

# The Ricci Curvature of Totally Real 3-dimensional Submanifolds of the Nearly Kaehler 6-Sphere

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## Abstract

Let  $M$  be a compact 3-dimensional totally real submanifold of the nearly Kaehler 6-sphere. If the Ricci curvature of  $M$  satisfies  $Ric(M) \geq \frac{53}{64}$ , then  $M$  is a totally geodesic submanifold ( and  $Ric(M) \equiv 2$ ).

## 1. Introduction

On a 6-dimensional unit sphere  $S^6$ , we can construct a nearly Kaehler structure  $J$  by making use of the *Cayley number* system (see [3] or [7]).

Let  $M$  be a compact 3-dimensional Riemannian manifold.  $M$  is called a totally real submanifold of  $S^6$  if  $J(TM) \subseteq T^\perp M$ , where  $TM$  and  $T^\perp M$  are the tangent bundle and the normal bundle of  $M$  in  $S^6$ , respectively. In [2], Ejiri proved that a 3-dimensional totally real submanifold of  $S^6$  is orientable and minimal. In [1], Dillen-Opozda-Verstraelen-Vrancken proved the following sectional curvature pinching theorem

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**Theorem 1**([1]). *Let  $M$  be a compact 3-dimensional totally real submanifold of  $S^6$ . If the sectional curvature  $K$  of  $M$  satisfies*

$$\frac{1}{16} < K \leq 1, \quad (1)$$

*then  $M$  is a totally geodesic submanifold (i.e.  $K \equiv 1$  on  $M$ ).*

In this paper, we prove the following Ricci curvature pinching Theorem

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $M$  be a compact 3-dimensional totally real submanifold of  $S^6$ . If the Ricci curvature of  $M$  satisfies*

$$Ric(M) \geq \frac{53}{64}, \quad (2)$$

*then  $M$  is a totally geodesic submanifold (i.e.  $Ric(M) \equiv 2$  on  $M$ ).*

## 2. Preliminaries

Suppose that  $M$  is an  $n$ -dimensional submanifold in an  $(n + p)$ -dimensional unit sphere  $S^{n+p}$ . We denote by  $UM$  the unit tangent bundle over  $M$  and by  $UM_p$  its fibre at  $p \in M$ . We denote by  $\langle, \rangle$  the metric of  $S^{n+p}$  as well as that induced on  $M$ . If  $h$  is the second fundamental form of  $M$  and  $A_\xi$  the Weingarten endomorphism associated to a normal vector  $\xi$ , we define

$$L : T_p M \mapsto T_p M \quad \text{and} \quad T : T_p^\perp M \times T_p^\perp M \mapsto R$$

by the expressions

$$Lv = \sum_{i=1}^n A_{h(v, e_i)} e_i \quad \text{and} \quad T(\xi, \eta) = \text{trace} A_\xi A_\eta,$$

where  $T_p^\perp M$  is the normal space to  $M$  at  $p$  and  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  is an orthonormal basis of  $T_p M$ .

In [5], Montiel-Ros-Urbano proved the following results

**Lemma 1**([5]). *Let  $M$  be an  $n$ -dimensional compact minimal submanifold in  $S^{n+p}$ . We have*

$$\begin{aligned} 0 = & \frac{n+4}{3} \int_{UM} |(\nabla h)(v, v, v)|^2 dv + (n+4) \int_{UM} |A_{h(v, v)} v|^2 dv \\ & - 4 \int_{UM} \langle Lv, A_{h(v, v)} v \rangle dv - 2 \int_{UM} T(h(v, v), h(v, v)) dv \\ & + 2 \int_{UM} (\langle Lv, v \rangle - |h(v, v)|^2) dv, \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

*where  $dv$  denotes the canonical locally product measure on the unit tangent bundle  $UM$  over  $M$ .*

**Lemma 2**([5]). *Let  $M$  be an  $n$ -dimensional compact minimal submanifold in  $S^{n+p}$ . Then, for any  $p \in M$ , we have*

$$\int_{UM_p} \langle Lv, A_{h(v,v)}v \rangle dv_p = \frac{2}{n+2} \int_{UM_p} |Lv|^2 dv_p, \tag{4}$$

$$\int_{UM_p} |h(v, v)|^2 dv_p = \frac{2}{n+2} \int_{UM_p} \langle Lv, v \rangle dv_p, \tag{5}$$

$$\int_{UM_p} \langle Lv, v \rangle dv_p = \frac{1}{n} \int_{UM_p} |h|^2 dv_p, \tag{6}$$

$$\int_{UM_p} |A_{h(v,v)}v|^2 dv_p \geq \frac{2}{n+2} \int_{UM_p} \langle Lv, A_{h(v,v)}v \rangle dv_p, \tag{7}$$

and the equality in (7) holds if and only if  $Lv = \frac{n+2}{2}A_{h(v,v)}v$  for any  $v \in UM_p$ .

It is well-known that we can construct a nearly Kaehler structure  $J$  on a 6-dimensional unit sphere  $S^6$  by making use of the Cayley system (see [3], [7] or [1] for details). Let  $G$  be the  $(2, 1)$ -tensor field on  $S^6$  defined by

$$G(X, Y) = (\bar{\nabla}_X J)Y, \tag{8}$$

where  $X, Y \in T(S^6)$  and  $\bar{\nabla}$  is the Levi-Civita connection on  $S^6$ . This tensor field has the following properties (see [1])

$$G(X, X) = 0, \tag{9}$$

$$G(X, Y) + G(Y, X) = 0, \tag{10}$$

$$G(X, JY) + JG(X, Y) = 0. \tag{11}$$

### 3. 3-dimensional totally real submanifolds of $S^6$

Let  $M$  be a 3-dimensional totally real submanifold of  $S^6$ . In [2], Ejiri proved that  $M$  is orientable and minimal, and that  $G(X, Y)$  is orthogonal to  $M$ , i.e.

$$G(X, Y) \in T^\perp M, \quad \text{for } X, Y \in TM. \tag{12}$$

We denote the Levi-Civita connection of  $M$  by  $\nabla$ . The formulas of Gauss and Weingarten are then given by

$$\bar{\nabla}_X Y = \nabla_X Y + h(X, Y), \tag{13}$$

$$\bar{\nabla}_X \xi = -A_\xi X + D_X \xi, \tag{14}$$

where  $X$  and  $Y$  are vector fields on  $M$  and  $\xi$  is a normal vector field on  $M$ . The second fundamental form  $h$  is related to  $A_\xi$  by

$$\langle h(X, Y), \xi \rangle = \langle A_\xi X, Y \rangle. \quad (15)$$

From (12)-(14), we find

$$D_X(JY) = G(X, Y) + J\nabla_X Y, \quad (16)$$

$$A_{JX}Y = -Jh(X, Y). \quad (17)$$

Since  $M$  is a 3-dimensional totally real submanifold of  $S^6$ ,  $JT^\perp M = TM$  and  $JTM = T^\perp M$ . We can easily verify that (17) is equivalent to

$$\langle h(X, Y), JZ \rangle = \langle h(X, Z), JY \rangle = \langle h(Y, Z), JX \rangle. \quad (18)$$

Let  $S$  and  $R$  be the Ricci tensor and the scalar curvature of  $M$ . It follows from the Gauss equation that

$$S(X, Y) = 2 \langle X, Y \rangle - \langle LX, Y \rangle, \quad (19)$$

$$R = 6 - |h|^2, \quad (20)$$

where  $|h|^2$  is the length square of  $h$ .

In order to prove our Theorem 2, we also need the following lemma which comes from lemma 2 and lemma 6 of [1]

**Lemma 3**([1]). *Let  $M$  be a compact 3-dimensional totally real submanifold of  $S^6$ . Then we have*

$$\int_{UM} |(\nabla h)(v, v, v)|^2 dv = \frac{9}{4} \int_{UM} \langle (\nabla h)(v, v, v), Jv \rangle^2 dv + \frac{9}{28} \int_{UM} |h(v, v)|^2 dv. \quad (21)$$

#### 4. Proof of Theorem 2

Let  $M$  be a 3-dimensional totally real submanifold of  $S^6$ . By Ejiri's result [2], we know that  $M$  is orientable and minimal. Let  $n = 3$  in lemma 1, we get by use of (5) and (6)

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \frac{7}{3} \int_{UM} |(\nabla h)(v, v, v)|^2 dv + \frac{2}{5} \int_{UM} |h|^2 dv - 2 \int_{UM} T(h(v, v), h(v, v)) dv \\ &\quad + 7 \int_{UM} |A_{h(v, v)}v|^2 dv - 4 \int_{UM} \langle Lv, A_{h(v, v)}v \rangle dv. \end{aligned} \quad (22)$$

Let  $Q$  be the function which assigns to each point of  $M$  the infimum of the Ricci curvature of  $M$  at that point. Then  $Ric(M) \geq Q$ , at  $p \in M$ . From (19) and (20), we have

$$0 \leq \langle Lv, v \rangle \leq 2 - Q \tag{23}$$

for all  $v \in UM$ . If  $e_1, e_2, e_3$  is an orthonormal basis of  $T_pM$ ,  $p \in M$  such that  $Le_i = \lambda_i e_i$ , we have  $\lambda_i = \langle Le_i, e_i \rangle \geq 0$  and

$$|Lv|^2 = \sum_{i=1}^3 \lambda_i^2 \langle v, e_i \rangle^2 \leq (2 - Q) \sum_{i=1}^3 \lambda_i \langle v, e_i \rangle^2 = (2 - Q) \langle Lv, v \rangle, \tag{24}$$

where the equality implies that  $\lambda_i = 2 - Q$  for all  $i = 1, 2, 3$ , i.e. the Ricci curvature of  $M$  is equal to  $Q$  at  $p \in M$ .

By (7), (4), (24) and (6), we have

$$\begin{aligned} & 7 \int_{UM_p} |A_{h(v,v)}v|^2 dv_p - 4 \int_{UM_p} \langle Lv, A_{h(v,v)}v \rangle dv_p \\ & \geq -\frac{6}{5} \int_{UM_p} \langle Lv, A_{h(v,v)}v \rangle dv_p \\ & = -\frac{12}{25} \int_{UM_p} |Lv|^2 dv_p \tag{25} \\ & \geq -\frac{12}{25} (2 - Q) \int_{UM_p} \langle Lv, v \rangle dv_p \\ & = -\frac{4}{25} (2 - Q) \int_{UM_p} |h|^2 dv_p. \end{aligned}$$

where the equality implies that  $M$  is Einsteinian.

Combining (25) with (22), we get

$$\begin{aligned} 0 & \geq \frac{7}{3} \int_{UM} |(\nabla h)(v, v, v)|^2 dv + \int_{UM} \left(\frac{2}{5} - \frac{4}{25}(2 - Q)\right) |h|^2 dv \\ & \quad - 2 \int_{UM} T(h(v, v), h(v, v)) dv. \tag{26} \end{aligned}$$

Let  $h(v, v) = |h(v, v)|\xi$ , for some unit normal vector  $\xi$ . From (18) and (23)

$$\begin{aligned} T(h(v, v), h(v, v)) & = |h(v, v)|^2 T(\xi, \xi) \\ & = |h(v, v)|^2 \langle L(J\xi), J\xi \rangle \\ & \leq (2 - Q) |h(v, v)|^2. \tag{27} \end{aligned}$$

Putting (27) and (21) into (26), we obtain by use of (5) and (6)

$$\begin{aligned}
0 &\geq \frac{21}{4} \int_{UM} \langle (\nabla h)(v, v, v), Jv \rangle^2 dv + \frac{3}{4} \int_{UM} |h(v, v)|^2 dv \\
&\quad + \int_{UM} \left( \frac{2}{5} - \frac{4}{25}(2-Q) \right) |h|^2 dv - 2 \int_{UM} (2-Q) |h(v, v)|^2 dv \\
&= \frac{21}{4} \int_{UM} \langle (\nabla h)(v, v, v), Jv \rangle^2 dv + \int_{UM} \left[ \frac{2}{5} - \frac{4}{25}(2-Q) \right] |h|^2 dv \quad (28) \\
&\quad + \int_{UM} \left( \frac{3}{4} - 2(2-Q) \right) |h(v, v)|^2 dv \\
&= \frac{21}{4} \int_{UM} \langle (\nabla h)(v, v, v), Jv \rangle^2 dv + \frac{1}{150} \int_{UM} (64Q - 53) |h|^2 dv.
\end{aligned}$$

Thus, under the hypothesis (2), (28) must be an equality, which implies that (24) and (25) are equalities. Hence,  $M$  is Einsteinian. It follows from (28) that either  $|h|^2 = 0$ , i.e.  $M$  is totally geodesic, in this case,  $Ric(M) \equiv 2$ ; or

$$Ric(M) \equiv \frac{53}{64}$$

on  $M$ . In the latter case, since  $M$  is a 3-dimensional Einsteinian manifold, we know that the sectional curvature of  $M$  is

$$K \equiv \frac{53}{128}$$

on  $M$ , but by Theorem 1 of [1] or a result of Ejiri [2], this case can not happen. We conclude that  $M$  is totally geodesic. We complete the proof of Theorem 2.

*Remark 1.* By Myers' Theorem, we can assume "complete" instead of "compact" in Theorem 2.

*Remark 2.* For a compact minimal 3-dimensional submanifold  $M$  of  $(3+p)$ -dimensional unit sphere  $S^{3+p}$ , if the Ricci curvature of  $M$  satisfies  $Ric(M) \geq 1$ , the author [4] obtained a classification theorem.

*Remark 3.* F.Dillen, L.Verstraelen and L.Vrancken obtained a sharper result than Theorem 1 in their paper "Classification of totally real 3-dimensional submanifolds of  $S^6$  with  $K \geq 1/16$ ", J. Math. Soc. Japan, 42(1990), 565-584.

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