

as  $m$  tends to  $\infty$ . By this inequality we have

$$f_0 = 0 \text{ or } f_0 \geq [n\{h^2 + 4(n-1)c\}^{1/2} - (n-2)|h|]/2\{n(n-1)\}^{1/2}.$$

Under the assumption (2.2) of Theorem 2.1, the restriction above of the supremum of  $f$  yields that  $f_0 = 0$ , which implies that  $f$  vanishes identically on  $M$  and hence  $M$  is totally umbilical. q.e.d.

**REMARK 2.1.** In the case of  $n \geq 3$ , the estimate of the square of the length of the second fundamental form in Theorem 2.1 is better than that of Hasanis [7], provided that  $c$  is positive. In fact, we have  $\{c + h^2/2(n-1)\}^2 > h^2\{h^2 + 4(n-1)c\}/4(n-1)^2$ , and hence

$$\begin{aligned} & [n\{2(n-1)c + h^2\} - (n-2)|h|\{h^2 + 4(n-1)c\}^{1/2}]/2(n-1) - \{2c + h^2/(n-1)\} \\ &= (n-2) [\{2(n-1)c + h^2\} - |h|\{h^2 + 4(n-1)c\}^{1/2}]/2(n-1) \\ &> 0. \end{aligned}$$

Thus Theorem 2.1 is a generalization of Hasanis' theorem. In his proof the necessity of the restriction  $n \geq 3$  of the dimension should be noticed.

**REMARK 2.2.** (1) In the case where the ambient space is flat, (2.2) is equivalent to  $\sup S^2 < h^2/(n-1)$ . This shows that Theorem 2.1 is a generalization of Okumura's theorem [11], in which the fact is proved when  $M$  is compact or when  $S$  is constant. Moreover, the estimate is best possible, because the complete hypersurface  $M = S^{n-1} \times \mathbf{R}$  of  $M' = \mathbf{R}^{n+1}$  is not umbilical and it satisfies  $S^2 = h^2/(n-1)$ . (2) In the case where  $c > 0$  and  $n = 2$ , the inequality (2.2) is equivalent to  $\sup S^2 < 2c + h^2$ , which means that the Gauss curvature is positive. Accordingly, Theorem 2.1 is a generalization of the well known classical theorem.

**COROLLARY 2.2.** *Under the assumption of Theorem 2.1,  $M$  is compact, if  $c$  is positive.*

**PROOF.** According to Theorem 2.1,  $M$  is totally umbilical. Hence we have  $S^2 = h^2/n$ . From (2.3) it follows that for any unit vector  $v$  at any point  $x$  in  $M$ , we have

$$\text{Ric}(v, v) \geq (n-1)c.$$

This means that  $M$  is compact by the theorem due to Myers.

### 3. Complete space-like hypersurfaces

Let  $M'$  be an  $(n+1)$ -dimensional Lorentz space form of constant curvature

$c$  and let  $M$  be a space-like hypersurface with constant mean curvature of  $M'$ . For the shape operator  $A$  we define a symmetric linear transformation  $P$  by  $P = A - hI/n$ , where  $I$  denotes the identity transformation. Then we have

$$(3.1) \quad \text{Tr} P = 0,$$

$$(3.2) \quad \text{Tr} A^2 = \text{Tr} P^2 + h^2/n,$$

$$(3.3) \quad \text{Tr} A^3 = \text{Tr} P^3 + (3h/n)\text{Tr} P^2 + h^3/n^2.$$

Now, a non-negative function  $f$  is defined by  $f^2 = \text{Tr} P^2$ , i.e.,  $f^2 = -h_2 - h^2/n$ . By virtue of (1.13), we get

$$(1/2)\Delta f^2 \geq nc f^2 + hh_3 + (f^2 + h^2/n)^2.$$

Substituting (3.2) and (3.3) into the above equation and using the results that  $\text{Tr} A^2 = -h_2$  and  $\text{Tr} A^3 = -h_3$ , we get

$$(3.4) \quad (1/2)\Delta f^2 \geq f^2(nc - h^2/n + f^2) - h\text{Tr} P^3.$$

Let  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  be real numbers satisfying  $\sum a_j = 0$  and  $\sum a_j^2 = k^2 (k > 0)$ . Then it is seen that we have

$$|\sum a_j^3| \leq (n-2)\{n(n-1)\}^{-1/2} k^3,$$

cf. Okumura [11, Lemma 2.1].

Since the symmetric linear transformation  $P$  satisfies (3.1), the above property can be applied to the eigenvalues of  $P$  and hence we have

$$|\text{Tr} P^3| \leq (n-2)\{n(n-1)\}^{-1/2} f^3,$$

from which together with (3.4) it follows that

$$(3.5) \quad (1/2)\Delta f^2 \geq f^2[f^2 - (n-2)\{n(n-1)\}^{-1/2}|h|f + (nc - h^2/n)].$$

By  $S$  the norm of the second fundamental form is denoted, that is, we put  $S = (-h_2)^{1/2} = (\sum h_{ij}h_{ij})^{1/2}$ . Making use of this inequality, one finds the following

**THEOREM 3.1.** *Let  $M$  be a complete space-like hypersurface with constant mean curvature of a Lorentz space form  $M_1^{n+1}(c)$ ,  $c \leq 0$ . Then the norm  $S$  satisfies*

$$(3.6) \quad h^2/n \leq S^2 \leq [n\{h^2 - 2(n-1)c\} + (n-2)|h|\{h^2 - 4(n-1)c\}^{1/2}]/2(n-1).$$

**PROOF.** Given any positive number  $a$ , a function  $F$  is also defined by  $-(f^2 + a)^{-1/2}$ . Since  $M$  is space-like, the Ricci tensor  $R_{ij}$  is given by

$$R_{ij} = (n-1)c\delta_{ij} - hh_{ij} - (h_{ij})^2$$

by (1.6). Let  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$  be principal curvatures of  $M$ . Then the Ricci tensor becomes

$$R_{ij} = \{(n-1)c - h\lambda_i + \lambda_i^2\} \delta_{ij},$$

which yields that the Ricci curvature of  $M$  is bounded from below. Since the function  $F$  is bounded, we can apply Theorem 1.1 to the function  $F$ . So, given any positive number  $\varepsilon$  there exists a point  $p$  at which  $F$  satisfies the properties (1.14) in Theorem 1.1. Consequently the following relationship

$$(3.7) \quad (1/2)F(p)^4 \Delta f^2(p) < 3\varepsilon^2 - F(p)\varepsilon$$

can be derived by a simple and direct calculation. For a covergent sequence  $\{\varepsilon_m\}$  such that  $\varepsilon_m \rightarrow 0$  ( $m \rightarrow \infty$ ) there exists a point sequence  $\{p_m\}$  such that the sequence  $\{F(p_m)\}$  converges to  $F_0$ , by taking a subsequence, if necessary. From the definition of the supremum we have  $F_0 = \sup F$  and hence the definition of  $F$  gives rise to  $f(p_m) \rightarrow f_0 = \sup f$ . On the other hand, it follows from (3.7) that we have

$$(3.8) \quad (1/2)F(p_m)^4 \Delta f^2(p_m) < 3\varepsilon_m^2 - F(p_m)\varepsilon_m,$$

and the right hand side converges to 0, because the function  $F$  is bounded. Accordingly, for any positive number  $\varepsilon$  ( $< 2$ ) there is a sufficiently large integer  $m$  for which we have

$$F(p_m)^4 \Delta f^2(p_m) < \varepsilon.$$

This relationship and (3.5) yield

$$\begin{aligned} (2 - \varepsilon)f(p_m)^4 - 2(n-2)\{n(n-1)\}^{-1/2}|h|f(p_m)^3 \\ + 2(nc - h^2/n - \varepsilon a)f(p_m)^2 - \varepsilon a^2 < 0, \end{aligned}$$

which implies that  $\{f(p_m)\}$  is bounded. Thus the supremum of  $F$  satisfies  $F_0 \neq 0$  by the definition of  $F$  and by (3.8) we have  $\limsup_{m \rightarrow \infty} \Delta f^2(p_m) \leq 0$ . This means that the supremum  $f_0$  of the function  $f$  satisfies

$$(3.9) \quad f_0^2 [f_0^2 - (n-2)\{n(n-1)\}^{-1/2}|h|f_0 + (cn - h^2/n)] \leq 0.$$

Then the second factor of the left hand side can be regarded as the quadratic equation for  $f_0$ , and the constant term is non-positive and the discriminant  $D$  is also non-negative, because  $c$  is non-positive. Consequently, we have

$$0 \leq f_0 \leq [(n-2)\{n(n-1)\}^{-1/2}|h| + D^{1/2}]/2.$$

Since the square of the norm  $S$  of the second fundamental form is given by  $S^2 = -h_2 = f^2 + h^2/n$ , we get the conclusion. q.e.d.

Similar to the hypersurfaces of the space form, the fact that  $f_0 = 0$  is



equivalent to the result that the function  $f$  vanishes identically on  $M$ , which means that  $M$  is totally umbilical. By taking account of the proof above, the following property is proved. This is due to Akutagawa [2] and Ramanathan [14].

**COROLLARY 3.2.** *Let  $M$  be a complete space-like hypersurface with constant mean curvature of a de Sitter space  $S_1^{n+1}(c)$ . If  $n = 2$  and  $h^2 \leq 4c$ , or if  $n \geq 3$  and  $h^2 < 4(n-1)c$ , then  $M$  is totally umbilical.*

**REMARK 3.1.** It is seen by Ishihara [8] that a complete maximal space-like submanifold of  $M_p^{n+p}(c)$  is totally geodesic, if  $c$  is non-negative.

Now, by means of Corollary 3.2, in the case where the ambient space is an  $(n+1)$ -dimensional de Sitter space ( $n \geq 3$ ), the space-like hypersurfaces satisfying  $h^2 \geq 4(n-1)c$  are next investigated.

**THEOREM 3.3.** *Let  $M$  be a complete space-like hypersurface with constant mean curvature of  $S_1^{n+1}(c)$ ,  $n \geq 3$ . If  $h^2 \leq n^2c$  and if  $S$  satisfies*

$$(3.10) \quad \sup S^2 < [n\{h^2 - 2(n-1)c\} - (n-2)|h|\{h^2 - 4(n-1)c\}^{1/2}]/2(n-1),$$

then  $M$  is totally umbilical.

**PROOF.** In order to verify this theorem, it suffices to consider the proof in the case of  $h^2 \geq 4(n-1)c$ . Then, by the assumption  $h^2 \leq n^2c$ , the inequality (3.9) gives  $f_0 = 0$  or

$$[(n-2)\{n(n-1)\}^{-1/2}|h| - D^{1/2}]/2 \leq f_0 \leq \{(n-2)\{n(n-1)\}^{-1/2}|h| + D^{1/2}\}/2.$$

Suppose that  $f_0 > 0$ . By the first inequality we have

$$\begin{aligned} f_0^2 &\geq [\{n^2 - 2n + 2\}h^2 - 2n^2(n-1)c] - n(n-2)|h|\{h^2 - 4(n-1)c\}^{1/2}]/2n(n-1) \\ &\geq 0, \end{aligned}$$

where the second equality holds if and only if  $h^2 = n^2c$ . This is a contradiction to the inequality (3.10), from which it turns out that  $f_0 = 0$ . It completes the proof. q.e.d.

**REMARK 3.2.** In [6], Dajczer and Nomizu gave the following totally umbilical space-like hypersurface of a de Sitter space. For an  $n$  ( $\geq 3$ )-dimensional Euclidean space  $\mathbf{R}^n$ , the isometric immersion  $i: \mathbf{R}^n \rightarrow S_1^{n+1}(1) \subset \mathbf{R}_1^{n+2}$  is given by

$$(x_1, \dots, x_n) \longrightarrow ((x_1^2 + \dots + x_n^2)/2, x_1, \dots, x_n, 1 - (x_1^2 + \dots + x_n^2)/2).$$

Then  $\mathbf{R}^n$  is a complete space-like hypersurface  $S_1^{n+1}(1)$  and it is totally umbilical. Moreover,  $h = n$  and  $S^2 = n$ , and the equality in (3.10) holds.

According to the congruence theorem of Abe, Koike and Yamaguchi [1], one finds the following

**COROLLARY 3.4.** *Let  $M$  be a complete simply connected space-like hypersurface of a de Sitter space  $S_1^{n+1}(1)$ . If the mean curvature is equal to 1 and if  $\sup S^2 \leq n$ , then  $M$  is congruent to the above example.*

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*Department of Mathematics,  
Northeast University of Technology  
(Shenyang, China)  
and  
Institute of Mathematics,  
University of Tsukuba  
(Ibaraki, Japan)*