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## DEGREE OF SYMMETRIC KÄHLERIAN SUBMANIFOLDS OF A COMPLEX PROJECTIVE SPACE

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**Introduction.** Let  $P_N(c)$  denote the  $N$ -dimensional complex projective space  $P_N(\mathbb{C})$  endowed with the Fubini-Study metric of constant holomorphic sectional curvature  $c > 0$ . For an irreducible symmetric Kählerian manifold  $M$  of compact type, Nakagawa-Takagi [5] constructed a series of full equivariant Kählerian imbeddings

$$f_p: (M, g_p) \rightarrow P_{Np}(c),$$

parametrized by positive integers  $p$ , and observed that the degree  $d(f_p)$  of  $f_p$  (See §1 for the definition) is given by

$$d(f_p) = rp, \quad \text{where } r = \text{rank } M,$$

in the case where  $p=1$  or  $M$  is a complex quadric or a complex Grassmann manifold.

In this note we shall prove the above equality for general symmetric Kählerian submanifolds of  $P_N(c)$ : Let

$$f_i: (M_i, g_i) \rightarrow P_{N_i}(c) \quad (1 \leq i \leq s)$$

be the  $p_i$ -th full Kählerian imbedding of an irreducible symmetric Kählerian manifold  $M_i$  of rank  $r_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq s$ ). Take the tensor product (See §2 for the definition)

$$f = f_1 \boxtimes \cdots \boxtimes f_s: (M_1 \times \cdots \times M_s, g_1 \times \cdots \times g_s) \rightarrow P_N(c)$$

of the  $f_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq s$ ). Then (Theorem 2) the degree  $d(f)$  is given by

$$d(f) = \sum_{i=1}^s r_i p_i.$$

It should be noted that any full Kählerian immersion  $f$  into  $P_N(c)$  of a symmetric Kählerian manifold of compact type is obtained in this way.

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### 1. Degree of Kählerian immersions

Let  $V$  be a real vector space of dimension  $2n$ , equipped with an almost complex structure  $J$  and an inner product  $g$  satisfying

$$g(Jx, Jy) = g(x, y) \quad \text{for } x, y \in V.$$

Such a pair  $(J, g)$  will be called a *hermitian structure* on  $V$ . Denoting complex linear extensions of  $J$  and  $g$  to the complexification  $V^c$  of  $V$  by the same  $J$  and  $g$  respectively, we define subspaces  $V^\pm$  of  $V^c$  and a hermitian inner product  $\langle, \rangle$  on  $V^c$  by

$$\begin{aligned} V^\pm &= \{x \in V^c; Jx = \pm \sqrt{-1}x\}, \\ \langle x, y \rangle &= g(x, \bar{y}) \quad \text{for } x, y \in V^c, \end{aligned}$$

where  $x \mapsto \bar{x}$  denotes the complex conjugation of  $V^c$  with respect to  $V$ . Then we have  $\bar{V}^\pm = V^\mp$  and

$$V^c = V^+ \oplus V^- \quad (\text{orthogonal direct sum with respect to } \langle, \rangle).$$

A basis  $u = (u_1, \dots, u_n)$  of  $V^+$  satisfying  $\langle u_i, u_j \rangle = \delta_{ij}$  ( $1 \leq i, j \leq n$ ) is called a *unitary frame* of  $V$ .

Let  $E$  be a smooth real vector bundle over a smooth manifold  $M^*$  with a smooth assignment  $(J, g): p \mapsto (J_p, g_p)$  of hermitian structures on fibres  $E_p$ .  $(J, g)$  is called a *hermitian structure* on  $E$ . Then, getting together the constructions on fibres  $E_p$ , we have a hermitian inner product  $\langle, \rangle$  on the complexification  $E^c$  of  $E$ , and subbundles

$$E^\pm = \bigcup_{p \in M} E_p^\pm$$

of  $E^c$  satisfying

$$E^c = E^+ \oplus E^- \quad (\text{orthogonal Whitney sum}),$$

and the complex conjugation  $E^\pm \xrightarrow{\bar{\phantom{x}}} E^\mp$ . The map on the space of smooth sections induced from the complex conjugation will be also denoted by

$$C^\infty(E^\pm) \xrightarrow{\bar{\phantom{x}}} C^\infty(E^\mp).$$

Let  $(M, g)$  be a Kählerian manifold of  $\dim_c M = n$ . Then the almost complex structure tensor  $J$  and the Kählerian metric  $g$  give a hermitian structure on the tangent bundle  $T(M)$  of  $M$ . Thus we get a hermitian inner product  $\langle, \rangle$  on the complexification  $T(M)^c$  of  $T(M)$  and subbundles  $T(M)^\pm$  of  $T(M)^c$  such that

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\* In this note, a manifold will be always assumed to be connected.

$$T(M)^c = T(M)^+ \oplus T(M)^- \text{ (orthogonal Whitney sum).}$$

Denote by  $U_p(M)$  the totality of unitary frames of  $T_p(M)$ . Then the union

$$U(M, g) = \bigcup_{p \in M} U_p(M)$$

has a structure of smooth principal bundle over  $M$  with the structure group  $U(n)$ . The Levi-Civita's connection form  $\omega$  and the canonical form  $\theta$  of  $(M, g)$  will be considered as a  $\mathfrak{u}(n)$ -valued 1-form and  $\mathbb{C}^n$ -valued 1-form on  $U(M, g)$  respectively.  $\omega_B^A$  ( $1 \leq A, B \leq n$ ) and  $\theta^A$  ( $1 \leq A \leq n$ ) denote the components of  $\omega$  and  $\theta$  respectively.

Now let  $(M, g)$  and  $(M', g')$  be Kählerian manifolds of complex dimensions  $n$  and  $N$  respectively and

$$f: (M, g) \rightarrow (M', g')$$

be a Kählerian immersion, i.e., a holomorphic isometric immersion of  $(M, g)$  into  $(M', g')$ . The almost complex structure tensors of  $M$  and  $M'$  will be denoted by  $J$  and  $J'$  respectively. The Levi-Civita connections of  $T(M)$  and  $T(M')$  are denoted by  $\nabla$  and  $\nabla'$  respectively. The induced bundle  $f^*T(M')$  over  $M$  has a hermitian structure  $(J', g')$  induced from the one on  $T(M')$ . Also it has a connection induced from the Levi-Civita connection on  $T(M')$ , which will be also denoted by  $\nabla'$ . If we denote the orthogonal complement of  $f_*T_p(M)$  in  $T_{f(p)}(M')$  with respect to  $g'_{f(p)}$  by  $N_p(M)$ , the union

$$N(M) = \bigcup_{p \in M} N_p(M)$$

is a subbundle of  $f^*T(M')$ , having a hermitian structure  $(J', g')$  induced from the one on  $f^*T(M')$ . The hermitian inner products on  $T(M)^c$ ,  $T(M')^c$ ,  $f^*T(M')^c$  and  $N(M)^c$  will be denoted by the same  $\langle, \rangle$ . We have the following orthogonal Whitney sum decompositions:

$$\begin{aligned} f^*T(M') &= f_*T(M) \oplus N(M), \\ f^*T(M')^c &= f_*T(M)^c \oplus N(M)^c, \\ f^*T(M')^\pm &= f_*T(M)^\pm \oplus N(M)^\pm, \end{aligned}$$

where the complex linear extension of the differential  $f_*$  is denoted by the same  $f_*$ . The injections  $f_*: T(M) \rightarrow f^*T(M')$ ,  $f_*: T(M)^c \rightarrow f^*T(M')^c$  and  $f_*: T(M)^\pm \rightarrow f^*T(M')^\pm$  preserve the respective inner products. So we shall often identify  $T(M)$  etc. with a subbundle of  $f^*T(M')$  etc. through the injections  $f_*$ . The orthogonal projection  $f^*T(M') \rightarrow N(M)$  will be denoted by  $x \mapsto x^\perp$  and the induced projection  $C^\infty(f^*T(M')) \rightarrow C^\infty(N(M))$  will be also denoted by  $\xi \mapsto \xi^\perp$ . Then the normal connection  $D$  on  $N(M)$  satisfies

$$D_X \xi = (\nabla'_X \xi)^\perp \quad \text{for } X \in C^\infty(T(M)), \xi \in C^\infty(N(M)).$$

Now we shall define the *higher fundamental form*  $H^m$  of  $f$  as a smooth section of the complex vector bundle  $\text{Hom}(\otimes^m T(M)^+, N(M)^+)$ . In the sequel, for a real linear object, its complex linear extension will be denoted by the same notation. For vector spaces  $V$  and  $W$ , the space  $\text{Hom}(\otimes^m V, W)$  of linear maps from the  $m$ -fold tensor product  $\otimes^m V$  of  $V$  into  $W$  will be identified with the space of  $m$ -multilinear maps on  $V$  into  $W$ . Let  $h^2 \in C^\infty(\text{Hom}(\otimes^2 T(M), N(M)))$  be the second fundamental form of  $f$ , i.e.,

$$h^2(x, y) = (\nabla'_x Y)^\perp \quad \text{for } x, y \in T_p(M),$$

where  $Y$  is a local smooth vector field on  $M$  around  $p$  such that  $Y_p = y$ . It is known (cf. Kobayashi-Nomizu [3]) that

$$h^2(x, y) = h^2(y, x), \quad h^2(Jx, y) = J'h^2(x, y) \quad \text{for } x, y \in T_p(M),$$

and hence

$$(1.1) \quad h^2(T_p(M)^+, T_p(M)^-) = \{0\}, \quad h^2(T_p(M)^\pm, T_p(M)^\pm) \subset N_p(M)^\pm.$$

We define  $h^m \in C^\infty(\text{Hom}(\otimes^m T(M), N(M)))$  ( $m \geq 3$ ) inductively as follows:

$$(1.2) \quad h^{m+1}(x_1, \dots, x_m, x_{m+1}) = D_{x_{m+1}} h^m(X_1, \dots, X_m) \\ - \sum_{i=1}^m h^m(x_1, \dots, \nabla_{x_{m+1}} X_i, \dots, x_m) \quad \text{for } x_i \in T_p(M),$$

where the  $X_i$  are smooth local vector fields on  $M$  around  $p$  such that  $(X_i)_p = x_i$ . Note that (1.1) and (1.2) imply

$$h^m(x_1, \dots, x_m) \in N_p(M)^+ \quad \text{for } x_1, x_2 \in T_p(M)^+ \text{ and } x_3, \dots, x_m \in T_p(M)^c.$$

Now  $H^m \in C^\infty(\text{Hom}(\otimes^m T(M)^+, N(M)^+))$  ( $m \geq 2$ ) is defined by

$$H^m(x_1, \dots, x_m) = h^m(x_1, \dots, x_m) \quad \text{for } x_i \in T_p(M)^+.$$

We write

$$\sum_{m \geq 2} h^m \in C^\infty(\text{Hom}(\sum_{m \geq 2} \otimes^m T(M), N(M)))$$

and

$$\sum_{m \geq 2} H^m \in C^\infty(\text{Hom}(\sum_{m \geq 2} \otimes^m (T(M)^+, N(M)^+)))$$

by  $h$  and  $H$  respectively. Note that then we have

$$(1.3) \quad \begin{cases} H(X_1, X_2) = \nabla'_{X_2} X_1 - \nabla_{X_2} X_1, \\ H(X_1, \dots, X_m, X_{m+1}) = D_{X_{m+1}} H(X_1, \dots, X_m) \\ \quad - \sum_{i=1}^m H(X_1, \dots, \nabla_{X_{m+1}} X_i, \dots, X_m) \quad (m \geq 2) \end{cases} \\ \text{for } X_i \in C^\infty(T(M)^+).$$

Making use of the higher fundamental form  $H$  we shall define the degree  $d(f)$  of the Kählerian immersion  $f$ . Let  $p \in M$ . For a positive integer  $m$ , we define a subspace  $\mathcal{A}_p^m(M)$  of  $T_{f(p)}(M')^+$  to be the subspace spanned by  $T_p(M)^+$  and  $H(\sum_{2 \leq k \leq m} \otimes^k T_p(M)^+)$ . Then we get a series

$$\mathcal{A}_p^1(M) \subset \mathcal{A}_p^2(M) \subset \dots \subset \mathcal{A}_p^m(M) \subset \mathcal{A}_p^{m+1}(M) \subset \dots \subset T_{f(p)}(M')^+$$

of increasing subspaces of  $T_{f(p)}(M')^+$ . We define  $O_p^m(M)$  to be the orthogonal complement of  $\mathcal{A}_p^{m-1}(M)$  in  $\mathcal{A}_p^m(M)$  with respect to  $\langle, \rangle$ , where  $\mathcal{A}_p^0(M)$  is understood to be  $\{0\}$ . Thus we have an orthogonal direct sum:

$$\mathcal{A}_p^m(M) = O_p^1(M) \oplus O_p^2(M) \oplus \dots \oplus O_p^m(M).$$

For each positive integer  $m$ , we define the set  $\mathcal{R}_m$  of  $m$ -regular points of  $M$  inductively as follows. Define  $\mathcal{R}_1 = M$ . For  $m \geq 2$ , assume  $\mathcal{R}_{m-1}$  is already defined. Then we define

$$\mathcal{R}_m = \{p \in \mathcal{R}_{m-1}; \dim_C \mathcal{A}_p^m(M) = \max_{p' \in \mathcal{R}_{m-1}} \dim_C \mathcal{A}_{p'}^m(M)\}.$$

We have inclusions:  $\mathcal{R}_1 \supset \mathcal{R}_2 \supset \dots \supset \mathcal{R}_m \supset \mathcal{R}_{m+1} \supset \dots$ . Note that each  $\mathcal{R}_m$  is an open non-empty subset of  $M$  and that

$$\mathcal{A}^m(M) = \bigcup_{p \in \mathcal{R}_m} \mathcal{A}_p^m(M)$$

is a smooth complex vector bundle over  $\mathcal{R}_m$  which is a subbundle of  $f^*T(M')^+|_{\mathcal{R}_m}$  for each  $m$ .

**Lemma 1.** *Let  $p \in \mathcal{R}_m, m \geq 1$ .*

1) *For each  $x \in T_p(M)^+$  and each local smooth section  $Y$  of  $\mathcal{A}^m(M)$  around  $p$  we have*

$$\nabla'_x Y \in \mathcal{A}_p^{m+1}(M).$$

2)  *$O_p^{m+1}(M) = \{0\}$  if and only if for each  $x \in T_p(M)^+$  and each local smooth section  $Y$  of  $\mathcal{A}^m(M)$  around  $p$  we have*

$$\nabla'_x Y \in \mathcal{A}_p^m(M).$$

**Proof.** Induction on  $m$ . Let  $x \in T_p(M)^+$  and  $Y$  a local smooth section of  $\mathcal{A}^1(M) = T(M)^+$  around  $p$ . Then by (1.3)

$$\nabla'_x Y \equiv H(Y_p, x) \pmod{\mathcal{A}_p^1(M)},$$

which implies the Lemma for  $m=1$ . Let  $m \geq 2$  and  $x \in T_p(M)^+$ . Each local smooth section  $Y$  of  $\mathcal{A}^m(M)$  around  $p$  is written as

$$Y = Z + \Sigma H(X_1, \dots, X_m)$$

by a local smooth section  $Z$  of  $\mathcal{A}^{m-1}(M)|_{\mathcal{R}_m}$  and local smooth sections  $X_i$  of

$T(M)^+$  around  $p$ . From the assumption of the induction, we have  $\nabla'_x Z \in \mathcal{H}_p^m(M)$ . Further (1.3) implies

$$\nabla'_x H(X_1, \dots, X_m) \equiv D_x H(X_1, \dots, X_m) \equiv H((X_1)_p, \dots, (X_m)_p, x) \pmod{\mathcal{H}_p^m(M)},$$

and hence

$$\nabla'_x Y \equiv \sum H((X_1)_p, \dots, (X_m)_p, x) \pmod{\mathcal{H}_p^m(M)}.$$

This implies the Lemma for  $m$ .

q.e.d.

It follows from Lemma 1, 2) that there exists uniquely a positive integer  $d$  such that

$$\begin{cases} O_p^d(M) \neq \{0\} & \text{for some } p \in \mathcal{R}_d, \\ O_p^{d+1}(M) = \{0\} & \text{for each } p \in \mathcal{R}_d. \end{cases}$$

Such integer  $d$  is called the *degree* of the Kählerian immersion  $f$  and denoted by  $d = d(f)$ . We have

$$\mathcal{R}_d = \mathcal{R}_{d+1} = \dots$$

This open subset  $\mathcal{R}_d$  of  $M$  will be denoted by  $\mathcal{R}$  and called the set of *regular points* of  $M$ .

**Lemma 2** (Nakagawa-Takagi [5]). *If  $(M', g') = P_N(c)$ , then:*

- 1)  $H^m$  is symmetric multilinear for each  $m \geq 2$ ;
- 2) For each  $u = (u_1, \dots, u_n) \in U(M, g)$ , we have

(a)  $h(u_i, u_j, \bar{u}_k) = 0$ ,

(b)  $h(u_{i_1}, \dots, u_{i_m}, \bar{u}_j) = \frac{m-2}{2} c \sum_{r=1}^m \delta_{i_r, j} H(u_{i_1}, \dots, \hat{u}_{i_r}, \dots, u_{i_m})$

$$- \sum_{r=1}^{m-2} \frac{1}{r!(m-r)!} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{\sigma} \langle H(u_{i_{\sigma(r+1)}}, \dots, u_{i_{\sigma(m)}}), H(u_i, u_j) \rangle \times H(u_i, u_{i_{\sigma(1)}}, \dots, u_{i_{\sigma(r)}}) \quad (m \geq 3),$$

where  $\sigma$  runs through the permutations of  $\{1, 2, \dots, m\}$ .

**Lemma 3** (Nakagawa [4]). *Let  $M$  be a smooth manifold,  $p_0 \in M$  and*

$$f: M \rightarrow P_N(\mathbf{C})$$

*a smooth immersion. Let  $\pi: U(P_N(c)) \rightarrow P_N(\mathbf{C})$  be the bundle of unitary frames of  $P_N(c)$ ,  $\theta^A$  ( $1 \leq A \leq N$ ) and  $\omega_B^A$  ( $1 \leq A, B \leq N$ ) be canonical forms and Levi-Civita's connection forms of  $P_N(c)$  respectively. Then,  $f(M)$  is contained in an  $N'$ -dimensional linear subvariety of  $P_N(\mathbf{C})$  if and only if we can find  $u_0 \in U(P_N(c))$  with  $\pi(u_0) = f(p_0)$  such that for each smooth curve  $\{p_t\}$  of  $M$  through  $p_0$  there exists a smooth curve  $\{u_t\}$  of  $U(P_N(c))$  through  $u_0$  with  $\pi(u_t) = f(p_t)$  satisfying*

$$\begin{cases} \theta^A(\dot{u}_t) = 0 & (N'+1 \leq A \leq N), \\ \omega_B^A(\dot{u}_t) = 0 & (N'+1 \leq A \leq N, 1 \leq B \leq N'). \end{cases}$$

Now we prove the following theorem, giving a geometric interpretation of the degree  $d(f)$ .

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $(M', g') = P_N(c)$  and*

$$f: (M, g) \rightarrow P_N(c)$$

*be a Kählerian immersion. Then the dimension  $N'(f)$  of the smallest linear subvariety of  $P_N(\mathbf{C})$  containing  $f(M)$  is given by*

$$N'(f) = \text{rank}_{\mathbf{C}} \mathcal{A}^{d(f)}(M).$$

*Proof.* First we show that for each  $x \in T_p(M)$ ,  $p \in \mathcal{R}_m$  ( $m \geq 1$ ) and for each local smooth section  $Y$  of  $\mathcal{A}^m(M)$  around  $p$ , we have

$$(1.4) \quad \nabla'_x Y \in \mathcal{A}^{m+1}_p(M).$$

By virtue of Lemma 1, 1), it suffices to show (1.4) for  $x \in T_p(M)^-$ . It follows from (1.1) and (1.2) that for each local smooth sections  $X, X_i$  of  $T(M)^+$  around  $p$  we have

$$(1.5) \quad \begin{cases} \nabla'_x X_1 = \nabla_x X_1, \\ D_x H(X_1, \dots, X_m) = h(X_1, \dots, X_m, \bar{X}) \\ \quad + \sum_{i=1}^m H(X_1, \dots, \nabla_x X_i, \dots, X_m) \quad (m \geq 2). \end{cases}$$

Here we know that  $h(X_1, \dots, X_m, \bar{X})$  is a local smooth section of  $\mathcal{A}^m(M)$  in view of Lemma 2,2), and hence we can prove (1.4) for  $x \in T_p(M)^-$  in the same way as Lemma 1.

Take a connected component  $M_0$  of the set  $\mathcal{R}$  of regular points and take  $p_0 \in M_0$ . (1.4) implies

$$(1.6) \quad \nabla'_x Y \in \mathcal{A}^{d(f)}_p(M)$$

for each  $x \in T_p(M)$ ,  $p \in M_0$ , and for each local smooth section  $Y$  of  $\mathcal{A}^{d(f)}(M)|_{M_0}$  around  $p$ . Using the notation in Lemma 3, we choose a unitary frame  $u_0 = (u_1(0), \dots, u_N(0)) \in U(P_N(c))$  with  $\pi(u_0) = f(p_0)$  such that  $\{u_1(0), \dots, u_{N'}(0)\}$  spans  $\mathcal{A}^{d(f)}_p(M)$ , where  $N' = \text{rank}_{\mathbf{C}} \mathcal{A}^{d(f)}(M)$ . For each smooth curve  $\{p_t\}$  of  $M_0$  through  $p_0$ , we can choose a smooth curve  $\{u_t = (u_1(t), \dots, u_N(t))\}$  of  $U(P_N(c))$  through  $u_0$  with  $\pi(u_t) = f(p_t)$  such that  $\{u_1(t), \dots, u_{N'}(t)\}$  spans  $\mathcal{A}^{d(f)}_{p_t}(M)$ . This is possible since  $\mathcal{A}^{d(f)}(M)|_{M_0}$  is a subbundle of  $f^*T(M')^+|_{M_0}$ . Then (1.6) implies

$$\begin{aligned} \theta^A(\dot{u}_t) &= \langle f_*(\dot{p}_t), u_A(t) \rangle = 0 & (N'+1 \leq A \leq N), \\ \omega_B^A(\dot{u}_t) &= \langle \nabla'_{f_*(\dot{p}_t)} u_B(t), u_A(t) \rangle = 0 & (N'+1 \leq A \leq N, 1 \leq B \leq N'). \end{aligned}$$



Thus, by Lemma 3,  $f(M_0)$  is contained in an  $N'$ -dimensional linear subvariety  $P$  of  $P_N(\mathbf{C})$ . From the analyticity of the immersion  $f$ , we conclude  $f(M) \subset P$ , and hence  $N'(f) \leq N'$ .

Assume that  $f(M)$  is contained in a linear subvariety  $P'$  of  $P_N(\mathbf{C})$ . Since  $P'$  is a totally geodesic complex submanifold of  $P_N(c)$ , we have

$$\mathcal{H}_p^{d(f)}(M) \subset T_{f(p)}(P')^+ \quad \text{for } p \in \mathcal{R}.$$

This implies  $N' \leq N'(f)$  and hence  $N' = N'(f)$ . q.e.d.

### 2. Symmetric Kählerian submanifolds of $P_N(\mathbf{C})$

A holomorphic immersion  $f$  of a complex manifold  $M$  into  $P_N(\mathbf{C})$  is said to be *full* if  $f(M)$  is not contained in any proper linear subvariety of  $P_N(\mathbf{C})$ . In this section we recall the construction of full Kählerian imbeddings into  $P_N(c)$  of a symmetric Kählerian manifold of compact type. (cf. Borel [1], Takeuchi [6], Nakagawa-Takagi [5])

Let  $\Pi = \{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_l\}$  be an irreducible Dynkin diagram and  $\Sigma$  the root system with the fundamental root system  $\Pi$ . Take a lexicographic order  $>$  on  $\Sigma$  such that the set of simple roots in  $\Sigma$  with respect to  $>$  coincides with  $\Pi$ . Assume that the highest (with respect to  $>$ ) root  $\gamma_1$  of  $\Sigma$  has the following expression:

$$\gamma_1 = \alpha_1 + \sum_{i=2}^l m_i \alpha_i.$$

Put  $\Pi_0 = \{\alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_l\}$  and fix a positive integer  $p$ . To the triple  $(\Pi, \Pi_0; p)$  we can associate a full Kählerian imbedding of an irreducible symmetric Kählerian manifold into  $P_N(c)$  as follows.

Take a compact simple Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$  with the Dynkin diagram  $\Pi$ . Let  $\mathfrak{t}$  be a maximal abelian subalgebra of  $\mathfrak{g}$  and denote by  $\mathfrak{g}^c$  and  $\mathfrak{t}^c$  the complexifications of  $\mathfrak{g}$  and  $\mathfrak{t}$  respectively. We identify a weight of  $\mathfrak{g}^c$  relative to the Cartan subalgebra  $\mathfrak{t}^c$  with an element of  $\sqrt{-1}\mathfrak{t}$  by means of the duality defined by the Killing form  $(\cdot, \cdot)$  of  $\mathfrak{g}^c$ . Thus the root system  $\Sigma$  of  $\mathfrak{g}^c$  relative to  $\mathfrak{t}^c$  is a subset of  $\sqrt{-1}\mathfrak{t}$ . Let  $\{\Lambda_1, \dots, \Lambda_l\}, \{\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_l\} \subset \sqrt{-1}\mathfrak{t}$  be the fundamental weights of  $\mathfrak{g}^c$  and the dual basis for  $\Pi$  respectively:

$$\frac{2(\Lambda_i, \alpha_j)}{(\alpha_j, \alpha_j)} = \delta_{ij}, \quad (\alpha_i, \varepsilon_j) = \delta_{ij} \quad (1 \leq i, j \leq l).$$

Put  $\Sigma^+ = \{\alpha \in \Sigma; \alpha > 0\}$ ,  $\Sigma_0 = \Sigma \cap \{\Pi_0\}_Z$  and  $\Sigma_m^+ = \Sigma^+ - \Sigma_0$ , where  $\{\Pi_0\}_Z$  denotes the subgroup of  $\sqrt{-1}\mathfrak{t}$  generated by  $\Pi_0$ . Define subalgebras  $\mathfrak{k}^c, \mathfrak{m}^+$  and  $\mathfrak{u}$  of  $\mathfrak{g}^c$  by

$$\mathfrak{k}^c = \mathfrak{t}^c + \sum_{\alpha \in \Sigma_0} \mathfrak{g}_\alpha^c, \quad \mathfrak{m}^+ = \sum_{\alpha \in \Sigma_m^+} \mathfrak{g}_\alpha^c,$$

$$\mathfrak{u} = \mathfrak{t}^c + \sum_{\alpha \in \Sigma_0 \cup \Sigma_m^+} \mathfrak{g}_\alpha^c,$$

where  $\mathfrak{g}_\alpha^c$  denotes the root space of  $\mathfrak{g}^c$  for  $\alpha \in \Sigma$ . Let  $\mathfrak{k} = \mathfrak{k}^c \cap \mathfrak{g}$ , which is a real form of  $\mathfrak{k}^c$ , and  $\mathfrak{m}$  be the orthogonal complement of  $\mathfrak{k}$  in  $\mathfrak{g}$  with respect to  $(\cdot, \cdot)$ . Then the automorphism  $\theta = \exp \operatorname{ad} \sqrt{-1} \varepsilon_1$  of  $\mathfrak{g}$  is involutive and gives the decomposition  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{k} + \mathfrak{m}$  with

$$\mathfrak{k} = \{X \in \mathfrak{g}; \theta X = X\}, \quad \mathfrak{m} = \{X \in \mathfrak{g}; \theta X = -X\}.$$

$G$  and  $G^c$  denote the adjoint groups of  $\mathfrak{g}$  and  $\mathfrak{g}^c$  respectively,  $\tilde{G}$  and  $\tilde{G}^c$  the universal covering groups of  $G$  and  $G^c$  respectively. We may identify as  $G \subset G^c$  and  $\tilde{G} \subset \tilde{G}^c$ . Let  $K$  and  $U$  denote the (closed) connected subgroups of  $G^c$  generated by  $\mathfrak{k}$  and  $\mathfrak{u}$  respectively. We define a complex manifold  $M$  by

$$M = G^c/U.$$

Then the natural map  $G/K \rightarrow G^c/U$  induces the identification  $M = G/K$  as smooth manifolds. The tangent space  $T_o(M)$  of  $M$  at the origin  $o = U$  is identified with  $\mathfrak{m}$  and  $T_o(M)^+$  with  $\mathfrak{m}^+$  in the natural way.

Let

$$\bar{\rho}: \tilde{G} \rightarrow SU(N+1)$$

be an irreducible unitary representation of  $\tilde{G}$  with the highest weight  $p\Lambda_1$ . By virtue of the irreducibility it induces a homomorphism

$$\rho: G \rightarrow PU(N+1) = SU(N+1)/\{\varepsilon 1_{N+1}; \varepsilon^{N+1} = 1\}$$

such that the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \tilde{G} & \xrightarrow{\bar{\rho}} & SU(N+1) \\ \pi \downarrow & & \downarrow \pi \\ G & \xrightarrow{\rho} & PU(N+1) \end{array}$$

is commutative, where the  $\pi$  are respective covering homomorphisms. They are extended holomorphically to  $\tilde{G}^c$  and  $G^c$  in such a way that the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \tilde{G}^c & \xrightarrow{\bar{\rho}} & SL(N+1, \mathbf{C}) \\ \pi \downarrow & & \downarrow \pi \\ G^c & \xrightarrow{\rho} & PL(N+1, \mathbf{C}) = SL(N+1, \mathbf{C})/\{\varepsilon 1_{N+1}; \varepsilon^{N+1} = 1\} \end{array}$$

is commutative, where we have used the same letters for extensions. Let

$P_N(\mathbf{C}) = \mathbf{C}^{N+1} - \{0\} / \mathbf{C}^*$  be the complex projective space associated to the representation space  $\mathbf{C}^{N+1}$  of  $\bar{\rho}$ . For  $v \in \mathbf{C}^{N+1} - \{0\}$ , the equivalence class of  $v$  will be denoted by  $[v]$ . Taking a highest weight vector  $v_0 \in \mathbf{C}^{N+1} - \{0\}$ , we can define a full holomorphic imbedding  $f: M \rightarrow P_N(\mathbf{C})$  by

$$f(xv) = \rho(x)[v_0] \quad \text{for } x \in G^c.$$

We take the  $SU(N+1)$ -invariant Fubini-Study metric on  $P_N(\mathbf{C})$  of constant holomorphic sectional curvature  $c$  and introduce a Kählerian metric  $g$  on  $M$  in such a way that

$$f: (M, g) \rightarrow P_N(c)$$

becomes a Kählerian imbedding. Then  $(M, g)$  is an irreducible symmetric Kählerian manifold of compact type. If we denote the group of Kählerian automorphisms of  $(M, g)$  and the one of holomorphisms of  $M$  by  $\text{Aut}(M, g)$  and  $\text{Aut}(M)$  respectively, the identity-components  $\text{Aut}^0(M, g)$  and  $\text{Aut}^0(M)$  are identified with  $G$  and  $G^c$  respectively. Further  $f$  is  $G^c$ -equivariant by the homomorphism  $\rho$ :

$$f(xp) = \rho(x)f(p) \quad \text{for } x \in G^c, p \in M.$$

where  $\rho(G) \subset PU(N+1) = \text{Aut}(P_N(c))$ .

Put

$$\kappa(M) = \#\{\alpha \in \Sigma_m^+; \alpha - \alpha_1 \in \Sigma\} + 2.$$

Then (Nakagawa-Takagi [5]) the scalar curvature  $k$  of  $(M, g)$  is given by

$$(2.1) \quad k = \frac{(\dim_{\mathbf{C}} M)c\kappa(M)}{p},$$

which gives a geometric characterization of the positive integer  $p$ . It is also characterized (Nakagawa-Takagi [5]) by

$$(2.2) \quad g = \frac{p(\alpha_1, \alpha_1)}{c} g_0,$$

where  $g_0$  is a  $G$ -invariant Kählerian metric on  $M$  defined from the inner product  $-(, )$  on  $\mathfrak{g}$ . The imbedding  $f$  will be called the  $p$ -th full Kählerian imbedding of  $M$ .

Now we shall construct a full Kählerian imbedding of a general (not necessarily irreducible) symmetric Kählerian manifold into  $P_N(c)$ . For complex projective spaces  $P_{N_1}(\mathbf{C})$  and  $P_{N_2}(\mathbf{C})$  associated to  $\mathbf{C}^{N_1+1}$  and  $\mathbf{C}^{N_2+1}$  respectively, we define a holomorphic imbedding  $\iota$  of  $P_{N_1}(\mathbf{C}) \times P_{N_2}(\mathbf{C})$  into the complex projective space  $P_{N_1 N_2 + N_1 + N_2}(\mathbf{C})$  associated to the tensor product  $\mathbf{C}^{N_1+1} \otimes \mathbf{C}^{N_2+1}$  by

$$\iota: [z_i]_{0 \leq i < N_1} \times [w_j]_{0 \leq j < N_2} \mapsto [z_i w_j]_{\substack{0 \leq i < N_1, \\ 0 \leq j < N_2}},$$

where  $[*]$  denotes the point of the projective space with homogeneous coordinates  $*$ . Then it defines a full Kählerian imbedding

$$\iota: P_{N_1}(c) \times P_{N_2}(c) \rightarrow P_{N_1 N_2 + N_1 + N_2}(c).$$

Let

$$f_i: (M_i, g_i) \rightarrow P_{N_i}(c) \quad (i = 1, 2)$$

be two Kählerian immersions. Then the composite

$$f_1 \boxtimes f_2 = \iota \circ (f_1 \times f_2): (M_1 \times M_2, g_1 \times g_2) \rightarrow P_{N_1 N_2 + N_1 + N_2}(c)$$

is also a Kählerian immersion, which will be called the *tensor product* of  $f_1$  and  $f_2$ . One can easily check the associativity

$$(f_1 \boxtimes f_2) \boxtimes f_3 = f_1 \boxtimes (f_2 \boxtimes f_3)$$

of the tensor product, and so the multi-fold tensor product  $f_1 \boxtimes \dots \boxtimes f_s$  is well-defined.

Now let

$$f_i: (M_i, g_i) \rightarrow P_{N_i}(c) \quad (1 \leq i \leq s)$$

be full Kählerian imbeddings of irreducible symmetric Kählerian manifolds of compact type constructed as before. Then the tensor product

$$f = f_1 \boxtimes \dots \boxtimes f_s: (M_1 \times \dots \times M_s, g_1 \times \dots \times g_s) \rightarrow P_N(c),$$

where  $N = \prod_{i=1}^s (N_i + 1) - 1$ , is a full Kählerian imbedding of the symmetric Kählerian manifold  $(M, g) = (M_1 \times \dots \times M_s, g_1 \times \dots \times g_s)$ . Note that

$$G^c = G_1^c \times \dots \times G_s^c, \quad G = G_1 \times \dots \times G_s,$$

where  $G^c = \text{Aut}^0(M)$ ,  $G = \text{Aut}^0(M, g)$ ,  $G_i^c = \text{Aut}^0(M_i)$ ,  $G_i = \text{Aut}^0(M_i, g_i)$ , and that  $f$  is  $G^c$ -equivariant by the homomorphism  $\rho = \rho_1 \boxtimes \dots \boxtimes \rho_s$  induced from the external tensor product  $\tilde{\rho}_1 \boxtimes \dots \boxtimes \tilde{\rho}_s$  of respective representations  $\tilde{\rho}_i$ . The tangent space  $T_o(M)$  of  $M$  at the origin  $o = o_1 \times \dots \times o_s$  of  $M$ , where  $o_i$  is the origin of  $M_i$ , is identified with the direct sum

$$\mathfrak{m} = \mathfrak{m}_1 \oplus \dots \oplus \mathfrak{m}_s$$

of respective complements  $\mathfrak{m}_i$ , and hence  $T_o(M)^+$  with

$$(2.3) \quad \mathfrak{m}^+ = \mathfrak{m}_1^+ \oplus \dots \oplus \mathfrak{m}_s^+.$$

Further the stabilizer  $K$  of the origin  $o$  in  $G$  is the direct product

$$(2.4) \quad K = K_1 \times \cdots \times K_s$$

of respective stabilizers  $K_i$ .

It is known (Nakagawa-Takagi [5]. See also Takeuchi [8]) that any full Kählerian immersion into  $P_N(c)$  of a symmetric Kählerian manifold of compact type is obtained in this way.

### 3. Degree of symmetric Kählerian submanifolds of $P_N(c)$

Let

$$f: (M, g) \rightarrow P_N(c)$$

be the  $p$ -th full Kählerian imbedding of an irreducible symmetric Kählerian manifold  $(M, g)$  constructed in §2. We recall first the construction of the Hermann map for  $M$  (cf. Takeuchi [7]). Choose root vector  $E_\alpha \in \mathfrak{g}_\alpha^c$  for  $\alpha \in \Sigma$  in such a way that

$$[E_\alpha, E_{-\alpha}] = -\alpha, \quad (E_\alpha, E_{-\alpha}) = -1.$$

Then the complex conjugation  $X \mapsto \bar{X}$  of  $\mathfrak{g}^c$  with respect to  $\mathfrak{g}$  satisfies  $\bar{E}_\alpha = E_{-\alpha}$  for each  $\alpha \in \Sigma$ . We put

$$X_\alpha = \sqrt{\frac{2}{(\alpha, \alpha)}} E_\alpha, \quad H_\alpha = \frac{2}{(\alpha, \alpha)} \alpha \quad \text{for } \alpha \in \Sigma.$$

Then we have

$$[X_\alpha, X_{-\alpha}] = -H_\alpha, \quad (X_\alpha, X_{-\alpha}) = -\frac{2}{(\alpha, \alpha)}, \quad \bar{X}_\alpha = X_{-\alpha}.$$

Let  $\{\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_r\} \subset \Sigma_{\text{int}}^+$  be a maximal system of strongly orthogonal roots containing the highest root  $\gamma_1$  such that  $r = \text{rank } M$  and  $(\gamma_j, \gamma_j) = (\alpha_1, \alpha_1)$  for each  $j$  (cf. Helgason [2]). An injective homomorphism  $\phi_j: \mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbf{C}) \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}^c$  is defined by

$$\begin{aligned} X^+ &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \mapsto X_{\gamma_j}, & X^- &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \mapsto X_{-\gamma_j}, \\ H &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \mapsto -H_{\gamma_j}. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\phi_j(-{}^t\bar{X}) = \overline{\phi_j(X)}$  for  $X \in \mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbf{C})$ , we have  $\phi_j(\mathfrak{su}(2)) \subset \mathfrak{g}$ . If we define a map  $\phi$  from the  $r$ -fold direct sum  $\mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbf{C})^r$  of  $\mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbf{C})$  into  $\mathfrak{g}^c$  by

$$\phi(X_1, \dots, X_r) = \sum_{j=1}^r \phi_j(X_j) \quad \text{for } X_j \in \mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbf{C}),$$

then it is also an injective homomorphism such that  $\phi(\mathfrak{su}(2)^r) \subset \mathfrak{g}$ . The extension of  $\phi$  to the  $r$ -fold direct product  $SL(2, \mathbf{C})^r$  of  $SL(2, \mathbf{C})$  is also denoted by

$$\phi: SL(2, \mathbf{C})^r \rightarrow G^c .$$

It satisfies  $\phi(SU(2)^r) \subset G$ . Putting

$$SL(1, 1; \mathbf{C}) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in SL(2, \mathbf{C}); c = 0 \right\} ,$$

we identify the  $r$ -fold direct product  $P_1(\mathbf{C})^r$  of  $P_1(\mathbf{C})$  with  $SL(2, \mathbf{C})^r / SL(1, 1; \mathbf{C})^r$ . Then the map

$$xSL(1, 1; \mathbf{C})^r \mapsto \phi(x)o \quad \text{for } x \in SL(2, \mathbf{C})^r$$

defines a holomorphic imbedding

$$\phi: P_1(\mathbf{C})^r \rightarrow M ,$$

which is  $SL(2, \mathbf{C})^r$ -equivariant:

$$\phi(xp) = \phi(x)\phi(p) \quad \text{for } x \in SL(2, \mathbf{C})^r, p \in P_1(\mathbf{C})^r .$$

The imbedding  $\phi$  is called the *Hermann map*. The Kählerian metric  $h$  on  $P_1(\mathbf{C})^r$  induced from  $(M, g)$  is the direct product  $h_1 \times \dots \times h_r$  of Kählerian metrics  $h_j$  on  $P_1(\mathbf{C})$  of constant holomorphic sectional curvatures, since  $SU(2)^r$  acts transitively on  $P_1(\mathbf{C})^r$  as Kählerian automorphisms of  $(P_1(\mathbf{C})^r, h)$ . The tangent space  $T_o(\phi(P_1(\mathbf{C})^r))$  will be identified with a subspace  $\mathfrak{p}$  of  $\mathfrak{m}$ , and hence  $T_o(\phi(P_1(\mathbf{C})^r))^+$  with a subspace  $\mathfrak{p}^+$  of  $\mathfrak{m}^+$ .

**Lemma 4.** *Let*

$$\phi: (P_1(\mathbf{C})^r, h_1 \times \dots \times h_r) \rightarrow (M, g)$$

*be the Hermann map as above. Then:*

- 1)  $\mathfrak{m}^+ = K\mathfrak{p}^+$ ;
- 2)  $\phi$  is totally geodesic;
- 3) Each  $h_j$  has the holomorphic sectional curvature  $\frac{c}{p}$ .

*Proof.* 1) If we put

$$U_{\gamma_j} = E_{\gamma_j} + E_{-\gamma_j}, \quad V_{\gamma_j} = \sqrt{-1}(E_{\gamma_j} - E_{-\gamma_j}) \quad (1 \leq j \leq r) ,$$

$\mathfrak{p}$  is spanned over  $\mathbf{R}$  by the  $U_{\gamma_j}, V_{\gamma_j}$  ( $1 \leq j \leq r$ ). The subspace  $\mathfrak{a}$  of  $\mathfrak{m}$  spanned over  $\mathbf{R}$  by the  $U_{\gamma_j}$  ( $1 \leq j \leq r$ ) is a maximal abelian subalgebra in  $\mathfrak{m}$ , and hence  $\mathfrak{m} = K\mathfrak{a}$ . Since the projection  $\varpi: \mathfrak{m}^c \rightarrow \mathfrak{m}^+$  relative to the decomposition  $\mathfrak{m}^c = \mathfrak{m}^+ \oplus \bar{\mathfrak{m}}^+$  is  $K$ -equivariant, we have  $\mathfrak{m}^+ = K\varpi^+(\mathfrak{a})$ . But  $\varpi^+(\mathfrak{a})$  is spanned over  $\mathbf{R}$  by the  $E_{-\gamma_j}$  ( $1 \leq j \leq r$ ) and hence is contained in  $\mathfrak{p}^+ = \varpi^+(\mathfrak{p})$ , which is spanned over  $\mathbf{C}$  by the  $E_{-\gamma_j}$  ( $1 \leq j \leq r$ ). Thus we conclude  $\mathfrak{m}^+ = K\mathfrak{p}^+$ .

2) From the relations

$[U_{\gamma_j}, V_{\gamma_j}] = 2\sqrt{-1}\gamma_j$ ,  $[\sqrt{-1}\gamma_j, U_{\gamma_j}] = V_{\gamma_j}$ ,  $[\sqrt{-1}\gamma_j, V_{\gamma_j}] = -U_{\gamma_j}$ , we get  $[[\mathfrak{p}, \mathfrak{p}], \mathfrak{p}] = \mathfrak{p}$ , and hence  $\phi$  is totally geodesic (cf. Helgason [2]).

3) Identifying  $X^+ + X^- = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  with a tangent vector of  $P_1(\mathbf{C})$  at the origin, we have by (2.2)

$$\begin{aligned} h_j(X^+ + X^-, X^+ + X^-) &= g(X_{\gamma_j} + X_{-\gamma_j}, X_{\gamma_j} + X_{-\gamma_j}) \\ &= -\frac{p(\alpha_1, \alpha_1)}{c}(X_{\gamma_j} + X_{-\gamma_j}, X_{\gamma_j} + X_{-\gamma_j}) \\ &= -\frac{2p(\gamma_j, \gamma_j)}{c}(X_{\gamma_j}, X_{-\gamma_j}) = \frac{2p(\gamma_j, \gamma_j)}{c} \frac{2}{(\gamma_j, \gamma_j)} \\ &= p \frac{4}{c}. \end{aligned}$$

It follows that  $h_j$  is  $p$  times the Fubini-Study metric of  $P_1(c)$ , which implies the assertion 3). q.e.d.

Now we shall prove the following

**Theorem 2.** *Let*

$$f_i: (M_i, g_i) \rightarrow P_{N_i}(c) \quad (1 \leq i \leq s)$$

*be the  $p_i$ -th full Kählerian imbedding of an irreducible symmetric Kählerian manifold  $(M_i, g_i)$  of compact type, with  $\text{rank } M_i = r_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq s$ ), and*

$$f: (M, g) \rightarrow P_N(c)$$

*be the tensor product of the  $f_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq s$ ). Then the degree  $d(f)$  of  $f$  is given by*

$$d(f) = \sum_{i=1}^s r_i p_i.$$

For the proof of the Theorem we need the following Lemma.

**Lemma 5** (Nakagawa-Takagi [5]). *Let*

$$f: (M, g) \rightarrow P_N(c)$$

*be a Kählerian immersion of a locally symmetric Kählerian manifold  $(M, g)$ . Then:*

1)  $\langle H(\otimes^m T_p(M)^+), H(\otimes^{m'} T_p(M)^+) \rangle = \{0\}$  for  $m \neq m'$ , and hence  $O_p^m(M) = H(\otimes^m T_p(M)^+)$  for each  $m$ ;

2) For each  $u = (u_1, \dots, u_n) \in U(M, g)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} h(u_{i_1}, \dots, u_{i_m}, \bar{u}_j) &= -\frac{c}{2} \sum_{r=1}^m \delta_{i_r j} H(u_{i_1}, \dots, \hat{u}_{i_r}, \dots, u_{i_m}) \\ &\quad + \sum_{\substack{1 \leq a < b \leq m \\ 1 \leq k \leq n}} \langle R(u_{i_b}, \bar{u}_j) u_{i_a}, u_k \rangle H(u_k, u_{i_1}, \dots, \hat{u}_{i_a}, \dots, \hat{u}_{i_b}, \dots, u_{i_m}) \\ &\quad (m \geq 3), \end{aligned}$$

where  $R$  is the curvature tensor of  $(M, g)$ .

Proof of Theorem 2. Let  $r=r_1+\dots+r_s$  be the rank of  $M$ . We use the notation in the end of §2. Taking the direct product of respective homomorphisms  $\phi_i: SL(2, \mathbf{C})^{r_i} \rightarrow G_i^c$  for  $M_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq s$ ) and the one of Hermann maps  $\phi_i: P_1\left(\frac{c}{p_i}\right)^{r_i} \rightarrow (M_i, g_i)$  ( $1 \leq i \leq s$ ), we get a homomorphism  $\phi: SL(2, \mathbf{C})^r \rightarrow G^c$  such that  $\phi(SU(2)^r) \subset G$  and a totally geodesic Kählerian imbedding

$$\phi: P = P_1\left(\frac{c}{p_1}\right)^{r_1} \times \dots \times P_1\left(\frac{c}{p_s}\right)^{r_s} \rightarrow (M, g),$$

which is  $SL(2, \mathbf{C})^r$ -equivariant:

$$\phi(xp) = \phi(x)\phi(p) \quad \text{for } x \in SL(2, \mathbf{C})^r, p \in P.$$

The tangent space  $\mathfrak{p} = T_o(\phi(P))$  of  $\phi(P)$  at the origin is the direct sum

$$\mathfrak{p} = \mathfrak{p}_1 \oplus \dots \oplus \mathfrak{p}_s$$

of respective tangent spaces  $\mathfrak{p}_i$  of  $\phi_i\left(P_1\left(\frac{c}{p_i}\right)^{r_i}\right)$  at the origin, and hence

$$\mathfrak{p}^+ = \mathfrak{p}_1^+ \oplus \dots \oplus \mathfrak{p}_s^+.$$

It follows from Lemma 4 and decompositions (2.3), (2.4) that

$$(3.1) \quad \mathfrak{m}^+ = K\mathfrak{p}^+.$$

Let us consider a Kählerian imbedding

$$f' = f \circ \phi: P \rightarrow P_N(c).$$

If we put

$$\rho' = \rho \circ \phi: SL(2, \mathbf{C})^r \rightarrow PL(N+1, \mathbf{C}),$$

$f'$  is  $SL(2, \mathbf{C})^r$ -equivariant by the homomorphism  $\rho'$ :

$$f'(xp) = \rho'(x)f'(p) \quad \text{for } x \in SL(2, \mathbf{C})^r, p \in P,$$

Note that  $\rho'(SU(2)^r) \subset PU(N+1) = \text{Aut}(P_N(c))$  and  $SU(2)^r$  acts transitively on  $P$  as Kählerian automorphisms of  $P$ . We shall identify as  $P \subset (M, g)$  through the imbedding  $\phi$ . Denote the higher fundamental forms of  $f$  and  $f'$  by  $H$  and  $H'$  respectively. We shall prove the following two assertions:

(i)  $d(f) = d(f')$ .

(ii)  $d(f') = \sum_{i=1}^s r_i p_i$ .

But in view of the  $\text{Aut}^0(M, g)$ -equivariance of  $f$  and Lemma 5, 1), we know that each point of  $M$  is regular and  $d(f)$  is determined by conditions



$$H_o^{d(f)} \neq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad H_o^{d(f)+1} = 0.$$

In the same way,  $d(f')$  is determined by conditions

$$H_o^{d(f')} \neq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad H_o^{d(f')+1} = 0.$$

Here  $H_o^1$  and  $H_o'^1$  are understood to be always not 0. Hence the assertion (i) is equivalent to the assertion

$$(i)' \quad H_o^m = 0 \Leftrightarrow H_o'^m = 0 \quad (m \geq 2).$$

Proof of (i)'. Note first that if we denote by  $X \mapsto kX$  the action of  $k \in K$  on  $N_o(M)$  through the differential  $\rho(k)_*$ , we have

$$(3.2) \quad H(kX_1, \dots, kX_m) = kH(X_1, \dots, X_m) \quad \text{for } X_i \in \mathfrak{m}^+, k \in K,$$

because of the  $\text{Aut}^0(M, g)$ -equivariance of  $f$ . Now

$$\begin{aligned} H_o^m &= 0 \\ \Leftrightarrow H(X_1, \dots, X_m) &= 0 \quad \text{for each } X_i \in \mathfrak{m}^+, \\ \Leftrightarrow H(\underbrace{X, \dots, X}_m) &= 0 \quad \text{for each } X \in \mathfrak{m}^+ \quad \text{by Lemma 2,1),} \\ \Leftrightarrow H(\underbrace{Y, \dots, Y}_m) &= 0 \quad \text{for each } Y \in \mathfrak{p}^+ \quad \text{by (3.1), (3.2),} \\ \Leftrightarrow H'(\underbrace{Y, \dots, Y}_m) &= 0 \quad \text{for each } Y \in \mathfrak{p}^+ \quad \text{since } \phi \text{ is totally geodesic,} \\ \Leftrightarrow H'(Y_1, \dots, Y_m) &= 0 \quad \text{for each } Y_i \in \mathfrak{p}^+ \quad \text{by Lemma 2,1)} \\ \Leftrightarrow H_o'^m &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Proof of (ii). For an index  $j$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq r$ , we define  $\nu(j)$ ,  $1 \leq \nu(j) \leq s$ , by

$$\nu(j) = \nu \quad \text{if} \quad r_1 + \dots + r_{\nu-1} + 1 \leq j \leq r_1 + \dots + r_{\nu-1} + r_\nu.$$

Take a unitary frame  $u=(u_1, \dots, u_r)$  of  $P$  at the origin  $o$  such that  $u_i$  is tangent to the  $i$ -th factor of  $P$  for each  $i$ , and fix it once for all. Then the curvature tensor  $R$  of  $P$  satisfies

$$(3.3) \quad \langle R(u_k, \bar{u}_i)u_j, u_i \rangle = \frac{c}{p_{\nu(i)}} \delta_{ij} \delta_{jk} \delta_{kl}.$$

For each  $i_1, \dots, i_m, j$  ( $m \geq 2$ ), the following equality holds:

$$(3.4) \quad h'(u_{i_1}, \dots, u_{i_m}, u_j, \bar{u}_j) = \frac{c(a_j+1)}{2p_{\nu(j)}} (a_j - p_{\nu(j)}) H'(u_{i_1}, \dots, u_{i_m}),$$

where  $a_j$  is an integer given by

$$a_j = \#\{k; 1 \leq k \leq m, i_k = j\}.$$

Indeed, Lemma 5,2) and (3.3) imply

$$\begin{aligned} h'(u_{i_1}, \dots, u_{i_{m+1}}, \bar{u}_j) &= -\frac{c}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{m+1} \delta_{i_t j} H'(u_{i_1}, \dots, \hat{u}_{i_t}, \dots, u_{i_{m+1}}) \\ &+ \frac{c}{p_{\nu(j)}} \sum_{1 \leq a < b \leq m+1} \delta_{i_a j} \delta_{i_b j} H'(u_{i_1}, \dots, \hat{u}_{i_a}, \dots, \hat{u}_{i_b}, \dots, u_{i_{m+1}}, u_j). \end{aligned}$$

Put  $i_{m+1}=j$ . Recalling that  $H'$  is symmetric, we have

$$\begin{aligned} &h'(u_{i_1}, \dots, u_{i_m}, u_j, \bar{u}_j) \\ &= -\frac{c}{2} \sum_{i=1}^m \delta_{i_t j} H'(u_{i_1}, \dots, \hat{u}_{i_t}, \dots, u_{i_m}, u_j) - \frac{c}{2} H'(u_{i_1}, \dots, u_{i_m}) \\ &+ \frac{c}{p_{\nu(j)}} \sum_{1 \leq a < b \leq m} \delta_{i_a j} \delta_{i_b j} H'(u_{i_1}, \dots, \hat{u}_{i_a}, \dots, \hat{u}_{i_b}, \dots, u_{i_m}, u_j, u_j) \\ &+ \frac{c}{p_{\nu(j)}} \sum_{i=1}^m \delta_{i_t j} H'(u_{i_1}, \dots, \hat{u}_{i_t}, \dots, u_{i_m}, u_j) \\ &= \left\{ -\frac{c}{2} a_j - \frac{c}{2} + \frac{c}{p_{\nu(j)}} \cdot \frac{a_j(a_j-1)}{2} + \frac{c}{p_{\nu(j)}} a_j \right\} H'(u_{i_1}, \dots, u_{i_m}) \\ &= \frac{c(a_j+1)}{2p_{\nu(j)}} (a_j - p_{\nu(j)}) H'(u_{i_1}, \dots, u_{i_m}). \end{aligned}$$

Now we are in a position to prove (ii). If  $d'=d(f')=1$ , then  $f'$  is totally geodesic, and hence  $s=1, r_1=1, p_1=1$ . Thus  $\sum_{i=1}^s r_i p_i=1$ . So we may assume  $d' \geq 2$ . Then there exist indices  $i_1, \dots, i_{d'}$  such that  $H'(u_{i_1}, \dots, u_{i_{d'}}) \neq 0$ . It follows from (1.5) and  $H'^{d'+1}=0$  that

$$h'(u_{i_1}, \dots, u_{i_{d'}}, u_j, \bar{u}_j) = 0 \quad \text{for each } j, 1 \leq j \leq r.$$

Thus (3.4) implies

$$\#\{k; 1 \leq k \leq d', i_k = j\} = p_{\nu(j)} \quad \text{for each } j, 1 \leq j \leq r,$$

and hence

$$d' = \sum_{j=1}^r p_{\nu(j)} = \sum_{i=1}^s r_i p_i. \quad \text{q.e.d.}$$

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