

# HOMOGENEITY OF HYPERSURFACES IN A SPHERE

By

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## § 1. Introduction

A Riemannian manifold  $(M, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$  is called homogeneous if its isometric transformation group acts transitively on  $M$ . In general, it is not easy to obtain the isometric transformation group for a given Riemannian manifold. Thus, it is a question whether we can decide the homogeneity or the locally homogeneity of a given Riemannian manifold by more elementary method. For this question, the result of W. Ambrose and I. M. Singer [1] is known.

I. M. Singer defined the concept of the curvature homogeneous Riemannian manifold (further, its higher order version). We here review it. Let  $M$  be an  $n$ -dimensional Riemannian manifold with the Riemannian connection  $\nabla$  and the curvature tensor  $R$ . The  $k$ -th covariant differential of a tensor field  $K$  is denoted by  $\nabla^k K$  and  $\nabla^0 K = K$ , by definition. A linear isomorphism  $\Phi$  of the tangent space  $T_p M$  onto the tangent space  $T_q M$  is naturally extended to a linear isomorphism of the tensor algebra  $\mathfrak{T}(T_p M)$  onto  $\mathfrak{T}(T_q M)$ , which is also denoted by  $\Phi$ . If  $M$  is locally homogeneous, i.e., for each  $p, q \in M$  there exists a local isometry  $\varphi$  of a neighborhood of  $p$  onto a neighborhood of  $q$  which maps  $p$  to  $q$ , then for any integer  $k \geq 0$ , the following condition  $R(k)$  is satisfied:

$R(k)$  : For each  $p, q \in M$ , there exists a linear isometry  $\Phi$  of  $T_p M$   
onto  $T_q M$  such that  $\Phi(\nabla^i R)_p = (\nabla^i R)_q$ , for  $i = 0, 1, \dots, k$ .

In fact,  $\Phi$  is given by  $d\varphi$ . A Riemannian manifold  $M$  satisfying the condition  $R(0)$  (resp.  $R(k)$ ) is called *curvature homogeneous* (resp. *curvature homogeneous up to order  $k$* ). I. M. Singer [17] dealt with the converse problem and he proved that if a complete and simply connected Riemannian manifold  $M$  satisfies the condition  $R(k)$  for a certain  $k$ , then  $M$  is homogeneous. Following his proof, we see that if a Riemannian manifold  $M$  satisfies the condition  $R(k)$  for a certain  $k$ , then  $M$  is locally homogeneous. In his theorem, the minimum of such integers  $k$

depends on  $M$ , but it is not greater than  $n(n-1)/2 + 1$ . He also posed the following problem (and also its higher order version): Do there exist curvature homogeneous spaces which are not homogeneous? This problem was solved by K. Sekigawa [13], who constructed 3-dimensional complete simply connected non-homogeneous curvature homogeneous spaces (cf. also [18]). With respect to the first order version, K. Sekigawa [14] proved that a 3-dimensional complete simply connected Riemannian manifold which is curvature homogeneous up to order 1 is homogeneous. It is also known that the similar statement is valid in 4-dimensional case ([16]). However, the higher order version is still unresolved in general.

K. Tsukada [20] studied curvature homogeneous hypersurfaces in real space forms and classified them. In general, a curvature homogeneous hypersurface in a real space form is not necessarily an isoparametric one, where an isoparametric hypersurface is the hypersurface which has constant principal curvatures. By using his result, we see that an  $n(\geq 4)$ -dimensional complete curvature homogeneous hypersurface in  $S^{n+1}$  is isoparametric (cf. Theorem 4.6 and Remark 4.7).

In the present paper, in connection with the I. M. Singer's problem, we consider the homogeneity of hypersurfaces in  $S^{n+1}$  and prove the following

**THEOREM A.** *Let  $M$  be an oriented closed hypersurface in  $S^{n+1}$  which is curvature homogeneous up to order 4. Then,  $M$  is homogeneous.*

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## § 2. Preliminaries

Let  $\tilde{M} = (\tilde{M}^{n+1}(\tilde{c}), \langle, \rangle)$  be an  $(n+1)$ -dimensional real space form of constant curvature  $\tilde{c}$  and  $M$  an oriented hypersurface immersed in  $\tilde{M}$  by an immersion  $\psi$ . Since  $\psi$  is locally an imbedding, we may identify  $x \in M$  with  $\psi(x) \in \tilde{M}$  locally, and  $T_x M$  with the subspace  $(d\psi)_x(T_x M)$  of  $T_{\psi(x)} \tilde{M}$ . Let  $\nabla$  (resp.  $\tilde{\nabla}$ ) be the Riemannian connection on  $M$  (resp.  $\tilde{M}$ ) with respect to the induced metric via  $\psi$  which is also denoted by  $\langle, \rangle$  (resp. the Riemannian metric  $\langle, \rangle$ ) and  $R$  (resp.  $\tilde{R}$ ) the curvature tensor of  $M$  (resp.  $\tilde{M}$ ). The curvature tensor  $R$  is defined by

$$(2.1) \quad R(X, Y)Z = [\nabla_X, \nabla_Y]Z - \nabla_{[X, Y]}Z$$

for  $X, Y, Z \in \mathfrak{X}(M)$ , where  $\mathfrak{X}(M)$  denotes the set of all tangential vector fields to  $M$ . From now on, we use the notational convention:  $X, Y, Z, W, V_i \in \mathfrak{X}(M)$ . We

denote by  $\sigma$  the second fundamental form of  $M$  in  $\tilde{M}$ . Let  $\xi$  be the unit normal vector field on  $M$ . We put

$$(2.2) \quad \sigma(X, Y) = H(X, Y)\xi.$$

The  $(0, 2)$ -type tensor field  $H$  on  $M$  is called the *second fundamental tensor field*. Then, the Gauss formula and the Weingarten formula are given respectively by

$$(2.3) \quad \tilde{\nabla}_X Y = \nabla_X Y + H(X, Y)\xi,$$

$$(2.4) \quad \tilde{\nabla}_X \xi = -AX.$$

The  $(1, 1)$ -type tensor field  $A$  is called the Weingarten map and is related to the second fundamental tensor field  $H$  by

$$(2.5) \quad H(X, Y) = \langle AX, Y \rangle.$$

The Gauss equation and the Codazzi equation are given respectively by

$$(2.6) \quad \begin{aligned} \langle R(X, Y)Z, W \rangle &= \tilde{c}\{\langle X, W \rangle \langle Y, Z \rangle - \langle X, Z \rangle \langle Y, W \rangle\} \\ &\quad + H(X, W)H(Y, Z) - H(X, Z)H(Y, W) \\ &=: \tilde{c}\langle R_0(X, Y)Z, W \rangle \\ &\quad + H(X, W)H(Y, Z) - H(X, Z)H(Y, W), \end{aligned}$$

$$(2.7) \quad (\nabla_X H)(Y, Z) = (\nabla_Y H)(X, Z).$$

We use the following notational convention:

$$(2.8) \quad \begin{aligned} (\nabla^i R)(V_i, \dots, V_1; X, Y)Z &:= (\nabla_{V_i, \dots, V_1}^i R)(X, Y)Z, \\ (\nabla^i H)(V_i, \dots, V_1; X, Y) &:= (\nabla_{V_i, \dots, V_1}^i H)(X, Y). \end{aligned}$$

From (2.7) and (2.8), we have immediately

$$(2.9) \quad (\nabla^{i+1} H)(V_i, \dots, V_1, X; Y, Z) = (\nabla^{i+1} H)(V_i, \dots, V_1, Y; X, Z),$$

for  $i \geq 1$ . From (2.6) and (2.8), by direct calculation, we have easily the following

$$(2.10) \quad \begin{aligned} \langle (\nabla^i R)(V_i, \dots, V_1; X, Y)Z, W \rangle &= \{(\nabla^i H)(V_i, \dots, V_1; X, W)H(Y, Z) \\ &\quad - (\nabla^i H)(V_i, \dots, V_1; X, Z)H(Y, W)\} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& + \sum_{j=1}^i \left[ \sum_{1 \leq a_1 < \dots < a_j \leq i} \right. \\
& \quad \{ (\nabla^{i-j} H)(V_i, \dots, \hat{V}_{a_j}, \dots, \hat{V}_{a_1}, \dots, V_1; X, W) (\nabla^j H)(V_{a_j}, \dots, V_{a_1}; Y, Z) \\
& \quad \left. - (\nabla^{i-j} H)(V_i, \dots, \hat{V}_{a_j}, \dots, \hat{V}_{a_1}, \dots, V_1; X, Z) (\nabla^j H)(V_{a_j}, \dots, V_{a_1}; Y, W) \right\} \Big]
\end{aligned}$$

for  $i \geq 1$ .

### §3. Isoparametric hypersurfaces in $S^{n+1}$

In the first part of this section, we shall recall some well-known facts about isoparametric hypersurfaces in real space forms. Let  $M$  be an oriented isoparametric hypersurface in a real space form  $\tilde{M} = (\tilde{M}^{n+1}(\tilde{c}), \langle, \rangle)$ . From (2.6), an isoparametric hypersurface in a real space form is necessarily curvature homogeneous. We assume that  $M$  has  $g$  distinct constant principal curvatures, that is, the Weingarten map  $A$  has  $g$  distinct eigenvalues  $\lambda_1 > \lambda_2 > \dots > \lambda_g$  at each point, which are constants and have the same multiplicities on  $M$ . E. Cartan studied isoparametric hypersurfaces in real space forms. He [3] showed that, if there exists an isoparametric hypersurface in  $\tilde{M}$  with  $g \geq 3$ , it must be  $\tilde{c} > 0$ . By using this fact, he classified completely closed isoparametric hypersurfaces in  $\tilde{M}$  with  $g = 1$  or  $2$  and showed that all of them are homogeneous. For the case  $g = 3$ , he [4] showed that  $m_1 = m_2 = m_3$  and classified closed isoparametric hypersurfaces in  $S^{n+1}$  and checked that all of them are homogeneous. Further, he [6] gave examples of isoparametric hypersurfaces in  $S^{n+1}$  with  $g = 4$  such that  $m_1 = \dots = m_4 = 1$  or  $2$  and checked their homogeneity. In the meantime, he posed several problems. One of them is the following: Are all of closed isoparametric hypersurfaces in  $S^{n+1}$  homogeneous? This problem which is a special case of the I. M. Singer's problem, was solved negatively (cf. [12], [7]).

In the rest of this section, we recall some several results about isoparametric hypersurfaces in  $S^{n+1}$ , which will be useful for our arguments in the present paper. Let  $M$  be an oriented isoparametric hypersurface in  $S^{n+1}$  with  $g$  distinct constant principal curvatures. Let  $\lambda_i = \cot \theta_i$ ,  $0 < \theta_1 < \theta_2 < \dots < \theta_g < \pi$  and  $m_i$  be the multiplicity of  $\lambda_i$ . H. F. Münzner [9] showed the following results.

**PROPOSITION 3.1.** *For an isoparametric hypersurface in  $S^{n+1}$ , the number  $g$  of distinct eigenvalues of  $A$  is 1, 2, 3, 4 or 6.*

PROPOSITION 3.2. *The following equalities hold,*

- (i)  $\theta_i = \theta_1 + \frac{i-1}{g} \pi$ ,
- (ii)  $m_i = m_{i+2}$ , where  $i + g \equiv i$ .

REMARK 3.3. Taking account of Proposition 3.1 and Proposition 3.2, we may easily observe the following.

- (i) In the case of  $g = 2, 4$  or  $6$ , we have  $\lambda_i \neq 0$  for any  $i = 1, \dots, g$ .
- (ii) We assume that  $\lambda_i = 0$  for some  $i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq g$ ). Then we have  $g = 1$  or  $3$ . In the case of  $g = 1$ , we have  $\lambda_1 = 0$ , that is,  $M$  is totally geodesic in  $S^{n+1}$ . In the case of  $g = 3$ , we have  $\lambda_1 = \sqrt{3}$ ,  $\lambda_2 = 0$ ,  $\lambda_3 = -\sqrt{3}$ , and hence  $M$  is minimal.

H. Takagi [19] studied oriented isoparametric hypersurfaces  $M$  in  $S^{n+1}$  satisfying the following condition  $H(k)$  which is analogous to  $R(k)$ :

$H(k)$  : For each  $p, q \in M$ , there exists a linear isometry  $\Phi$  of  $T_p M$  onto  $T_q M$  such that  $\Phi(\nabla^i H)_p = (\nabla^i H)_q$ , for  $i = 0, 1, \dots, k$ .

Using the results of H. F. Münzner, he gave a condition for isoparametric hypersurfaces in  $S^{n+1}$  to be homogeneous:

THEOREM 3.4. *Let  $M$  be a closed isoparametric hypersurface in  $S^{n+1}$  with  $g$  distinct principal curvatures. Then,  $M$  is homogeneous if and only if the condition  $H(g-2)$  is satisfied.*

#### §4. Proof of the Theorem A

Let  $V$  be the  $n$ -dimensional real vector space with inner product  $\langle, \rangle$  and  $S^2 V^*$  the space of  $(0, 2)$ -type symmetric tensors on  $V$  and  $\tilde{S}^2 V^* = \{H \in S^2 V^* \mid \text{rank } H \geq 3\}$ . Then, we have the following

LEMMA 4.1. *If the equality*

$$G(x, w)H(y, z) - G(x, z)H(y, w) + H(x, w)G(y, z) - H(x, z)G(y, w) = 0$$

*holds for  $H \in \tilde{S}^2 V^*$  and  $G \in S^2 V^*$ , then  $G = 0$ .*

PROOF. We choose an orthonormal basis  $\{e_r\}$  ( $r = 1, \dots, n$ ) of  $V$  such that  $H(e_r, e_s) = \mu_r \delta_{rs}$ . Since  $\text{rank } H \geq 3$ , we may suppose that  $\mu_r \neq 0$  for  $r = 1, 2, 3$ .

We use the following notational convention:  $H_{rs} := H(e_r, e_s)$ ,  $G_{rs} := G(e_r, e_s)$  and the range of indices:  $r, s, t, u = 1, \dots, n$ ;  $\alpha, \beta = 4, \dots, n$ .

By assumption, we have

$$(4.1) \quad H_{rs} = H_{sr} = \mu_r \delta_{rs}, \quad G_{rs} = G_{sr},$$

$$(4.2) \quad H_{11} = \mu_1 \neq 0, \quad H_{22} = \mu_2 \neq 0, \quad H_{33} = \mu_3 \neq 0,$$

$$(4.3) \quad G_{ru}H_{st} - G_{rt}H_{su} + H_{ru}G_{st} - H_{rt}G_{su} = 0.$$

For  $r = u = 1$ ,  $s = t = 2$ , from (4.1) and (4.3), we have

$$(4.4) \quad G_{11}H_{22} + H_{11}G_{22} = 0.$$

Similarly, from (4.1) and (4.3), we have also

$$(4.5) \quad G_{11}H_{33} + H_{11}G_{33} = 0, \quad G_{22}H_{33} + H_{22}G_{33} = 0.$$

From (4.5), we have

$$H_{33}(G_{11}H_{22} - H_{11}G_{22}) = 0.$$

Thus, from (4.2), we have

$$(4.6) \quad G_{11}H_{22} - H_{11}G_{22} = 0.$$

From (4.2), (4.4) ~ (4.6), we have

$$(4.7) \quad G_{11} = 0, \quad G_{22} = 0, \quad G_{33} = 0.$$

For  $r = u = 3$ ,  $s = 2$ ,  $t = 1$ , from (4.1) ~ (4.3), we have

$$(4.8) \quad G_{21} = 0.$$

Similarly, from (4.1) ~ (4.3), we have also

$$(4.9) \quad G_{31} = 0, \quad G_{32} = 0, \quad G_{\alpha 1} = 0, \quad G_{\alpha 2} = 0, \quad G_{\alpha 3} = 0, \quad G_{\alpha \beta} = 0,$$

for  $\alpha \neq \beta$ . For  $r = u = 1$ ,  $s = t = \alpha$ , from (4.1) ~ (4.3) and (4.7), we have

$$(4.10) \quad G_{\alpha \alpha} = 0.$$

Hence, from (4.1) and (4.7) ~ (4.10), we see  $G = 0$ . □

Let  $M$  be an oriented hypersurface in  $\tilde{M} = (\tilde{M}^{n+1}(\tilde{c}), \langle, \rangle)$ . Let  $V = T_p M (p \in M)$  and  $K(\subset \otimes^4 V^*)$  be the space of curvature-like tensors (for the definition, see [2]). We define the map  $F_k : \tilde{S}^2 V^* \times (V^* \otimes S^2 V^*) \times \dots \times (\otimes^k V^* \otimes S^2 V^*) \rightarrow K \times (V^* \otimes K) \times \dots \times (\otimes^k V^* \otimes K)$  by

$$(4.11) \quad F_k(H, \nabla H, \dots, \nabla^k H) = (f_0, f_1, \dots, f_k),$$

$$(4.12) \quad (f_0(H))(x, y, z, w) := H(x, w)H(y, z) - H(x, z)H(y, w),$$

$$(4.13) \quad (f_i(H, \nabla H, \dots, \nabla^i H))(v_i, \dots, v_1; x, y, z, w) \\ := \{(\nabla^i H)(v_i, \dots, v_1; x, w)H(y, z) - (\nabla^i H)(v_i, \dots, v_1; x, z)H(y, w)\} \\ + \sum_{j=1}^i \left[ \sum_{1 \leq a_1 < \dots < a_j \leq i} \{(\nabla^{i-j} H)(v_i, \dots, \hat{v}_{a_j}, \dots, \hat{v}_{a_1}, \dots, v_1; x, w)(\nabla^j H)(v_{a_j}, \dots, v_{a_1}; y, z) \right. \\ \left. - (\nabla^{i-j} H)(v_i, \dots, \hat{v}_{a_j}, \dots, \hat{v}_{a_1}, \dots, v_1; x, z)(\nabla^j H)(v_{a_j}, \dots, v_{a_1}; y, w)\} \right]$$

for  $i \geq 1$  (cf. [2]). We can easily check that  $F_k$  is well-defined. Then, by Lemma 4.1, we have the following

LEMMA 4.2. *For each integer  $k \geq 0$ , the map  $F_k$  is injective.*

PROOF. The injectivity of  $F_0$  is easy to see by the similar argument of the classical rigidity theorem (cf. [8, Chapter VII, Theorem 6.2 and Corollary 6.3], [20, Proposition 2.2]).

We shall prove the injectivity of  $F_1, \dots, F_k$  by induction.

(I) We suppose that  $F_1(H, \nabla H) = F_1(\bar{H}, \nabla \bar{H})$ . By injectivity of  $F_0 (= f_0)$ , we have  $H = \bar{H}$ . Therefore, from (4.13) and hypothesis, we have

$$(4.14) \quad (\nabla H - \nabla \bar{H})(v_1; x, w)H(y, z) - (\nabla H - \nabla \bar{H})(v_1; x, z)H(y, w) \\ + H(x, w)(\nabla H - \nabla \bar{H})(v_1; y, z) - H(x, z)(\nabla H - \nabla \bar{H})(v_1; y, w) = 0.$$

From (4.14), by Lemma 4.1, we have  $\nabla H = \nabla \bar{H}$ . Hence, we see that  $F_1$  is injective.

(II) We assume that  $F_i$  is injective. We suppose that  $F_{i+1}(H, \nabla H, \dots, \nabla^{i+1} H) = F_{i+1}(\bar{H}, \nabla \bar{H}, \dots, \nabla^{i+1} \bar{H})$ . By the inductive assumption, we have  $H = \bar{H}$ ,  $\nabla H = \nabla \bar{H}$ ,  $\dots$ ,  $\nabla^i H = \nabla^i \bar{H}$ . Therefore, from (4.13) and hypothesis, we have

$$(4.15) \quad (\nabla^{i+1} H - \nabla^{i+1} \bar{H})(v_{i+1}, \dots, v_1; x, w)H(y, z) \\ - (\nabla^{i+1} H - \nabla^{i+1} \bar{H})(v_{i+1}, \dots, v_1; x, z)H(y, w)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& + H(x, w)(\nabla^{i+1}H - \nabla^{i+1}\bar{H})(v_{i+1}, \dots, v_1; y, z) \\
& - H(x, z)(\nabla^{i+1}H - \nabla^{i+1}\bar{H})(v_{i+1}, \dots, v_1; y, w) = 0.
\end{aligned}$$

From (4.15), by Lemma 4.1, we have  $\nabla^{i+1}H = \nabla^{i+1}\bar{H}$ . Hence, we see that  $F_{i+1}$  is injective.

From (I) and (II), we may conclude that Lemma 4.2 follows.  $\square$

By Lemma 4.2, we have the following

**LEMMA 4.3.** *Let  $M$  be an oriented hypersurface in  $\tilde{M} = (\tilde{M}^{n+1}(\tilde{c}), \langle, \rangle)$ . If the rank of the second fundamental tensor field  $H$  is not less than 3 on  $M$ , then the two conditions  $R(k)$  and  $H(k)$  is equivalent for each integer  $k \geq 0$ .*

**PROOF.** From (2.6) and (2.10), we may easily see that  $H(k)$  implies  $R(k)$ . Therefore, it is sufficient to show that  $R(k)$  implies  $H(k)$ . We assume that  $R(k)$  holds, i.e., for each  $p, q \in M$ , there exists a linear isometry  $\Phi$  of  $T_pM$  onto  $T_qM$  such that  $\Phi(\nabla^i R)_p = (\nabla^i R)_q$  for  $i = 0, 1, \dots, k$ . Taking account of (2.6), we define the  $(0, 4)$ -type tensor field  $T$  on  $M$  by

$$(4.16) \quad T(X, Y, Z, W) = \langle (R - \tilde{c}R_0)(X, Y)Z, W \rangle.$$

Since  $\Phi(R_p) = R_q$ , we have  $\Phi(T_p) = T_q$ . Therefore, from (2.6), (4.12) and the hypothesis, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
(4.17) \quad (f_0(\Phi H_p))(x, y, z, w) &= (\Phi(T_p))(x, y, z, w) \\
&= (T_q)(x, y, z, w) = (f_0(H_q))(x, y, z, w)
\end{aligned}$$

for  $x, y, z, w \in T_qM$ . From (2.10), (4.13) and the hypothesis, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
(4.18) \quad (f_i(\Phi H_p, \Phi(\nabla H)_p, \dots, \Phi(\nabla^i H)_p))(v_i, \dots, v_1; x, y, z, w) \\
&= \langle (\Phi(\nabla^i R)_p)(v_i, \dots, v_1; x, y)z, w \rangle \\
&= \langle ((\nabla^i R)_q)(v_i, \dots, v_1; x, y)z, w \rangle \\
&= (f_i(H_q, (\nabla H)_q, \dots, (\nabla^i H)_q))(v_i, \dots, v_1; x, y, z, w)
\end{aligned}$$

for  $x, y, z, w, v_i \in T_qM$  and  $i = 1, \dots, k$ . From (4.17) and (4.18), we have

$$F_k(\Phi H_p, \Phi(\nabla H)_p, \dots, \Phi(\nabla^k H)_p) = F_k(H_q, (\nabla H)_q, \dots, (\nabla^k H)_q).$$

By Lemma 4.2, we have  $\Phi(\nabla^i H)_p = (\nabla^i H)_q$  for  $i = 0, 1, \dots, k$ . Hence, we see that  $H(k)$  holds.  $\square$

In particular, for an oriented isoparametric hypersurface in  $S^{n+1}$ , we have the following

LEMMA 4.4. *Let  $M$  be an oriented isoparametric hypersurface in  $S^{n+1}$ . The two conditions  $R(k)$  and  $H(k)$  are equivalent for each integer  $k(\geq 0)$ .*

PROOF. From (2.6) and (2.10), we may easily see that  $H(k)$  implies  $R(k)$ . Therefore, it suffices to show that  $R(k)$  implies  $H(k)$ . If  $n = 2$ , then, taking account of (2.7), we may easily observe that  $\nabla H = 0$ . Therefore, we have immediately Lemma 4.4 in this case. If  $\text{rank } H \geq 3$  on  $M$ , it reduces to Lemma 4.3. Thus, we shall show that Lemma 4.4 is also valid for the remaining case where  $n \geq 3$  and  $\text{rank } H < 3$  on  $M$ .

We assume that  $n \geq 3$  and  $\text{rank } H < 3$  on  $M$ . Then, taking account of Remark 3.3 and Proposition 3.2 (ii), one of the following may occur:

- (1)  $g = 1$  and  $\lambda_1 = 0$  ( $\text{rank } H = 0$ )
- (2)  $g = 3$ ,  $\lambda_1 = \sqrt{3}$ ,  $\lambda_2 = 0$ ,  $\lambda_3 = -\sqrt{3}$  and  $n = 3$  ( $\text{rank } H = 2$ )

In the case of (1),  $M$  is totally geodesic in  $S^{n+1}$ . Hence, we see that  $M$  satisfies  $H(k)$  for any  $k$ .

In the case of (2), for any point  $p \in M$ , we may choose an orthonormal basis  $\{e_r(p)\}$  ( $r = 1, 2, 3$ ) of  $T_p M$  such that  $Ae_r(p) = \lambda_r e_r(p)$ . Then, for each points  $p, q \in M$ , we may define a linear isometry  $\Phi : T_p M \rightarrow T_q M$  by  $\Phi(e_r(p)) = e_r(q)$ . We use the following notational convention:

$$\begin{aligned}
 R_{rstu}(p) &:= \langle R_p(e_r(p), e_s(p))e_t(p), e_u(p) \rangle, \\
 (\nabla R)_{lrstu}(p) &:= \langle (\nabla R)_p(e_l(p); e_r(p), e_s(p))e_t(p), e_u(p) \rangle, \\
 &\dots\dots\dots \\
 (\nabla^i R)_{l_i \dots l_i rstu}(p) &:= \langle (\nabla^i R)_p(e_{l_i}(p), \dots, e_{l_i}(p); e_r(p), e_s(p))e_t(p), e_u(p) \rangle; \\
 H_{st}(p) &:= H_p(e_s(p), e_t(p)), \\
 (\nabla H)_{lst}(p) &:= (\nabla H)_p(e_l(p); e_s(p), e_t(p)), \\
 &\dots\dots\dots \\
 (\nabla^i H)_{l_i \dots l_i st}(p) &:= (\nabla^i H)_p(e_{l_i}(p), \dots, e_{l_i}(p); e_s(p), e_t(p))
 \end{aligned}$$

and so on, where the latin indices (except  $i$  and  $k$ ) run over the range 1, 2, 3. By the definition of  $\Phi$ , we easily see

$$\begin{aligned}
 (4.19) \quad &(\Phi(\nabla^i R)_p)_{l_i \dots l_i rstu}(q) = (\nabla^i R)_{l_i \dots l_i rstu}(p), \\
 &(\Phi(\nabla^i H)_p)_{l_i \dots l_i st}(q) = (\nabla^i H)_{l_i \dots l_i st}(p).
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we see immediately that

- (i)  $\Phi(\nabla^i R)_p = (\nabla^i R)_q$  if and only if  $(\nabla^i R)_{l_i \dots l_1 rstu}(p) = (\nabla^i R)_{l_i \dots l_1 rstu}(q)$ ,
  - (ii)  $\Phi(\nabla^i H)_p = (\nabla^i H)_q$  if and only if  $(\nabla^i H)_{l_i \dots l_1 st}(p) = (\nabla^i H)_{l_i \dots l_1 st}(q)$ ,
- for each  $i \geq 0$ .

Since  $M$  is isoparametric,  $M$  always satisfies  $H(0)$ . We shall prove by induction that  $R(k)$  implies  $H(k)$  for  $k \geq 1$ .

(I) We assume that  $M$  satisfies  $R(1)$ . Since  $M$  is minimal by Remark 3.3 (ii), we have

$$\begin{aligned} H_{11} + H_{22} + H_{33} &= 0, \\ (4.20) \quad (\nabla H)_{l11} + (\nabla H)_{l22} + (\nabla H)_{l33} &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

From (2.10), we have

$$\begin{aligned} (4.21) \quad (\nabla R)_{lrstu} &= (\nabla H)_{lru} H_{st} - (\nabla H)_{lrt} H_{su} + H_{ru} (\nabla H)_{lst} - H_{rt} (\nabla H)_{lsu} \\ &= \lambda_s \delta_{st} (\nabla H)_{lru} - \lambda_s \delta_{su} (\nabla H)_{lrt} + \lambda_r \delta_{ru} (\nabla H)_{lst} - \lambda_r \delta_{rt} (\nabla H)_{lsu}. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\lambda_1 \neq 0$ , from (4.21), (i) and hypothesis, we have

$$\begin{aligned} (\nabla H)_{l23}(p) &= (\nabla H)_{l23}(q), \\ (4.22) \quad (\nabla H)_{233}(p) &= (\nabla H)_{233}(q), \\ (\nabla H)_{322}(p) &= (\nabla H)_{322}(q). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\lambda_3 \neq 0$ , from (4.21), (i) and hypothesis, we have

$$\begin{aligned} (\nabla H)_{l12}(p) &= (\nabla H)_{l12}(q), \\ (4.23) \quad (\nabla H)_{211}(p) &= (\nabla H)_{211}(q), \\ (\nabla H)_{122}(p) &= (\nabla H)_{122}(q). \end{aligned}$$

From (4.20), (4.22) and (4.23), we have

$$(4.24) \quad (\nabla H)_{222}(p) = (\nabla H)_{222}(q).$$

From (4.21), we have also

$$\begin{aligned} (\nabla R)_{13131} &= -\sqrt{3}(\nabla H)_{133} + \sqrt{3}(\nabla H)_{111}, \\ (\nabla R)_{31313} &= \sqrt{3}(\nabla H)_{311} - \sqrt{3}(\nabla H)_{333}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, by the hypothesis, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
(4.25) \quad & (\nabla H)_{133}(p) - (\nabla H)_{111}(p) = (\nabla H)_{133}(q) - (\nabla H)_{111}(q), \\
& (\nabla H)_{311}(p) - (\nabla H)_{333}(p) = (\nabla H)_{311}(q) - (\nabla H)_{333}(q).
\end{aligned}$$

On one hand, by (4.20), (4.22) and (4.23), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
(4.26) \quad & (\nabla H)_{111}(p) + (\nabla H)_{133}(p) = (\nabla H)_{111}(q) + (\nabla H)_{133}(q), \\
& (\nabla H)_{311}(p) + (\nabla H)_{333}(p) = (\nabla H)_{311}(q) + (\nabla H)_{333}(q).
\end{aligned}$$

Thus, from (4.25) and (4.26), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
(4.27) \quad & (\nabla H)_{111}(p) = (\nabla H)_{111}(q), \\
& (\nabla H)_{133}(p) = (\nabla H)_{133}(q), \\
& (\nabla H)_{311}(p) = (\nabla H)_{311}(q), \\
& (\nabla H)_{333}(p) = (\nabla H)_{333}(q).
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, from (2.7), (4.22) ~ (4.24), (4.27) and (ii), we see that  $M$  satisfies  $H(1)$ .

(II) We assume that  $R(i)$  implies  $H(i)$ . We suppose that  $M$  satisfies  $R(i+1)$ . From (2.10), (i) and (ii), by inductive assumption, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
(4.28) \quad 0 &= (\nabla^{i+1}R)_{l_{i+1}\dots l_1rstu}(p) - (\nabla^{i+1}R)_{l_{i+1}\dots l_1rstu}(q) \\
&= \{(\nabla^{i+1}H)_{l_{i+1}\dots l_1ru}(p)H_{st}(p) - (\nabla^{i+1}H)_{l_{i+1}\dots l_1rt}(p)H_{su}(p) \\
&\quad + H_{ru}(p)(\nabla^{i+1}H)_{l_{i+1}\dots l_1st}(p) - H_{rt}(p)(\nabla^{i+1}H)_{l_{i+1}\dots l_1su}(p)\} \\
&\quad - \{(\nabla^{i+1}H)_{l_{i+1}\dots l_1ru}(q)H_{st}(q) - (\nabla^{i+1}H)_{l_{i+1}\dots l_1rt}(q)H_{su}(q) \\
&\quad + H_{ru}(q)(\nabla^{i+1}H)_{l_{i+1}\dots l_1st}(q) - H_{rt}(q)(\nabla^{i+1}H)_{l_{i+1}\dots l_1su}(q)\} \\
&= \{\mu_s\delta_{st}(\nabla^{i+1}H)_{l_{i+1}\dots l_1ru}(p) - \mu_s\delta_{su}(\nabla^{i+1}H)_{l_{i+1}\dots l_1rt}(p) \\
&\quad + \mu_r\delta_{ru}(\nabla^{i+1}H)_{l_{i+1}\dots l_1st}(p) - \mu_r\delta_{rt}(\nabla^{i+1}H)_{l_{i+1}\dots l_1su}(p)\} \\
&\quad - \{\mu_s\delta_{st}(\nabla^{i+1}H)_{l_{i+1}\dots l_1ru}(q) - \mu_s\delta_{su}(\nabla^{i+1}H)_{l_{i+1}\dots l_1rt}(q) \\
&\quad + \mu_r\delta_{ru}(\nabla^{i+1}H)_{l_{i+1}\dots l_1st}(q) - \mu_r\delta_{rt}(\nabla^{i+1}H)_{l_{i+1}\dots l_1su}(q)\}.
\end{aligned}$$

Thus, by the similar procedure as in (I), we may easily show that  $M$  satisfies  $H(i+1)$ .

From (I) and (II), by the induction, we can conclude that  $R(k)$  implies  $H(k)$  for each  $k \geq 0$ . This completes the proof of Lemma 4.4.  $\square$

From the above Lemma 4.4, taking account of Theorem 3.4 and Proposition 3.1, we have the following

**LEMMA 4.5.** *Let  $M$  be an oriented closed isoparametric hypersurface in  $S^{n+1}$ . If  $M$  satisfies the condition  $R(4)$ , then  $M$  is homogeneous.*

In general, a curvature homogeneous hypersurface in a real space form is not necessarily an isoparametric one. Concerning this, K. Tsukada proved the following ([20, Theorem B])

**THEOREM 4.6.** *Let  $M$  be an  $n(\geq 4)$ -dimensional curvature homogeneous space and  $\psi$  an isometric immersion of  $M$  into  $S^{n+1}$ . Then one of the following may occur:*

- (i)  *$M$  is a Riemannian manifold of constant curvature 1.*
- (ii) *The immersion  $\psi$  has constant principal curvatures.*

**REMARK 4.7.** In the case (i) of the above Theorem 4.6, if the hypersurface  $M$  is complete, by the result [11, Theorem 2], we see that  $M$  is totally geodesic (and hence,  $M$  is isoparametric).

If  $n \geq 4$ , we see immediately that Theorem A follows from Lemma 4.5 and Theorem 4.6 with Remark 4.7. Further, we can easily show that a 3-dimensional oriented closed hypersurface in  $S^{n+1}$  satisfying the condition  $R(1)$  is homogeneous by taking account of the results of K. Sekigawa ([15, §2]) and E. Cartan ([3] and [4]). Therefore, we have finally Theorem A.

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