

RICCI TENSOR OF SLANT SUBMANIFOLDS IN COMPLEX SPACE FORMS

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Abstract

B.-Y. Chen established a sharp relationship between the Ricci curvature and the squared mean curvature for a submanifold in a Riemannian space form with arbitrary codimension. The Lagrangian version of this inequality was proved by the same author.

In this article, we obtain a sharp estimate of the Ricci tensor of a slant submanifold M in a complex space form $\tilde{M}(4c)$, in terms of the main extrinsic invariant, namely the squared mean curvature. If, in particular, M is a Kaehlerian slant submanifold which satisfies the equality case identically, then it is minimal.

1. Preliminaries

Let M be a real n -dimensional submanifold of a complex m -dimensional complex space form $\tilde{M}(4c)$ of constant holomorphic sectional curvature $4c$. We denote by ∇ and $\tilde{\nabla}$ the Levi-Civita connections of M and $\tilde{M}(4c)$, respectively. Let J be the complex structure on $\tilde{M}(4c)$. Also, we denote by h the second fundamental form and R the Riemann curvature tensor of M .

Then the Gauss equation is given by

$$(1.1) \quad \tilde{R}(X, Y, Z, W) = R(X, Y, Z, W) \\
 + g(h(X, W), h(Y, Z)) - g(h(X, Z), h(Y, W))$$

for any vectors X, Y, Z, W tangent to M , where

$$(1.2) \quad \tilde{R}(X, Y, Z, W) = c\{g(X, Z)g(Y, W) - g(X, W)g(Y, Z) \\
 - g(JX, W)g(JY, Z) + g(JX, Z)g(JY, W) \\
 + 2g(X, JY)g(Z, JW)\}.$$

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Let $p \in M$ and $\{e_1, \dots, e_{2m}\}$ an orthonormal basis at p , such that e_1, \dots, e_n are tangent to M and e_{n+1}, \dots, e_{2m} are normal to M .

We denote by H the mean curvature vector, i.e.,

$$(1.3) \quad H(p) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n h(e_i, e_i).$$

Also, we set

$$(1.4) \quad h_{ij}^r = g(h(e_i, e_j), e_r), \quad i, j \in \{1, \dots, n\}, \quad r \in \{n+1, \dots, 2m\}$$

and

$$(1.5) \quad \|h\|^2 = \sum_{i,j=1}^n g(h(e_i, e_j), h(e_i, e_j)).$$

For any $p \in M$ and $X \in T_p M$, we put $JX = PX + FX$, where PX and FX are the tangential and normal components of JX , respectively.

We denote by

$$(1.6) \quad \|P\|^2 = \sum_{i,j=1}^n g^2(Pe_i, e_j).$$

We recall that for a submanifold M in a Riemannian manifold, the relative null space of M at a point $p \in M$ is defined by

$$\mathcal{N}_p = \{X \in T_p M \mid h(X, Y) = 0, \text{ for all } Y \in T_p M\}.$$

2. Ricci tensor and squared mean curvature

B.-Y. Chen established a sharp relationship between the Ricci curvature and the squared mean curvature for submanifolds in real space forms (see [3]). Afterwards, he obtained the Lagrangian version of this relationship (see [4]).

First, we prove a similar inequality for an n -dimensional slant submanifold M of an m -dimensional complex space form $\tilde{M}(4c)$ of constant holomorphic sectional curvature $4c$.

A submanifold M of a complex space form $\tilde{M}(4c)$ is said to be a *slant submanifold* [1] if for any $p \in M$ and any nonzero vector $X \in T_p M$, the angle between JX and the tangent space $T_p M$ is constant ($= \theta$).

It is obvious that both complex submanifolds and totally real submanifolds are slant submanifolds, corresponding to $\theta = 0$ and $\theta = \pi/2$, respectively.

THEOREM 2.1. *Let M be an n -dimensional θ -slant submanifold in an m -dimensional complex space form $\tilde{M}(4c)$ of constant holomorphic sectional curvature $4c$. Then:*

i) For each unit vector $X \in T_pM$, we have

$$(2.1) \quad \text{Ric}(X) \leq \frac{n^2}{4} \|H\|^2 + (n-1)c + 3c \cos^2 \theta.$$

ii) If $H(p) = 0$, then a unit tangent vector X at p satisfies the equality case of (2.1) if and only if $X \in \mathcal{N}_p$.

iii) The equality case of (2.1) holds identically for all unit tangent vectors at p if and only if either p is a totally geodesic point or $n = 2$ and p is a totally umbilical point.

In the proof of this theorem, we will use the following result of B.-Y. Chen.

LEMMA [2]. Let $n \geq 2$ and a_1, \dots, a_n, b real numbers such that

$$(2.2) \quad \left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i \right)^2 = (n-1) \left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^2 + b \right).$$

Then $2a_1a_2 \geq b$, with equality holding if and only if

$$a_1 + a_2 = a_3 = \dots = a_n.$$

We will give a very short proof, different from the original one in [2].

Proof. By the Cauchy-Schwartz inequality, we have

$$[(a_1 + a_2) + a_3 + \dots + a_n]^2 \leq (n-1)[(a_1 + a_2)^2 + a_3^2 + \dots + a_n^2].$$

The equation (2.2) implies

$$\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^2 + b \leq (a_1 + a_2)^2 + a_3^2 + \dots + a_n^2$$

or equivalently, $2a_1a_2 \geq b$.

The equality holds if and only if

$$a_1 + a_2 = a_3 = \dots = a_n. \quad \square$$

Proof of Theorem 2.1. i) Let $X \in T_pM$ be a unit tangent vector X at p . We choose an orthonormal basis $\{e_1, \dots, e_n, e_{n+1}, \dots, e_{2m}\}$ such that e_1, \dots, e_n are tangent to M at p , with $e_n = X$ and e_{n+1} is parallel to the mean curvature vector $H(p)$.

Then, from the Gauss equation, we have

$$(2.3) \quad n^2 \|H\|^2 = 2\tau + \|h\|^2 - [n(n-1) + 3n \cos^2 \theta]c,$$

where τ denotes the scalar curvature at p , that is,

$$\tau = \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} K(e_i \wedge e_j) = \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} R(e_i, e_j, e_i, e_j).$$

We put

$$\delta = 2\tau - \frac{n^2}{2} \|H\|^2 - [n(n-1) + 3n \cos^2 \theta]c.$$

Then, from (2.3), we get

$$(2.4) \quad n^2 \|H\|^2 = 2(\delta + \|h\|^2).$$

With respect to the above orthonormal basis, (2.4) takes the following form:

$$\left(\sum_{i=1}^n h_{ii}^{n+1} \right)^2 = 2 \left\{ \delta + \sum_{i=1}^n (h_{ii}^{n+1})^2 + \sum_{i \neq j} (h_{ij}^{n+1})^2 + \sum_{r=n+2}^{2m} \sum_{i,j=1}^n (h_{ij}^r)^2 \right\}.$$

If we put $a_1 = h_{11}^{n+1}$, $a_2 = \sum_{i=2}^{n-1} h_{ii}^{n+1}$ and $a_3 = h_{nn}^{n+1}$, the above equation becomes

$$\left(\sum_{i=1}^3 a_i \right)^2 = 2 \left\{ \delta + \sum_{i=1}^3 (a_i)^2 + \sum_{i \neq j} (h_{ij}^{n+1})^2 + \sum_{r=n+2}^{2m} \sum_{i,j=1}^n (h_{ij}^r)^2 - \sum_{2 \leq \alpha \neq \beta \leq n-1} h_{\alpha\alpha}^{n+1} h_{\beta\beta}^{n+1} \right\}.$$

Thus a_1, a_2, a_3 satisfy the Lemma of Chen (for $n = 3$), i.e.,

$$\left(\sum_{i=1}^3 a_i \right)^2 = 2 \left(b + \sum_{i=1}^3 (a_i)^2 \right).$$

Then $2a_1 a_2 \geq b$, with equality holding if and only if $a_1 + a_2 = a_3$.

In the case under consideration, this means

$$\sum_{1 \leq \alpha \neq \beta \leq n-1} h_{\alpha\alpha}^{n+1} h_{\beta\beta}^{n+1} \geq \delta + 2 \sum_{i < j} (h_{ij}^{n+1})^2 + \sum_{r=n+2}^{2m} \sum_{i,j=1}^n (h_{ij}^r)^2$$

or equivalently,

$$(2.5) \quad \begin{aligned} & \frac{n^2}{2} \|H\|^2 + [n(n-1) + 3n \cos^2 \theta]c \\ & \geq 2\tau - \sum_{1 \leq \alpha \neq \beta \leq n-1} h_{\alpha\alpha}^{n+1} h_{\beta\beta}^{n+1} + 2 \sum_{i < j} (h_{ij}^{n+1})^2 + \sum_{r=n+2}^{2m} \sum_{i,j=1}^n (h_{ij}^r)^2. \end{aligned}$$

Using again the Gauss equation, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 (2.6) \quad 2\tau - & \sum_{1 \leq \alpha \neq \beta \leq n-1} h_{\alpha\alpha}^{n+1} h_{\beta\beta}^{n+1} + 2 \sum_{i < j} (h_{ij}^{n+1})^2 + \sum_{r=n+2}^{2m} \sum_{i,j=1}^n (h_{ij}^r)^2 \\
 & = 2S(e_n, e_n) + [(n-1)(n-2) + 3(n-2) \cos^2 \theta]c + 2 \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} (h_{in}^{n+1})^2 \\
 & \quad + \sum_{r=n+2}^{2m} \left\{ (h_{nn}^r)^2 + 2 \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} (h_{in}^r)^2 + \left(\sum_{\alpha=1}^{n-1} h_{\alpha\alpha}^r \right)^2 \right\},
 \end{aligned}$$

where S is the Ricci tensor of M .

Combining (2.5) and (2.6), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \frac{n^2}{2} \|H\|^2 + [2(n-1) + 6 \cos^2 \theta]c \\
 & \geq 2S(e_n, e_n) + 2 \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} (h_{in}^{n+1})^2 + \sum_{r=n+2}^{2m} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n (h_{in}^r)^2 + \left(\sum_{\alpha=1}^{n-1} h_{\alpha\alpha}^r \right)^2 \right\}
 \end{aligned}$$

which implies (2.1).

ii) Assume $H(p) = 0$. Equality holds in (2.1) if and only if

$$(2.7) \quad \begin{cases} h_{in}^r = \cdots = h_{n-1,n}^r = 0 \\ h_{nn}^r = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} h_{ii}^r \end{cases}, \quad r \in \{n+1, \dots, 2m\}.$$

Then $h_{in}^r = 0, \forall i \in \{1, \dots, n\}, r \in \{n+1, \dots, 2m\}$, i.e., $X \in \mathcal{N}_p$.

iii) The equality case of (2.1) holds for all unit tangent vectors at p if and only if

$$(2.8) \quad \begin{cases} h_{ij}^r = 0, & i \neq j, r \in \{n+1, \dots, 2m\}, \\ h_{11}^r + \cdots + h_{nn}^r - 2h_{ii}^r = 0, & i \in \{1, \dots, n\}, r \in \{n+1, \dots, 2m\}. \end{cases}$$

We distinguish two cases:

- a) $n \neq 2$, then p is a totally geodesic point;
- b) $n = 2$, it follows that p is a totally umbilical point.

The converse is trivial. □

COROLLARY 2.2. *Let M be an n -dimensional totally real submanifold in an m -dimensional complex space form $\tilde{M}(4c)$ of constant holomorphic sectional curvature $4c$. Then:*

i) For each unit vector $X \in T_p M$, we have

$$(2.9) \quad \text{Ric}(X) \leq \frac{n^2}{4} \|H\|^2 + (n-1)c.$$

ii) If $H(p) = 0$, then a unit tangent vector X at p satisfies the equality case of (2.9) if and only if $X \in \mathcal{N}_p$.

iii) *The equality case of (2.9) holds identically for all unit tangent vectors at p if and only if either p is a totally geodesic point or $n = 2$ and p is a totally umbilical point.*

It is known that every complex submanifold of a Kaehlerian manifold is minimal.

COROLLARY 2.3. *Let M be an n -dimensional complex submanifold in an m -dimensional complex space form $\tilde{M}(4c)$ of constant holomorphic sectional curvature $4c$. Then:*

i) *For each unit vector $X \in T_p M$, we have*

$$(2.10) \quad \text{Ric}(X) \leq 2(n+1)c.$$

ii) *A unit tangent vector X at p satisfies the equality case of (2.10) if and only if $X \in \mathcal{N}_p$.*

iii) *The equality case of (2.10) holds identically for all unit tangent vectors at p if and only if p is a totally geodesic point.*

By polarization, from Theorem 2.1, we derive:

THEOREM 2.4. *Let M be an n -dimensional θ -slant submanifold in an m -dimensional complex space form $\tilde{M}(4c)$ of constant holomorphic sectional curvature $4c$. Then the Ricci tensor S satisfies*

$$(2.11) \quad S \leq \left(\frac{n^2}{4} \|H\|^2 + (n-1)c + 3c \cos^2 \theta \right) g.$$

The equality case of (2.11) holds identically if and only if either M is a totally geodesic submanifold or $n = 2$ and M is a totally umbilical submanifold.

In particular, for totally real and complex submanifolds, respectively, we state:

COROLLARY 2.5 [4]. *Let M be an n -dimensional totally real submanifold in an m -dimensional complex space form $\tilde{M}(4c)$ of constant holomorphic sectional curvature $4c$. Then the Ricci tensor S satisfies*

$$(2.12) \quad S \leq \left(\frac{n^2}{4} \|H\|^2 + (n-1)c \right) g.$$

The equality case of (2.12) holds identically if and only if either M is a totally geodesic submanifold or $n = 2$ and M is a totally umbilical submanifold.

For a classification of totally umbilical submanifolds in nonflat complex space forms we refer to [6].

COROLLARY 2.6. *Let M be an n -dimensional complex submanifold in an m -dimensional complex space form $\tilde{M}(4c)$ of constant holomorphic sectional curvature $4c$. Then the Ricci tensor S satisfies*

$$(2.13) \quad S \leq 2(n+1)cg.$$

The equality case of (2.13) holds identically if and only if M is a totally geodesic submanifold.

3. Minimality of Kaehlerian slant submanifolds

Let $\tilde{M}(4c)$ be an n -dimensional complex space form of constant holomorphic sectional curvature $4c$ and M an n -dimensional θ -slant submanifold of $\tilde{M}(4c)$.

By reference to [1], M is said to be a *Kaehlerian slant submanifold* if it is proper (i.e., $\theta \notin \{0, \pi/2\}$) and the endomorphism P of the tangent bundle TM is parallel with respect to the Riemannian connection ∇ of M (i.e. $\nabla P = 0$). A Kaehlerian slant submanifold is a Kaehler manifold with respect to the induced metric and the almost complex structure $\tilde{J} = (1/\cos \theta)P$.

It is known that every proper slant surface in a Kaehler manifold is Kaehlerian slant (see [1]). An example of a 4-dimensional Kaehlerian slant submanifold in C^4 is given by the following immersion.

$$x(u, v, w, z) = (u, v, k \sin w, k \sin z, kw, kz, k \cos w, k \cos z),$$

where $k > 0$ is a constant. In this case, $\theta = \pi/4$ (see [1]).

We denote by \mathcal{R} the maximum Ricci curvature function on M (see [4]), defined by

$$\mathcal{R}(p) = \max\{S(u, u) \mid u \in T_p^1 M\}, \quad p \in M,$$

where $T_p^1 M = \{u \in T_p M \mid g(u, u) = 1\}$.

If $n = 3$, \mathcal{R} is the Chen first invariant δ_M defined in [2]. For $n > 3$, \mathcal{R} is the Chen invariant $\delta(n-1)$ (see [5]).

In this section, we derive an inequality for the Chen invariant \mathcal{R} and prove that any Kaehlerian slant submanifold which satisfies the equality case is minimal. This is a generalization of a result of B.-Y. Chen [4] for Lagrangian submanifolds in complex space forms.

THEOREM 3.1. *Let M be an n -dimensional Kaehlerian slant submanifold in an n -dimensional complex space form $\tilde{M}(4c)$ of constant holomorphic sectional curvature $4c$. Then*

$$(3.1) \quad \mathcal{R} \leq \frac{n^2}{4} \|H\|^2 + (n-1)c + 3c \cos^2 \theta.$$

If M satisfies the equality case of (3.1) identically, then M is a minimal submanifold.

Proof. The inequality (3.1) is an immediate consequence of the inequality (2.11).

We assume that M is a Kaehlerian slant submanifold of $\tilde{M}(4c)$, which satisfies the equality case of (3.1) at a point $p \in M$. We may choose an orthonormal basis $\{\bar{e}_1, \dots, \bar{e}_n\}$ of $T_p M$ such that $\mathcal{R}(p) = S(\bar{e}_n, \bar{e}_n)$. We set $\bar{e}_{n+j} = (1/\sin \theta)F\bar{e}_j$, $j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$. By the proof of Theorem 2.1, it follows that the equations (2.7) hold, where h_{ij}^r are the coefficients of the second fundamental form with respect to the orthonormal basis $\{\bar{e}_1, \dots, \bar{e}_n, \bar{e}_{n+1}, \dots, \bar{e}_{2n}\}$.

Let A denote the shape operator of M in $\tilde{M}(4c)$. It is known (see [1]) that P is parallel if and only if

$$(3.2) \quad A_{FX}Y = A_{FY}X,$$

for all vector fields X, Y tangent to M .

We distinguish two cases:

- i) If $g(h(u, v), Fw) = 0$, $\forall u, v, w \in T_p M$, then obviously $H(p) = 0$.
- ii) We assume that case i) does not hold. Then we define

$$f_p : T_p^1 M \rightarrow \mathbf{R}, \quad f_p(v) = g(h(v, v), Fv).$$

Since $T_p^1 M$ is compact, there exists a vector $v \in T_p^1 M$ such that f_p attains an absolute maximum at v . Let denote $e_1 = v$ and $f_p(v) = \lambda_1 > 0$. It follows that $A_{Fe_1}e_1 = \lambda_1 e_1$.

We can choose an orthonormal basis $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$ of $T_p M$ such that e_i is an eigenvector of A_{Fe_1} with corresponding eigenvalue λ_i , for all $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$.

We consider the function $f_i(t) = f_p((\cos t)e_1 + (\sin t)e_i)$, $i \in \{2, \dots, n\}$.

It is easily seen that f_i has a relative maximum at $t = 0$. Thus, $f_i'(0) = 0$ and $f_i''(0) \leq 0$. By a straightforward computation, one finds

$$0 \geq f_i''(0) = -3\lambda_1 + 6\lambda_i,$$

i.e., $\lambda_1 \geq 2\lambda_i$, $\forall i \geq 2$. Since $\lambda_1 > 0$, one gets $\lambda_1 \neq \lambda_i$, $\forall i \geq 2$. Thus, the multiplicity of the eigenvalue λ_1 is 1.

We have $e_1 \neq \pm \bar{e}_n$. Otherwise

$$A_{Fe_1}\bar{e}_n = \pm A_{Fe_1}e_1 = \pm A_{Fe_1}e_i = \pm \lambda_i e_i \perp \bar{e}_n, \quad i \in \{2, \dots, n\},$$

implies $\lambda_2 = \dots = \lambda_n = 0$, and hence, using (2.7), $\lambda_1 = 0$, which is a contradiction.

On the other hand, by (2.7) it is easily seen that \bar{e}_n is an eigenvector of A_{Fe_1} . Thus, we can choose $e_n = \bar{e}_n$, and, consequently, we may assume $e_j = \bar{e}_j$, $\forall j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$.

By (3.2) and (2.7), we have

$$A_{Fe_n}e_1 = A_{Fe_1}e_n = \lambda_n e_n = 0.$$

Thus, (2.7) implies $\lambda_1 + \dots + \lambda_{n-1} = \lambda_n = 0$. Therefore $\text{tr } A_{Fe_1} = 0$.

For $i \in \{2, \dots, n-1\}$, one has

$$\begin{aligned}\operatorname{tr} A_{Fe_i} &= \sum_{j=1}^n g(A_{Fe_i} e_j, e_j) = \sum_{j=1}^n g(h(e_j, e_j), Fe_i) = 2g(h(e_n, e_n), Fe_i) \\ &= 2g(h(e_i, e_n), Fe_n) = 0.\end{aligned}$$

Similarly

$$\operatorname{tr} A_{Fe_n} = \sum_{j=1}^n g(h(e_j, e_j), Fe_n) = 2 \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} g(h(e_j, e_j), Fe_n) = 2 \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} g(h(e_j, e_n), Fe_j) = 0.$$

Thus, $\operatorname{tr} A_{Fe_i} = 0$, $\forall i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$.

Consequently, $H(p) = 0$. \square

COROLLARY 3.2. *Let M be an n -dimensional Kaehlerian slant submanifold of an n -dimensional complex space form $\bar{M}(4c)$. If $\dim \mathcal{N}_p$ is positive constant, then M satisfies the equality case of (3.1) identically and is foliated by totally geodesic submanifolds.*

Proof. By the above proof, it follows that M satisfies the equality case of (3.1) at a point $p \in M$ if and only if $\dim \mathcal{N}_p \geq 1$.

Assume that $\dim \mathcal{N}_p$ is positive constant.

It is known that \mathcal{N} is involutive and its leaves are totally geodesic (see, for instance, [4], [10]). This achieves the proof. \square

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