

**On 4-dimensional Riemannian manifolds  
satisfying a certain condition on  
the curvature tensor**

Dedicated to Professor Yoshie Katsurada on her sixtieth birthday

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**§ 0. Introduction**

If a Riemannian manifold  $M$  is locally symmetric, then its curvature tensor  $R$  satisfies

$$(*) \quad R(X, Y)R = 0 \quad \text{for any tangent vectors } X \text{ and } Y,$$

where the endomorphism  $R(X, Y)$  operates on  $R$  as a derivation of tensor algebra at each point of  $M$ . As a converse problem, there is a following conjecture by K. Nomizu ([1]).

CONJECTURE. *Let  $M$  be a complete, irreducible Riemannian manifold with  $\dim M \geq 3$ . If  $M$  satisfies the condition (\*), then  $M$  is a locally symmetric space.*

For this conjecture, K. Nomizu gave an affirmative answer in case that  $M$  is complete hypersurface in a Euclidean space ([2]). Furthermore there are some results in this direction ([3], [4], [5]).

In this paper, we shall consider this conjecture on 4-dimensional Riemannian manifold and prove the following theorem

THEOREM. *Let  $M$  be 4-dimensional connected Riemannian manifold with  $R_{i_1j_1i_2j_2}(p) \neq 0$ ,  $p \in M$ . If  $M$  satisfies the condition (\*), then  $M$  is a Einstein space, where  $R_{i_1j_1i_2j_2}(p)$  is the sectional curvature at  $p$  of  $M$  with respect to two directions  $e_{i_1}, e_{j_1}$  in the base vectors of the tangent space of  $M$ .*

COROLLARY 1. *Under the same assumption,  $M$  is locally symmetric. Proof of Corollary 1 is given by the following Theorem (cf. [5])*

THEOREM. *Let  $M$  be 4-dimensional connected Einstein space. If  $M$  satisfies the condition (\*), then  $M$  is locally symmetric.*

COROLLARY 2. *Let  $M$  be 4-dimensional connected Riemannian manifold satisfying the condition (\*). If the sectional curvature of  $M$  does not vanish, then  $M$  is a locally symmetric space.*

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### § 1. Preliminaries

We can see that there is an orthonormal basis  $\{e_1, e_2, e_3, e_4\}$  at each tangent space of  $M$  such that

$$(A) \quad R_{1213} = R_{1214} = R_{1223} = R_{1224} = R_{1314} = R_{1323} = 0,$$

where  $R_{ijkl} = g(R(e_i, e_j)e_k, e_l)$ ,  $1 \leq i, j, k, l \leq 4$ ,  $g$  being the Riemannian metric of  $M$ . Let us denote by  $X \wedge Y$  the endomorphism which maps  $Z$  upon  $g(Z, Y)X - g(Z, X)Y$ . Then we have

$$R(e_i, e_j) = \sum_{a < b} R_{ijab} e_a \wedge e_b \quad 1 \leq a, b \leq 4.$$

From the above relation we have

$$(1.1) \quad \begin{aligned} (R(e_i, e_j)R)(e_k, e_l) &= \left[ \sum_{a < b} R_{ijab} e_a \wedge e_b, \quad \sum_{c < d} R_{klcd} e_c \wedge e_d \right] \\ &\quad - R\left(\left(\sum_{a < b} R_{ijab} e_a \wedge e_b\right) e_k, e_l\right) \\ &\quad - R\left(e_k, \left(\sum_{a < b} R_{ijab} e_a \wedge e_b\right) e_l\right) \\ &= \sum_{a < b} \sum_{c < d} R_{ijab} \left\{ R_{klcd} (\delta_{bc} e_a \wedge e_d - \delta_{ac} e_b \wedge e_d) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \delta_{bd} e_a \wedge e_c - \delta_{ad} e_c \wedge e_b + (\delta_{ak} R_{dlcd} \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \delta_{bk} R_{alcd} - \delta_{bl} R_{kacd} + \delta_{al} R_{kbcd}) e_c \wedge e_d \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

In 4-dimensional Riemannian manifold, only the following three cases are possible ( $1 \leq i, j, k, l \leq 4$ ,  $i, j, k, l \neq$ )

- I.  $R_{ijkl} \neq 0$ ,
- II. one of  $R_{ijkl}$  is equal to zero,
- III.  $R_{ijkl} = 0$ ,

where the symbol " $i, j, k, l \neq$ " means that  $i, j, k, l$  are mutually distinct. In the following sections, we always assume that  $M$  satisfies the condition (\*) and  $R_{ijij} \neq 0$

### § 2. Case of $R_{ijkl} \neq 0$ ( $i, j, k, l \neq$ )

LEMMA 2.1.  $R_{ijil} = 0$ .

PROOF. From (1.1) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= g\left(\left(R(e_1, e_2)R\right)(e_2, e_3)e_2, e_3\right) = 2R_{1234}R_{2324}, \\ 0 &= g\left(\left(R(e_1, e_3)R\right)(e_2, e_3)e_1, e_3\right) = R_{1423}R_{1334}, \\ 0 &= g\left(\left(R(e_1, e_4)R\right)(e_2, e_4)e_1, e_4\right) = R_{1324}R_{1434}. \end{aligned}$$

From these relations and  $R_{ijkl} \neq 0$  ( $i, j, k, l \neq$ ), we get

$$(2.1) \quad R_{2324} = R_{1334} = R_{1434} = 0.$$

From the above results and (1.1) we have

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= g\left(\left(R(e_1, e_2)R\right)(e_2, e_3)e_1, e_4\right) = R_{1234}R_{1424}, \\ 0 &= g\left(\left(R(e_1, e_3)R\right)(e_2, e_3)e_2, e_3\right) = R_{1324}R_{2324}, \\ 0 &= g\left(\left(R(e_1, e_4)R\right)(e_2, e_4)e_2, e_4\right) = 2R_{1423}R_{2434}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus we obtain

$$(2.2) \quad R_{1424} = R_{2334} = R_{2434} = 0.$$

Therefore by means of (A), (2.1) and (2.2) we obtain  $R_{ijji} = 0$ . *Q.E.D.*

LEMMA 2.2  $R_{1212} = R_{3434}$ ,  $R_{1313} = R_{2424}$ ,  $R_{1414} = R_{2323}$ .

PROOF. From (1.1) we have

$$(2.3) \quad \begin{aligned} 0 &= g\left(\left(R(e_1, e_2)R\right)(e_1, e_3)e_1, e_4\right) = R_{1212}(R_{1423} + R_{1324}) \\ &\quad - R_{1234}(R_{1313} - R_{1414}), \end{aligned}$$

$$(2.4) \quad \begin{aligned} 0 &= g\left(\left(R(e_1, e_2)R\right)(e_2, e_3)e_2, e_4\right) = R_{1212}(R_{1423} + R_{1324}) \\ &\quad + R_{1234}(R_{2323} - R_{2424}), \end{aligned}$$

$$(2.5) \quad \begin{aligned} 0 &= g\left(\left(R(e_1, e_3)R\right)(e_1, e_4)e_1, e_2\right) = R_{1313}(R_{1234} - R_{1423}) \\ &\quad - R_{1324}(R_{1212} - R_{1414}), \end{aligned}$$

$$(2.6) \quad \begin{aligned} 0 &= g\left(\left(R(e_1, e_3)R\right)(e_2, e_3)e_3, e_4\right) = R_{1313}(R_{1234} - R_{1423}) \\ &\quad - R_{1324}(R_{3434} - R_{2323}), \end{aligned}$$

$$(2.7) \quad \begin{aligned} 0 &= g\left(\left(R(e_2, e_3)R\right)(e_2, e_4)e_1, e_2\right) = R_{2323}(R_{1234} + R_{1324}) \\ &\quad - R_{1423}(R_{2424} - R_{1212}), \end{aligned}$$

$$(2.8) \quad \begin{aligned} 0 &= g\left(\left(R(e_2, e_3)R\right)(e_3, e_4)e_1, e_3\right) = R_{2323}(R_{1234} + R_{1324}) \\ &\quad - R_{1423}(R_{1313} - R_{3434}). \end{aligned}$$

From (2.3) and (2.4), we have that

$$(2.9) \quad R_{2323} - R_{2424} + R_{1313} - R_{1414} = 0.$$

From (2.5) and (2.6) we obtain that

$$(2.10) \quad R_{3434} - R_{2323} - R_{1212} + R_{1414} = 0.$$

From (2.7) and (2.8) we have that

$$(2.11) \quad R_{1313} - R_{3434} - R_{2424} + R_{1212} = 0.$$

From (2.9), (2.10) and (2.11), we have

$$R_{1313} = R_{2424}.$$

Then by means of (2.9), (2.10) and (2.11) it follows that

$$R_{1414} = R_{2323}, \quad R_{1212} = R_{3434}. \quad \text{Q.E.D.}$$

The following Lemma is well known.

LEMMA 2.3. If  $nR_{ij}R^{ij} = R^2$ , then  $M$  is an Einstein space, where  $R_{ij}$  mean the components of Ricci tensor,  $n$  is the dimension of  $M$  and  $R$  the scalar curvature.

PROPOSITION 2.4.  $M$  is an Einstein space.

PROOF. By Lemma 2.1. and Lemma 2.2. we obtain

$$R_{jl} = 0 \quad (j \neq l), \\ R_{11} = R_{22} = R_{33} = R_{44}.$$

Thus by Lemma 2.3.,  $M$  is a Einstein space.

### § 3. Case of that one of $R_{ijkl}$ is equal to zero ( $i, j, k, l \neq$ )

LEMMA 3.1. If  $R_{1234} = 0$ , then  $R_{1212} = 0$ .

PROOF. From  $R_{1234} = 0$ , we get

$$R_{1324} = R_{1423} (\neq 0).$$

From 1.1 we obtain

$$0 = g\left(\left(R(e_1, e_2)R\right)(e_1, e_3)e_1, e_4\right) = R_{1212}(R_{1423} + R_{1324}) \\ = 2R_{1212}R_{1324}.$$

Therefore we have  $R_{1212} = 0$ .

Q.E.D.

LEMMA 3.2 If  $R_{1423} = 0$ , then  $R_{2323} = 0$ .

PROOF. From  $R_{1423} = 0$ , we get

$$R_{1234} = R_{1324} (\neq 0).$$

From (1.1) we have

$$0 = g\left(\left(R(e_1, e_2)R\right)(e_2, e_3)e_2, e_3\right) = 2R_{1234}R_{2324},$$

Thus we have  $R_{2324} = 0$ .

From the above result and (1.1) we have

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= g\left(\left(R(e_2, e_3)R\right)(e_2, e_4)e_1, e_2\right) = R_{2323}(R_{1324} + R_{1234}) \\ &= 2R_{1234}R_{2323}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore we obtain  $R_{2323} = 0$ .

Q.E.D.

LEMMA 3.3. If  $R_{1324} = 0$ , then  $R_{1313} = 0$ .

PROOF. From  $R_{1324} = 0$ , we get

$$R_{1234} = -R_{1423} (\neq 0).$$

From (1.1) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= g\left(\left(R(e_1, e_3)R\right)(e_1, e_4)e_1, e_2\right) = R_{1313}(R_{1234} - R_{1423}) \\ &= 2R_{1234}R_{1313}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus we have  $R_{1313} = 0$ .

Q.E.D.

#### § 4. Case of $R_{ijkl} = 0$ ( $i, j, k, l \neq$ ).

LEMMA 4.1.  $R_{ijil} = 0$ .

PROOF. From (1.1) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= g\left(\left(R(e_1, e_2)R\right)(e_1, e_3)e_2, e_4\right) = R_{1212}R_{2334}, \\ 0 &= g\left(\left(R(e_1, e_2)R\right)(e_1, e_3)e_3, e_4\right) = R_{1212}R_{2334}, \\ 0 &= g\left(\left(R(e_1, e_2)R\right)(e_1, e_4)e_1, e_4\right) = 2R_{1212}R_{1424}, \\ 0 &= g\left(\left(R(e_1, e_2)R\right)(e_1, e_4)e_3, e_4\right) = R_{1212}R_{2434}, \\ 0 &= g\left(\left(R(e_1, e_2)R\right)(e_2, e_3)e_3, e_4\right) = R_{1212}R_{1334}, \\ 0 &= g\left(\left(R(e_1, e_2)R\right)(e_2, e_4)e_3, e_4\right) = R_{1212}R_{1434}. \end{aligned}$$

From these relations and  $R_{1212} \neq 0$ , we have

$$R_{2324} = R_{2334} = R_{1424} = R_{2434} = R_{1334} = R_{1434} = 0.$$

Therefore by means of (A) and above results we obtain  $R_{ijil} = 0$ .

Q.E.D.

Lemma 4.2  $R_{1313} = R_{2323}$  and  $R_{1414} = R_{2424}$ .

PROOF. From (1.1) we have

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= g\left(\left(R(e_1, e_2)R\right)(e_1, e_3)(e_2, e_3)\right) = R_{1212}(R_{2323} - R_{1313}), \\ 0 &= g\left(\left(R(e_1, e_2)R\right)(e_1, e_4)(e_2, e_4)\right) = R_{1212}(R_{2424} - R_{1414}). \end{aligned}$$

Then from  $R_{1212} \neq 0$ , we have

$$R_{2323} = R_{1313}, \quad R_{2424} = R_{1414}. \quad \text{Q.E.D.}$$

LEMMA 4.3.  $R_{1212} = R_{1313} = R_{1414} = R_{2323} = R_{2424} = R_{3434}$ .

PROOF. From (1.1) we have

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= g\left(\left(R(e_1, e_3)R\right)(e_1, e_4)(e_3, e_4)\right) = R_{1313}(R_{3434} - R_{1414}), \\ 0 &= g\left(\left(R(e_1, e_3)R\right)(e_2, e_3)(e_1, e_2)\right) = R_{1313}(R_{1212} - R_{2323}), \\ 0 &= g\left(\left(R(e_1, e_4)R\right)(e_2, e_4)(e_1, e_2)\right) = R_{1414}(R_{1212} - R_{2424}), \\ 0 &= g\left(\left(R(e_1, e_4)R\right)(e_3, e_4)(e_1, e_3)\right) = R_{1414}(R_{1313} - R_{3434}). \end{aligned}$$

Thus, by means of  $R_{1313} \neq 0$ ,  $R_{1414} \neq 0$ , and Lemma 4.2., we have

$$R_{1212} = R_{1313} = R_{1414} = R_{2323} = R_{2424} = R_{3434}. \quad \text{Q.E.D.}$$

PROPOSITION 4.4.  $M$  is a space of constant curvature.

This proposition is proved without difficulty.

## § 5. Proof of theorem

By Lemma 3.1., 3.2., and 3.3., under the assumptions in the Theorem, case of that one of  $R_{ijkl}$  is equal to zero does not occur ( $i, j, k, l \neq$ ). Therefore Theorem is proved by proposition 2.4. and Proposition 4.4.

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