

## ON THE MINIMAL SUBMANIFOLDS IN $CP^m(c)$ AND $S^N(1)$

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### Abstract

Let  $M$  be an  $n$ -dimensional compact totally real submanifold minimally immersed in  $CP^m(c)$ . Let  $\sigma$  be the second fundamental form of  $M$ . A known result states that if  $m=n$  and  $|\sigma|^2 \leq (n(n+1)c)/(4(2n-1))$ , then  $M$  is either totally geodesic or a finite Riemannian covering of the unique flat torus minimally imbedded in  $CP^2(c)$ . In this paper, we improve the above pinching constant to  $(n+1)c/6$  and prove a pinching theorem for  $|\sigma|^2$  without the assumption on the codimension. We have also some pinching theorems for  $\delta(u) := |\sigma(u, u)|^2$ ,  $u \in UM$ ,  $M \rightarrow CP^m(c)$  and the Ricci curvature of a minimal submanifold in a sphere. In particular, a simple proof of a Gauchman's result is given.

### 1. Introduction.

Let  $M$  be an  $n$ -dimensional compact submanifold minimally immersed in a complex projective space  $CP^m(c)$  of holomorphic sectional curvature  $c$  and of complex dimension  $m$ . Denote by  $\sigma$  the second fundamental form of  $M$ . Chen and Ogiue ([1]), Naitoh and Takeuchi ([7]), and Yau ([13]) proved that if  $M$  is totally real,  $m=n$  and  $|\sigma|^2 \leq (n(n+1)c)/(4(2n-1))$ , then  $M$  is either totally geodesic or a finite Riemannian covering of the unique flat torus minimally imbedded in  $CP^2(c)$  with parallel second fundamental form. In this paper, by using a method different from those in [1], [7] and [13], we improve the above result and prove a pinching theorem for  $|\sigma|^2$  without the assumption on the codimension of  $M$ . Namely, we have

**THEOREM 1.** *Let  $M$  be an  $n$ -dimensional compact totally real minimal submanifold in  $CP^n(c)$ . Let  $\sigma$  be the second fundamental form of  $M$ . If  $|\sigma|^2 \leq (n+1)c/6$ , then  $M$  is either totally geodesic or a finite Riemannian covering of the unique flat torus embedded in  $CP^2(c)$  with parallel second fundamental form.*

**THEOREM 2.** *Let  $M$  be an  $n$ -dimensional compact totally real minimal submanifold immersed in  $CP^m(c)$ . If  $|\sigma|^2 \leq nc/6$ , then either  $M$  is totally geodesic or the immersion of  $M$  into  $CP^m(c)$  is one of the following immersions*

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$\varphi_{1,p}: RP^2(c/12) \rightarrow CP^{4+p}(c)$ ;  $\varphi_{2,p}: S^2(c/12) \rightarrow CP^{4+p}(c)$  ( $p=0, 1, 2, \dots$ ).

A. Ros in [10] showed that if  $M$  is a compact Kaehler submanifold of  $CP^m(c)$  and if  $\delta(n) = |\sigma(u, u)|^2 < c/4$  for any  $u \in UM$ , then  $M$  is totally geodesic. Moreover, in [9], Ros gave a complete list of Kaehler submanifolds of  $CP^m(c)$  satisfying the condition  $\max_{u \in UM} \delta(u) = c/4$ . In [3], H. Gauchman obtained the fol-

lowing analogous result for totally real minimal submanifold in  $CP^m(c)$ .

**THEOREM 3.** *Let  $M$  be an  $n$ -dimensional compact totally real minimal submanifold immersed in  $CP^m(c)$ . Then,  $\delta(u) = |\sigma(u, u)|^2 \leq c/12$  for any  $u \in UM$  if and only if one of the following conditions is satisfied:*

- i)  $\delta \equiv 0$  (i.e.,  $M$  is totally geodesic).
- ii)  $\delta \equiv c/12$  and the immersion of  $M$  into  $CP^m(c)$  is one of the following immersions:  $\varphi_{1,p}: RP^2(c/12) \rightarrow CP^{4+p}(c)$ ;  $\varphi_{2,p}: S^2(c/12) \rightarrow CP^{4+p}(c)$ ;  $\varphi_{3,p}: CP^2(c/3) \rightarrow CP^{7+p}(c)$ ;  $\varphi_{4,p}: QP^2(c/3) \rightarrow CP^{13+p}(c)$ ;  $\varphi_{5,p}: Cay P^2(c/3) \rightarrow CP^{25+p}(c)$  ( $p=0, 1, 2, \dots$ ).

For the definitions of  $\varphi_{i,p}$  ( $i=1, \dots, 5$ ;  $p=0, 1, 2, \dots$ ), one can consult [3, p. 254].

In this paper, we'll give a simple proof of the above Gauchman's result and prove the following.

**THEOREM 4.** *Let  $M$  be an  $n$ -dimensional compact totally real minimal submanifold immersed in a complex projective space  $CP^m(c)$ . Assume that  $n$  is odd. If  $\delta(u) \leq c/4(3-2/n)$  for all  $u \in UM$ , then  $M$  is totally geodesic.*

Theorem 4 improves a result by H. Gauchman in [3].

For minimal submanifolds in a sphere, we have

**THEOREM 5.** *Let  $M$  be an  $n$ -dimensional compact minimal submanifold immersed in a unit sphere  $S^{n+p}(1)$ . Let  $A_\xi$  be the Weingarten endomorphism associated to a normal vector  $\xi$ . Define  $T: T_p^1 M \times T_p^1 M \rightarrow R$  by  $T(\xi, \eta) = \text{trace } A_\xi A_\eta$ . Assume that the Ricci curvature of  $M$  satisfies  $\text{Ric}_M \geq n-1 - ((n+2)p)/(2(n+p+2))$  and  $T = k\langle, \rangle$ . Then the immersion of  $M$  into  $S^{n+p}(1)$  is one of the following standard ones (see [11] for details)  $S^n(1) \rightarrow S^n(1)$ ;  $RP^2(1/3) \rightarrow S^4(1)$ ;  $S^2(1/3) \rightarrow S^4(1)$ ;  $CP^2(4/3) \rightarrow S^7(1)$ ;  $QP^2(4/3) \rightarrow S^{13}(1)$ ;  $Cay P^2(4/3) \rightarrow S^{25}(1)$ .*

## 2. Preliminaries.

Let  $M$  be an  $n$ -dimensional compact Riemannian manifold. We denote by  $UM$  the unit tangent bundle over  $M$  and by  $UM_p$  its fiber over  $p \in M$ . If  $dp$ ,  $dv$  and  $dv_p$  denote the canonical measures on  $M$ ,  $UM$  and  $UM_p$  respectively, then for any continuous function  $f: UM \rightarrow R$ , we have:

$$\int_{UM} f dv = \int_M \left\{ \int_{UM_p} f dv_p \right\} dp.$$

Now, we suppose that  $M$  is isometrically immersed in an  $(n+p)$ -dimensional

Riemannian manifold  $\bar{M}$ . We denote by  $\langle, \rangle$  the metric of  $\bar{M}$  as well as that induced on  $M$ . If  $\sigma$  is the second fundamental form of the immersion and  $A_\xi$  the Weingarten endomorphism associated to a normal vector  $\xi$ , we define

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

by the expressions

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

where  $T_p^\perp M$  is the normal space to  $M$  at  $p$  and  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  is an orthonormal basis of  $T_p M$ .  $M$  is called a curvature-invariant submanifold of  $\bar{M}$ , if  $\bar{R}(X, Y)Z \in T_p M$  for all  $X, Y, Z \in T_p M$ , being  $\bar{R}$  the curvature operator of  $\bar{M}$ . Then, if  $\nabla\sigma$  and  $\nabla^2\sigma$  denote the first and second covariant derivatives of  $\sigma$  respectively, one has that  $\nabla\sigma$  is symmetric and  $\nabla^2\sigma$  satisfies the following relation

$$(2.1) \quad (\nabla^2\sigma)(X, Y, Z, W) = (\nabla^2\sigma)(Y, X, Z, W) + R^\perp(X, Y)\sigma(Z, W) - \sigma(R(X, Y)Z, W) - \sigma(Z, R(X, Y)W)$$

where  $R^\perp$  and  $R$  are the curvature operators of the normal and tangent bundles over  $M$  respectively.

If  $\text{Ric}$  is the Ricci tensor of  $M$  and  $M$  is minimally immersed in  $\bar{M}$ , we have from the Gauss equation

$$(2.2) \quad \text{Ric}(v, w) = \sum_{i=1}^n \bar{R}(v, e_i, e_i, w) - \langle Lv, w \rangle.$$

LEMMA 1 ([4]) *Let  $M$  be an  $n$ -dimensional compact minimal curvature-invariant submanifold isometrically immersed in an  $(n+p)$ -dimensional Riemannian manifold  $\bar{M}$ . Then*

$$(2.3) \quad 0 = \frac{n+4}{3} \int_{UM} |(\nabla\sigma)(v, v, v)|^2 dv + (n+4) \int_{UM} |A_{\sigma(v, v)} v|^2 dv - 4 \int_{UM} \langle Lv, A_{\sigma(v, v)} v \rangle dv - 2 \int_{UM} T(\sigma(v, v), \sigma(v, v)) dv + \int_{UM} \sum_{i=1}^n \{ \bar{R}(e_i, v, \sigma(v, e_i), \sigma(v, v)) + 2 \bar{R}(e_i, v, v, A_{\sigma(v, e_i)} v) \} dv.$$

LEMMA 2 ([4]) *Let  $M$  be an  $n$ -dimensional compact minimal submanifold isometrically immersed in a Riemannian manifold  $\bar{M}$ . Then, for any  $p \in M$ , we have*

$$(2.4) \quad \int_{UM_p} \langle Lv, A_{\sigma(v, v)} v \rangle dv_p = \frac{2}{n+2} \int_{UM_p} |Lv|^2 dv_p$$

$$(2.5) \quad \int_{UM_p} |\sigma(v, v)|^2 dv_p = \frac{2}{n+2} \int_{UM_p} \langle Lv, v \rangle dv_p = \frac{2}{n(n+2)} \int_{UM_p} |\sigma|^2 dv_p.$$

### 3. Maximal directions.

Let  $M$  be an  $n$ -dimensional compact curvature-invariant submanifold minimally immersed in  $\bar{M}$ . Define  $S = \{(u, v) | u, v \in UM_p, p \in M\}$  and a function  $f$  on  $S$  by

$$(3.1) \quad f(u, v) = |\sigma(u, u) - \sigma(v, v)|^2.$$

For any  $p \in M$ , we can take  $(\bar{u}, \bar{v}) \in UM_p \times UM_p$  with  $\langle \bar{u}, \bar{v} \rangle = 0$ , such that  $f(\bar{u}, \bar{v}) = \max_{(u, v) \in UM_p \times UM_p} f(u, v)$ . We shall call such a pair  $(\bar{u}, \bar{v})$  a maximal direction at  $p$ . To see this, we assume that  $\max_{(u, v) \in UM_p \times UM_p} f(u, v) \neq 0$ , since otherwise it would be obvious. Let  $(u_1, u_2) \in UM_p \times UM_p$  be such that  $f(u_1, u_2) = \max_{(u, v) \in UM_p \times UM_p} f(u, v)$ . Set  $\xi = \frac{\sigma(u_1, u_1) - \sigma(u_2, u_2)}{|\sigma(u_1, u_1) - \sigma(u_2, u_2)|}$  and take an orthonormal basis  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  of  $T_p M$  which diagonalizes  $A_\xi$ . Let  $\langle A_\xi e_i, e_i \rangle = \lambda_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$  and assume further that  $\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_n$ . Then, we have

$$u_1 = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i e_i, \quad u_2 = \sum_{i=1}^n y_i e_i, \quad \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2 = 1, \quad \sum_{i=1}^n y_i^2 = 1,$$

and

$$(3.2) \quad \begin{aligned} |\sigma(u_1, u_1) - \sigma(u_2, u_2)| &= \langle \sigma(u_1, u_1) - \sigma(u_2, u_2), \xi \rangle \\ &= \sum_{i,j=1}^n (x_i x_j - y_j y_i) \langle \sigma(e_i, e_j), \xi \rangle \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i^2 - y_i^2) \lambda_i \leq \lambda_1 - \lambda_n \\ &= \langle \sigma(e_1, e_1) - \sigma(e_n, e_n), \xi \rangle \\ &\leq |\sigma(e_1, e_1) - \sigma(e_n, e_n)| \\ &\leq |\sigma(u_1, u_1) - \sigma(u_2, u_2)|. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $(e_1, e_n)$  is a maximal direction at  $p$ . Also, we have  $\sigma(e_1, e_1) - \sigma(e_n, e_n) = |\sigma(e_1, e_1) - \sigma(e_n, e_n)| \xi$ .

LEMMA 3. Let  $p \in M$  and assume that  $\max_{(u, v) \in UM_p \times UM_p} f(u, v) \neq 0$ . Take an orthonormal basis  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  of  $T_p M$  such that  $(e_1, e_n)$  is a maximal direction at  $p$ ,  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  diagonalizes  $A_\xi$ ,  $\xi = \frac{\sigma(e_1, e_1) - \sigma(e_n, e_n)}{|\sigma(e_1, e_1) - \sigma(e_n, e_n)|}$  and that  $\lambda_1 = \langle \sigma(e_1, e_1), \xi \rangle \geq \lambda_2 = \langle \sigma(e_2, e_2), \xi \rangle \geq \dots \geq \lambda_n = \langle \sigma(e_n, e_n), \xi \rangle$ . Then, at the point  $p$ , it holds

$$(3.3) \quad \sum_{i=1}^n \langle \sigma(e_1, e_1) - \sigma(e_n, e_n), \nabla^2 \sigma(e_i, e_i, e_i, e_i) - \nabla^2 \sigma(e_i, e_i, e_n, e_n) \rangle$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\geq |\sigma(e_1, e_1) - \sigma(e_n, e_n)| \sum_{i=1}^n \{ \bar{R}(e_i, e_1, \sigma(e_1, e_i), \xi) - \bar{R}(e_i, e_n, \sigma(e_i, e_n), \xi) \\ &\quad + (\lambda_1 - \lambda_i) \bar{R}(e_i, e_1, e_1, e_i) - (\lambda_n - \lambda_i) \bar{R}(e_i, e_n, e_n, e_i) \} \\ &\quad - \frac{3}{2} |\sigma(e_1, e_1) - \sigma(e_n, e_n)|^2 \cdot |\sigma|^2. \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* From (2.1), the minimality of  $M$ , and the Gauss and Ricci equations, it follows

$$\begin{aligned} (3.4) \quad &\sum_{i=1}^n \langle \sigma(e_1, e_1) - \sigma(e_n, e_n), \nabla^2 \sigma(e_i, e_i, e_1, e_1) \rangle \\ &= |\sigma(e_1, e_1) - \sigma(e_n, e_n)| \sum_{i=1}^n \{ \langle \xi, R^\perp(e_i, e_1) \sigma(e_1, e_i) \\ &\quad - \sigma(R(e_i, e_1)e_1, e_i) - \sigma(e_1, R(e_i, e_1)e_i) \rangle \} \\ &= |\sigma(e_1, e_1) - \sigma(e_n, e_n)| \sum_{i=1}^n \{ \bar{R}(e_i, e_1, \sigma(e_1, e_i), \xi) + \langle A_{\sigma(e_1, e_i)} A_\xi e_i, e_1 \rangle \\ &\quad - \langle A_\xi A_{\sigma(e_1, e_i)} e_i, e_1 \rangle - \langle A_\xi e_i, R(e_i, e_1)e_1 \rangle - \langle A_\xi e_1, R(e_i, e_1)e_i \rangle \} \\ &= |\sigma(e_1, e_1) - \sigma(e_n, e_n)| \sum_{i=1}^n \{ \bar{R}(e_i, e_1, \sigma(e_1, e_i), \xi + (\lambda_i - \lambda_1) |\sigma(e_1, e_i)|^2 \\ &\quad + (\lambda_1 - \lambda_i) \bar{R}(e_i, e_1, e_1, e_i) + \langle \sigma(e_i, e_i), \sigma(e_1, e_1) \rangle - |\sigma(e_1, e_i)|^2 \} \\ &= |\sigma(e_1, e_1) - \sigma(e_n, e_n)| \sum_{i=1}^n \{ \bar{R}(e_i, e_1, \sigma(e_1, e_i), \xi) + (\lambda_1 - \lambda_i) \bar{R}(e_i, e_1, e_1, e_i) \\ &\quad + 2(\lambda_i - \lambda_1) |\sigma(e_1, e_i)|^2 - \lambda_i \langle \sigma(e_1, e_i), \sigma(e_i, e_i) \rangle \}. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, we have

$$\begin{aligned} (3.5) \quad &\sum_{i=1}^n \langle \sigma(e_1, e_1) - \sigma(e_n, e_n), \nabla^2 \sigma(e_i, e_i, e_n, e_n) \rangle \\ &= |\sigma(e_1, e_1) - \sigma(e_n, e_n)| \sum_{i=1}^n \{ \bar{R}(e_i, e_n, \sigma(e_n, e_i), \xi) + (\lambda_n - \lambda_i) \bar{R}(e_i, e_n, e_n, e_i) \\ &\quad + 2(\lambda_i - \lambda_n) |\sigma(e_n, e_i)|^2 - \lambda_i \langle \sigma(e_n, e_n), \sigma(e_i, e_i) \rangle \}. \end{aligned}$$

Combining (3.4) and (3.5) and noticing

$$|\sigma(e_1, e_1) - \sigma(e_n, e_n)| = \langle \sigma(e_1, e_1) - \sigma(e_n, e_n), \xi \rangle = \lambda_1 - \lambda_n, \lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_n,$$

we have

$$(3,6) \quad \sum_{i=1}^n \langle \sigma(e_1, e_1) - \sigma(e_n, e_n), \nabla^2 \sigma(e_i, e_i, e_1, e_1) - \nabla^2 \sigma(e_i, e_i, e_n, e_n) \rangle$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\geq |\sigma(e_1, e_1) - \sigma(e_n, e_n)| \sum_{i=1}^n \{ \bar{R}(e_i, e_1, \sigma(e_1, e_i), \xi) - \bar{R}(e_i, e_n, \sigma(e_i, e_n), \xi) \\ &\quad + (\lambda_1 - \lambda_i) \bar{R}(e_i, e_1, e_1, e_i) - (\lambda_n - \lambda_i) \bar{R}(e_i, e_n, e_n, e_i) \} \\ &\quad - |\sigma(e_1, e_1) - \sigma(e_n, e_n)|^2 \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i^2 + 2 \left( \sum_{i=2}^n |\sigma(e_1, e_i)|^2 + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} |\sigma(e_n, e_i)|^2 \right) \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, one can easily deduce from  $\left| \sigma\left(\frac{e_1+e_n}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{e_1+e_n}{\sqrt{2}}\right) - \sigma\left(\frac{e_1-e_n}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{e_1-e_n}{\sqrt{2}}\right) \right|^2 \leq |\sigma(e_1, e_1) - \sigma(e_n, e_n)|^2$  that

$$(3.7) \quad |\sigma(e_1, e_n)|^2 \leq \frac{|\sigma(e_1, e_1) - \sigma(e_n, e_n)|^2}{4} \leq \frac{|\sigma(e_1, e_1)|^2 + |\sigma(e_n, e_n)|^2}{2}.$$

Since

$$(3.8) \quad \begin{aligned} |\sigma|^2 &= \sum_{i,j=1}^n |\sigma(e_i, e_j)|^2 \\ &\geq \sum_{i=1}^n |\sigma(e_i, e_i)|^2 + 2 \left( \sum_{i=2}^n |\sigma(e_1, e_i)|^2 + \sum_{i=2}^{n-1} |\sigma(e_n, e_i)|^2 \right), \end{aligned}$$

we have

$$(3.9) \quad \begin{aligned} &\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i^2 + 2 \left( \sum_{i=2}^n |\sigma(e_1, e_i)|^2 + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} |\sigma(e_n, e_i)|^2 \right) \\ &\leq \sum_{i=1}^n |\sigma(e_i, e_i)|^2 + 2 \sum_{i=2}^n |\sigma(e_1, e_i)|^2 + 2 \sum_{i=2}^{n-1} |\sigma(e_n, e_i)|^2 \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} (|\sigma(e_1, e_1)|^2 + |\sigma(e_n, e_n)|^2 + 2|\sigma(e_1, e_n)|^2) \\ &\leq |\sigma|^2 + \frac{1}{2} |\sigma|^2 = \frac{3}{2} |\sigma|^2. \end{aligned}$$

Substituting (3.9) into (3.6), we get (3.3).

Q. E. D.

#### 4. Proof of Theorem 1 and 2.

*Proof of Theorem 1.* Let  $L$  be a function on  $M$  defined by  $L(x) = \max_{(u,v) \in UM_x \times UM_x} f(u, v)$ . Following an idea in [8] we prove that  $L$  is a constant function on  $M$  by using the maximum principle. It suffices to show that  $L$  is subharmonic in the generalized sense. Fix  $p \in M$ , let  $(e_1, e_n)$  be a maximal direction at  $p$  and  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  be an orthonormal basis of  $T_p M$  as stated in Lemma 3. From the expression of the curvature tensor of  $CP^n(c)$ , we have

$$(4.1) \quad |\sigma(e_1, e_1) - \sigma(e_n, e_n)| \sum_{i=1}^n \{ \bar{R}(e_i, e_1, \sigma(e_1, e_i), \xi) - \bar{R}(e_i, e_n, \sigma(e_i, e_n), \xi) \}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & +(\lambda_1 - \lambda_i)\bar{R}(e_i, e_1, e_1, e_i) - (\lambda_n - \lambda_i)\bar{R}(e_i, e_n, e_n, e_i) \} \\
 & = \frac{c}{4} \sum_{i=1}^n \langle \sigma(e_1, e_1) - \sigma(e_n, e_n), J e_i \rangle^2 + \frac{nc}{4} (\lambda_1 - \lambda_n) |\sigma(e_1, e_1) - \sigma(e_n, e_n)| \\
 & = \frac{(n+1)c}{4} |\sigma(e_1, e_1) - \sigma(e_n, e_n)|^2.
 \end{aligned}$$

In an open neighborhood  $U_p$  of  $p$  within the cut-locus of  $p$  we shall denote by  $E_1(x)$  (resp.  $E_n(x)$ ) the tangent vectors to  $M$  obtained by parallel transport of  $e_1 = E_1(p)$  (resp.  $e_n = E_n(p)$ ) along the unique geodesic joining  $x$  to  $p$  within the cut-locus of  $p$ . Define  $g_p(x) = |\sigma(E_1(x), E_1(x)) - \sigma(E_n(x), E_n(x))|^2$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned}
 (4.2) \quad \frac{1}{2} \Delta g_p(p) &= \sum_{i=1}^n \{ |(\nabla \sigma)(e_i, e_1, e_1) - (\nabla \sigma)(e_i, e_n, e_n)|^2 \\
 &\quad + \langle \sigma(e_1, e_1) - \sigma(e_n, e_n), (\nabla^2 \sigma)(e_i, e_1, e_1, e_1) - (\nabla^2 \sigma)(e_i, e_1, e_n, e_n) \rangle \}.
 \end{aligned}$$

If  $|\sigma(e_1, e_1) - \sigma(e_n, e_n)| = 0$ , then  $\Delta g_p(p) \geq 0$  by (4.2). If  $|\sigma(e_1, e_1) - \sigma(e_n, e_n)| \neq 0$ , then by (4.1), (4.2), Lemma 3 and the hypothesis on  $|\sigma|^2$ , we have

$$\frac{1}{2} \Delta g_p(p) \geq |\sigma(e_1, e_1) - \sigma(e_n, e_n)|^2 \left( \frac{(n+1)c}{4} - \frac{3}{2} |\sigma|^2 \right) \geq 0.$$

For the Laplacian of continuous functions, we have the generalized definition

$$\Delta L = a \lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{r^2} \left( \left( \int_{B(p, r)} L / \int_{B(p, r)} 1 \right) - L(p) \right),$$

where  $a$  is a positive constant and  $B(p, r)$  denotes the geodesic ball of radius  $r$  with center  $p$ . With this definition  $L$  is subharmonic on  $M$  if and only if  $\Delta L(p) \geq 0$  at each point  $p \in M$ . Since  $g_p(p) = L(p)$  and  $g_p \leq L$  on  $U_p$ ,  $\Delta L(p) \geq \Delta g_p(p) \geq 0$ . Thus,  $L$  is subharmonic and hence  $L = b = \text{constant}$  on  $M$ . When  $b = 0$ ,  $M$  is totally geodesic. When  $b \neq 0$ , it is easy to see that  $|\sigma|^2 \equiv (n+1)c/6$  on  $M$  and that for any  $p \in M$ , by the fact that the inequalities (3.6)-(3.9) now take equality sign, the orthonormal basis  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  of  $T_p M$  further satisfies

$$\begin{aligned}
 (4.3) \quad \sigma(e_i, e_i) &= \sigma(e_n, e_i) = \sigma(e_i, e_j) = 0, \quad 2 \leq i, j \leq n-1, \\
 |\sigma(e_1, e_1)|^2 &= |\sigma(e_n, e_n)|^2 = |\sigma(e_1, e_n)|^2 = \frac{(n+1)c}{24}, \\
 \sigma(e_1, e_1) &= -\sigma(e_n, e_n).
 \end{aligned}$$

Substituting  $\lambda_1 = -\lambda_n = |\sigma(e_1, e_1)|$ ,  $\lambda_2 = \dots = \lambda_{n-1} = 0$ , (4.3) and the expression of the curvature tensor of  $CP^n(c)$  into (3.4), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 (4.4) \quad \sum_{i=1}^n \langle \sigma(e_i, e_1), \nabla^2 \sigma(e_i, e_i, e_1, e_1) \rangle &= \sum_{i=1}^n \bar{R}(e_i, e_1, \sigma(e_i, e_i), \sigma(e_1, e_1)) \\
 &+ \lambda_1 \sum_{i=1}^n \{ (\lambda_1 - \lambda_i) \bar{R}(e_i, e_1, e_1, e_i) + 2(\lambda_i - \lambda_1) |\sigma(e_1, e_i)|^2 - \lambda_i \langle \sigma(e_1, e_1), \sigma(e_i, e_i) \rangle \}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \frac{c}{4} |\sigma(e_1, e_1)|^2 + \lambda_1 \left( \frac{nc\lambda_1}{4} + 2(\lambda_n - \lambda_1) |\sigma(e_1, e_n)|^2 - 2\lambda_1 |\sigma(e_1, e_1)|^2 \right) \\
&= |\sigma(e_1, e_1)|^2 \left( \frac{(n+1)c}{4} - 6 \right) = 0.
\end{aligned}$$

Similarly, we have

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \langle \sigma(e_n, e_n), \nabla^2 \sigma(e_i, e_i, e_n, e_n) \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^n \langle \sigma(e_1, e_n), \nabla^2 \sigma(e_i, e_i, e_1, e_n) \rangle = 0.$$

Thus, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
0 &= \frac{1}{2} \Delta |\sigma|^2 = \sum_{i,j,k=1}^n |(\nabla \sigma)(e_i, e_j, e_k)|^2 + \sum_{i=1}^n \{ \langle \sigma(e_1, e_1), (\nabla^2 \sigma)(e_i, e_i, e_1, e_1) \rangle \\
&\quad + 2 \langle \sigma(e_1, e_n), (\nabla^2 \sigma)(e_i, e_i, e_1, e_n) \rangle + \langle \sigma(e_n, e_n), (\nabla^2 \sigma)(e_i, e_i, e_n, e_n) \rangle \} \\
&= \sum_{i,j,k=1}^n |(\nabla \sigma)(e_i, e_j, e_k)|^2.
\end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $M$  has parallel second fundamental form. Theorem 1 now follows from the classification of  $n$ -dimensional totally real minimal submanifolds in  $CP^n(c)$  with parallel second fundamental form by Naitoh and Takeuchi in [7].

*Proof of Theorem 2.* As in the proof of Theorem 1, we show that the function  $L(p) = \max_{(u,v) \in UM_p \times UM_p} f(u,v)$  is subharmonic in the generalized sense. For any  $p \in M$ , let  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  be an orthonormal basis of  $T_p M$  as in Lemma 3 such that  $(e_1, e_n)$  is a maximal direction at  $p$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned}
(4.5) \quad & |\sigma(e_1, e_1) - \sigma(e_n, e_n)| \sum_{i=1}^n \{ \bar{R}(e_i, e_1, \sigma(e_1, e_i), \xi) - \bar{R}(e_i, e_n, \sigma(e_1, e_n), \xi) \\
&\quad + (\lambda_1 - \lambda_i) \bar{R}(e_i, e_1, e_1, e_i) - (\lambda_n - \lambda_i) \bar{R}(e_i, e_n, e_n, e_i) \} \\
&= \frac{c}{4} \sum_{i=1}^n \langle \sigma(e_1, e_1) - \sigma(e_n, e_n), J e_i \rangle^2 + \frac{nc}{4} (\lambda_1 - \lambda_n) |\sigma(e_1, e_1) - \sigma(e_n, e_n)| \\
&\geq \frac{nc}{4} |\sigma(e_1, e_1) - \sigma(e_n, e_n)|^2.
\end{aligned}$$

Let  $g_p$  be the function defined as in the proof of Theorem 1. Then from (4.5), Lemma 3 and  $|\sigma|^2 \leq nc/6$ , we have  $\Delta g_p(p) \geq 0$ . By the same arguments as in the proof of Theorem 1, we know that  $L$  is subharmonic (and so  $L = \text{cont. on } M$ ) and that either  $|\sigma| \equiv 0$  or  $|\sigma|^2 \equiv nc/6$ . When  $|\sigma|^2 \equiv nc/6$ , the orthonormal basis  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  of  $T_p M$  satisfies

$$(4.6) \quad \sigma(e_1, e_i) = \sigma(e_n, e_i) = \sigma(e_i, e_j) = 0, \quad 2 \leq i, j \leq n-1,$$

$$|\sigma(e_1, e_1)|^2 = |\sigma(e_n, e_n)|^2 = |\sigma(e_1, e_n)|^2 = \frac{nc}{24},$$

$$\sigma(e_1, e_1) = -\sigma(e_n, e_n).$$

Using a similar calculations as in the proof of Theorem 1, we have

$$0 = \frac{1}{2} \Delta |\sigma|^2 = \sum_{i,j,k=1}^n |\nabla \sigma(e_i, e_j, e_k)|^2 + \sum_{i=1}^n \{ \langle \sigma(e_1, e_1), J e_i \rangle^2 + 2 \langle \sigma(e_1, e_n), J e_i \rangle^2 + \langle \sigma(e_n, e_n), J e_i \rangle^2 \}$$

Thus,  $M$  is  $P(R)$ -totally real (i.e.,  $\forall p \in M$ , we have  $\langle \sigma(X, Y), JZ \rangle = 0$ , for any  $X, Y, Z \in T_p M$  (Ref. [5])). Furthermore, for any  $p \in M$ , we can obtain a locally orthonormal frame  $E_1, \dots, E_n$  in a neighborhood  $V_p$  of  $p$  by translating the orthonormal basis  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  at  $p$  as stated in (4.6) along the geodesics from  $p$ . For any  $q \in V_p$ , since  $M$  has parallel second fundamental form,  $\{E_1(q), \dots, E_n(q)\}$  has the same properties as  $\{E_1(p) = e_1, \dots, E_n(p) = e_n\}$  has.

Now, one can deduce by using a similar arguments as in [2, p.70] that  $n=2$ . Since  $n=2$ , it is easy to see from (4.6) that  $M$  is  $\sqrt{c/12}$ -isotropic. Theorem 2 now follows from the classification of  $P(R)$ -totally real isotropic minimal surface with parallel second fundamental form in  $CP^m(c)$  by Naitoh in [5].

*Remark.* If  $M^n$  is a compact minimal submanifold in  $S^{n+p}(1)$  with  $|\sigma|^2 \leq 2n/3$ , then one can deduce by the same function  $f$  defined in (3.1) that  $M$  is either totally geodesic or a Veronese surface in  $S^4(1)$ . This result has been proved by Xu and Chen in [12].

### 5. Proof of Theorem 3 and 4

*Proof of Theorem 3.* Let  $p \in M$  and  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  be an orthonormal basis of  $T_p M$ , from the expression of the curvature tensor of  $CP^m(c)$ , we have

$$(5.1) \quad \sum_{i=1}^n \{ \bar{R}(e_i, v, \sigma(v, e_i), \sigma(v, v)) + 2\bar{R}(e_i, v, v, A_{\sigma(v, e_i)} v) \}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} c \langle Lv, v \rangle - \frac{1}{2} c |\sigma(v, v)|^2 + \frac{1}{4} c \sum_{i=1}^n \langle \sigma(v, v), J e_i \rangle^2.$$

From (2.4) and Holder's inequality,

$$(5.2) \quad \frac{2}{n+2} \int_{UM_p} |Lv|^2 dv_p \leq \left\{ \int_{UM_p} |Lv|^2 \right\}^{1/2} \cdot \left\{ \int_{UM_p} |A_{\sigma(v, v)} v|^2 \right\}^{1/2},$$

or

$$(5.3) \quad \int_{UM_p} |A_{\sigma(v, v)} v|^2 dv_p \geq \frac{2}{n+2} \int_{UM_p} \langle Lv, A_{\sigma(v, v)} v \rangle dv_p.$$

Substituting (5.1) and (5.3) into (2.3), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
(5.4) \quad 0 &= \frac{n+4}{3} \int_{UM} |(\nabla \sigma)(v, v, v)|^2 dv + (n+4) \int_{UM} |A_{\sigma(v, v)} v|^2 dv \\
&\quad - 4 \int_{UM} \langle Lv, A_{\sigma(v, v)} v \rangle dv - 2 \int_{UM} T(\sigma(v, v), \sigma(v, v)) dv \\
&\quad + \int_{UM} \left\{ \frac{c}{2} \langle Lv, v \rangle - \frac{c}{2} |\sigma(v, v)|^2 + \frac{c}{4} \sum_{i=1}^n \langle \sigma(v, v), J e_i \rangle^2 \right\} dv \\
&\geq \frac{n+4}{3} \int_{UM} |(\nabla \sigma)(v, v, v)|^2 dv + \frac{nc}{4} \int_{UM} |\sigma(v, v)|^2 dv - n \int_{UM} |A_{\sigma(v, v)} v|^2 dv \\
&\quad - 2 \int_{UM} T(\sigma(v, v), \sigma(v, v)) dv.
\end{aligned}$$

For any  $v$  in  $UM$ , we can put  $\sigma(v, v) = |\sigma(v, v)| \xi$  for some unit vector  $\xi$  normal to  $M$ . Since  $|\sigma(v, v)|^2 \leq c/12$  for any  $v \in UM$ , we have by Schwartz's inequality,

$$(5.5) \quad |A_{\xi} v|^2 \leq (\text{maximum eigenvalue of } A_{\xi})^2 \leq c/12 \quad \text{for any } v \in M.$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned}
(5.6) \quad &\frac{nc}{4} |\sigma(v, v)|^2 - n |A_{\sigma(v, v)} v|^2 - 2T(\sigma(v, v), \sigma(v, v)) \\
&= |\sigma(v, v)|^2 \left( \frac{nc}{4} - n |A_{\xi} v|^2 - 2 \sum_{i=1}^n \langle A_{\xi} e_i, A_{\xi} e_i \rangle \right) \\
&\geq |\sigma(v, v)|^2 \left( \frac{nc}{4} - n \cdot \frac{c}{12} - 2 \cdot n \cdot \frac{c}{12} \right) = 0,
\end{aligned}$$

where  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  is a locally orthonormal basis of  $TM$ . It follows from (5.4) and (5.6) that  $M$  has parallel second fundamental form,

$$(5.7) \quad \langle \sigma(X, Y), JZ \rangle = 0 \quad \text{for any vectors } X, Y, Z \in T_p M. \quad p \in M,$$

and that the inequalities (5.3) and (5.6) take equality sign. Hence, we have

$$(5.8) \quad |A_{\sigma(v, v)} v|^2 = \frac{c}{12} |\sigma(v, v)|^2,$$

$$(5.9) \quad Lv = \frac{n+2}{2} A_{\sigma(v, v)} v.$$

From (5.7), we know that  $M$  is  $P(R)$ -totally real (see [5]). Now, given  $p \in M$ , let  $\omega$  be the 1-form on  $UM_p$  defined by

$$\omega_v(e) = \langle \sigma(v, v), \sigma(v, e) \rangle |\sigma(v, v)|^2$$

for all  $v \in UM_p$ ,  $e \in T_v UM_p$ . Integrating on  $UM_p$  the codifferential of  $\omega$ , we have

$$(5.10) \quad (n+6) \int_{UM_p} |\sigma(v, v)|^4 dv_p = 4 \int_{UM_p} |A_{\sigma(v, v)} v|^2 dv_p + 2 \int_{UM_p} \langle Lv, v \rangle |\sigma(v, v)|^2 dv_p.$$

Substituting (5.8) and (5.9) into (5.10), we find

$$(5.11) \quad \int_{UM} |\sigma(v, v)|^2 \left( \frac{c}{12} - |\sigma(v, v)|^2 \right) dv = 0.$$

Since  $|\sigma(v, v)|^2 \leq c/12$  for any  $v \in UM$ , we derive from (5.11) that either  $|\sigma(v, v)| \equiv 0$  (i. e.,  $M$  is totally geodesic) or  $|\sigma(v, v)|^2 \equiv c/12$ . When  $|\sigma(v, v)|^2 \equiv c/12$ , we conclude from the classifications of isotropic  $P(R)$ -totally real minimal submanifolds with parallel second fundamental form of a complex projective space (see [4] and [11]) that the immersion of  $M$  into  $CP^m(c)$  is one of the following immersions:  $\varphi_{1,p}: RP^2(c/12) \rightarrow CP^{4+p}(c)$ ;  $\varphi_{2,p}: S^2(c/12) \rightarrow CP^{4+p}(c)$ ;  $\varphi_{3,p}: CP^2(c/3) \rightarrow CP^{r+p}(c)$ ;  $\varphi_{4,p}: QP^2(c/3) \rightarrow CP^{13+p}(c)$ ;  $\varphi_{5,p}: \text{Cay } P^2(c/3) \rightarrow CP^{25+p}(c)$  ( $p=0, 1, 2, \dots$ ). This completes the proof of Theorem 3.

*Proof of Theorem 4.* Let  $v \in UM_p$ , and  $\sigma(v, v) = |\sigma(v, v)|\xi$ . Take an orthonormal basis  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  of  $T_pM$  such that  $A_\xi e_i = \lambda_i e_i$ ,  $i=1, \dots, n$ . Then,

$$(5.12) \quad \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i = 0.$$

Denote by  $A = \max_i \lambda_i^2$ . Since  $n$  is odd, it follows from [3, p.256] that

$$(5.13) \quad \sum_{i=1}^n \langle A_\xi e_i, A_\xi e_i \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i^2 \leq (n-1)A \leq \frac{(n-1)c}{4(3-2/n)}.$$

Using the same arguments as in the proof of Theorem 3 and the hypothesis:  $|\sigma(v, v)|^2 \leq c/4(3-2/n)$ , we conclude that  $M$  is  $P(R)$ -totally real with parallel second fundamental form and either  $|\sigma(v, v)|^2 \equiv 0$  or  $|\sigma(v, v)|^2 \equiv c/4(3-2/n)$  on  $UM$ . Using the classifications of the isotropic  $P(R)$ -totally real minimal submanifolds with parallel second fundamental form in a complex projective space by Naitoh ([5]), we know that the case  $|\sigma(v, v)|^2 \equiv c/4(3-2/n)$  cannot occur. Thus,  $M$  is totally geodesic. This completes the proof of Theorem 4.

### 6. Proof of Theorem 5.

Denote by  $\bar{R}$  the curvature tensor of  $S^{n+p}(1)$ . Let  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  be an orthonormal basis of  $T_pM$ ,  $p \in M$ . Then,

$$(6.1) \quad \sum_{i=1}^n \{ \bar{R}(e_i, v, \sigma(v, e_i), \sigma(v, v)) + 2R(e_i, v, v, A_{\sigma(v, e_i)} v) \} = 2\langle Lv, v \rangle - 2|\sigma(v, v)|^2$$

Since  $T = k\langle, \rangle$ , taking the trace, we have  $k = |\sigma|^2/p$ . Thus, it follows from Lemma 1 and Lemma 2 that

$$(6.2) \quad 0 = \frac{n+4}{3} \int_{UM} |(\nabla\sigma)(v, v, v)|^2 dv + \frac{2}{n+2} \int_{UM} |\sigma|^2 dv - \frac{4}{pn(n+2)} \int_{UM} |\sigma|^4 dv \\ + (n+4) \int_{UM} |A_{\sigma(v, v)} v|^2 dv - 4 \int_{UM} \langle Lv, A_{\sigma(v, v)} v \rangle dv.$$

Suppose that  $\text{Ric}_M \geq (n-1) - (p(n+2)/2(n+p+2))$ . Then, from Gauss' equation, one has that  $0 \leq \langle Lv, v \rangle \leq p(n+2)/2(n+p+2)$  for all  $v \in UM$ . So, we have

$$(6.3) \quad |\sigma|^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n \langle Le_i, e_i \rangle \leq \frac{np(n+2)}{2(n+p+2)},$$

$$(6.4) \quad |Lv|^2 \leq \frac{p(n+2)}{2(n+p+2)} \langle Lv, v \rangle,$$

where  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  is an orthonormal basis of  $T_p M$ ,  $p \in M$ .

By the Schwarz inequality, we have:  $|\sigma(v, v)|^4 \leq |A_{\sigma(v, v)} v|^2$ . So, (5.10) gives

$$(6.5) \quad \int_{UM_p} |A_{\sigma(v, v)} v|^2 dv_p \geq \frac{2}{n+2} \int_{UM_p} \langle Lv, v \rangle |\sigma(v, v)|^2 dv_p.$$

The equality in (6.5) holds if and only if  $M$  is isotropic at  $p$ . Combining (2.4), (5.3) and (6.4), we get

$$(6.6) \quad (n+4) \int_{UM_p} |A_{\sigma(v, v)} v|^2 dv_p - 4 \int_{UM_p} \langle Lv, A_{\sigma(v, v)} v \rangle dv_p \\ \geq -\frac{2n}{n+2} \int_{UM_p} \langle Lv, A_{\sigma(v, v)} v \rangle dv_p = \frac{-4n}{(n+2)^2} \int_{UM_p} |Lv|^2 dv_p \\ \geq -\frac{4n}{(n+2)^2} \cdot \frac{p(n+2)}{2(n+p+2)} \int_{UM_p} \langle Lv, v \rangle dv_p \\ = -\frac{2np}{(n+2)(n+p+2)} \cdot \frac{1}{n} \int_{UM_p} |\sigma|^2 dv_p.$$

Substituting (6.3) and (6.6) into (6.2), we find

$$(6.7) \quad 0 \geq \int_{UM} \frac{2|\sigma|^2}{(n+p+2)} \left\{ 1 - \frac{2(n+p+2)}{np(n+2)} |\sigma|^2 \right\} dv \geq 0.$$

Thus,  $M$  is isotropic with parallel second fundamental form. Using [11], we know that  $M$  is a compact rank one symmetric space, and the immersion of  $M$  into  $S^{n+p}(1)$  is one of the following standard ones:  $S^n(1) \rightarrow S^n(1)$ ;  $RP^2(1/3) \rightarrow S^4(1)$ ;  $S^2(1/3) \rightarrow S^4(1)$ ;  $CP^2(4/3) \rightarrow S^7(1)$ ;  $QP^2(4/3) \rightarrow S^{13}(1)$ ;  $\text{Cay } P^2(4/3) \rightarrow S^{25}(1)$ .

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