

## Complete space-like submanifolds in a de Sitter space with parallel mean curvature vector

Qing-ming Cheng

Department of Mathematics, Northeast University of Technology, Shenyang, Liaoning, China

Received January 3, 1990, in final form February 21, 1990

### 1 Introduction

Let  $M_p^{n+p}(c)$  be an  $n + p$ -dimensional connected semi-Riemannian manifold of index  $p$  and of constant curvature  $c$ , which is called as indefinite space form of index  $p$ . If  $c > 0$ , we call it as a de Sitter space of index  $p$ . It is seen that a complete space-like hypersurface of a Minkowski space  $R_1^{n+p}$  possesses a remarkable Bernstein property in the maximal case by Calabi [2] and Cheng and Yau [3]. As a generalization of the Bernstein type problem, a complete space-like maximal submanifold  $M^n$  of  $M_p^{n+p}(c)$  was characterized by Ishihara [5] under a certain conditions. An entire space-like hypersurface with constant mean curvature of a Minkowski space is investigated by Goddard [4] and Treibergs [10]. Akutagawa [1] and Ramanathan [9] investigated the complete space-like hypersurfaces in a de Sitter space. They obtained independently that a complete space-like hypersurface in a de Sitter space with constant mean curvature is totally umbilical if the following are satisfied

$$H^2 \leq c, \quad \text{when } n = 2; \quad (1.1)$$

$$n^2 H^2 < 4(n - 1)c, \quad \text{when } n \geq 3. \quad (1.2)$$

In this paper, we consider general submanifolds in an indefinite space form, we obtain that a complete space-like submanifold in a de Sitter space with parallel mean curvature vector is totally umbilical if the conditions (1.1) or (1.2) are satisfied. Conditions (1.1) and (1.2) are best possible.

### 2 Local formulas and lemmas

Let  $M_p^{n+p}(c)$  be an  $(n + p)$ -dimensional semi-Riemannian manifold of constant curvature  $c$  whose index is  $p$ . Let  $M^n$  be an  $n$ -dimensional Riemannian manifold immersed in  $M_p^{n+p}(c)$ . As the semi-Riemannian metric of  $M_p^{n+p}(c)$  induced the

Riemannian metric of  $M^n$ , the immersion is called space-like. We choose a local field of semi-Riemannian orthonormal frames  $e_1, \dots, e_{n+p}$  in  $M_p^{n+p}(c)$  such that at each point of  $M^n$ ,  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  span the tangent space of  $M^n$  and forms an orthonormal frame there. We make us of the following convention on the range of indices:  $1 \leq A, B, C, \dots \leq n+p$ ;  $1 \leq i, j, k, \dots \leq n$ ;  $n+1 \leq \alpha, \beta, \gamma, \dots \leq n+p$ ; and we shall agree that repeated indices under summation sign are summed over respective ranges. Let  $\omega_1, \dots, \omega_{n+p}$  be its dual frame field so that the semi-Riemannian metric of  $M_p^{n+p}(c)$  is given by  $ds^2_{M_p^{n+p}} = \sum \omega_i^2 - \sum \omega_\alpha^2 = \sum \varepsilon_A \omega_A^2$ , where  $\varepsilon_i = 1$  and  $\varepsilon_\alpha = -1$ . Then the structure equations of  $M_p^{n+p}(c)$  are given by

$$d\omega_A = - \sum \varepsilon_B \omega_{AB} \wedge \omega_B, \quad \omega_{AB} + \omega_{BA} = 0, \tag{2.1}$$

$$d\omega_{AB} = - \sum \varepsilon_C \omega_{AC} \wedge \omega_{CB} - \frac{1}{2} \sum K_{ABCD} \omega_C \wedge \omega_D, \tag{2.2}$$

$$K_{ABCD} = c \varepsilon_A \varepsilon_B (\delta_{AD} \delta_{BC} - \delta_{AC} \delta_{BD}) \tag{2.3}$$

We restricted these forms to  $M^n$ , then

$$\omega_\alpha = 0, \quad \text{for } \alpha = n+1, \dots, n+p, \tag{2.4}$$

and the Riemannian metric of  $M^n$  is written as  $ds^2 = \sum \omega_i^2$ . We put  $\omega_{\alpha i} = \sum h_{ij}^\alpha \omega_j$ . From Cartan's Lemma we have  $h_{ij}^\alpha = h_{ji}^\alpha$ , where  $h_{ij}^\alpha$  are the components of the second fundamental form of  $M^n$ . Let

$$h = \frac{1}{n} \sum_i \sum_i (h_{ii}^\alpha) e_\alpha \tag{2.5}$$

$$H^2 = \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_i \left( \sum_i h_{ii}^\alpha \right)^2 \tag{2.6}$$

where  $H$  is called mean curvature. From (2.1), we obtain the structure equations of  $M^n$

$$d\omega_i = - \sum \omega_{ij} \wedge \omega_j, \quad \omega_{ij} + \omega_{ji} = 0, \tag{2.7}$$

$$d\omega_{ij} = - \sum \omega_{ik} \wedge \omega_{kj} - \frac{1}{2} \sum R_{ijkl} \omega_k \wedge \omega_l, \tag{2.8}$$

and the Gaussian formula

$$R_{ijkl} = c(\delta_{il} \delta_{jk} - \delta_{ik} \delta_{jl}) - \sum (h_{ii}^\alpha h_{jk}^\alpha - h_{ik}^\alpha h_{ji}^\alpha) \tag{2.9}$$

The components of the Ricci curvature tensor Ric are given by

$$R_{jk} = c(n-1) \delta_{jk} - \sum h_{ii}^\alpha h_{jk}^\alpha + \sum h_{ik}^\alpha h_{ji}^\alpha \tag{2.10}$$

We have also the structure equations of the normal bundle of  $M^n$

$$d\omega_\alpha = - \sum \omega_{\alpha\beta} \wedge \omega_\beta, \quad \omega_{\alpha\beta} + \omega_{\beta\alpha} = 0, \tag{2.11}$$

$$d\omega_{\alpha\beta} = - \sum \omega_{\alpha\gamma} \wedge \omega_{\gamma\beta} - \frac{1}{2} \sum R_{\alpha\beta ij} \omega_i \wedge \omega_j, \tag{2.12}$$

$$R_{\alpha\beta ij} = - \sum (h_{ii}^\alpha h_{jl}^\beta - h_{jl}^\alpha h_{ii}^\beta) \tag{2.13}$$

For indefinite Riemannian manifolds, refer to O'Neill [8].

Let  $h_{ij}^\alpha$  denote the covariant derivatives of  $h_{ij}^\alpha$  so that

$$\sum h_{ijk}^\alpha \omega_k = dh_{ij}^\alpha - \sum h_{ki}^\alpha \omega_{kj} - \sum h_{jk}^\alpha \omega_{ki} - \sum h_{ij}^\beta \omega_{\beta\alpha}. \tag{2.14}$$

Similarly, let  $h^{\alpha}_{ijkl}$  denote the covariant derivative of  $h^{\alpha}_{ijk}$  so that

$$\sum h^{\alpha}_{ijkl} \omega_l = dh^{\alpha}_{ijk} - \sum h^{\alpha}_{ijk} \omega_{li} - \sum h^{\alpha}_{ilk} \omega_{lj} - \sum h^{\alpha}_{ijl} \omega_{lk} - \sum h^{\beta}_{ijk} \omega_{\beta\alpha} \tag{2.15}$$

Then we obtain

$$h^{\alpha}_{ijk} = h^{\alpha}_{ikj}, \quad \text{for any } \alpha, \tag{2.16}$$

and the Ricci formula

$$h^{\alpha}_{ijkl} - h^{\alpha}_{ijlk} = - \sum h^{\alpha}_{im} R_{mjkl} - \sum h^{\alpha}_{jm} R_{mikl} - \sum h^{\beta}_{ij} R_{\alpha\beta kl}. \tag{2.17}$$

The Laplacian  $\Delta h^{\alpha}_{ij}$  of the second fundamental form  $h$  is defined by  $\Delta h^{\alpha}_{ij} = \sum h^{\alpha}_{ijkk}$ . From (2.17) we have

$$\Delta h^{\alpha}_{ij} = \sum h^{\alpha}_{kkij} - \sum h^{\alpha}_{km} R_{mijk} - \sum h^{\alpha}_{mi} R_{mkjk} - \sum h^{\beta}_{ki} R_{\alpha\beta jk}. \tag{2.18}$$

**Lemma 2.1** (see Omori [7] and Yau [11]). *Let  $M^n$  be an  $n$ -dimensional complete Riemannian manifold whose Ricci curvature is bounded from below. Let  $F$  be a  $C^2$ -function bounded from above on  $M^n$ , then for any  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists a point  $p$  in  $M^n$  such that*

$$\begin{aligned} \sup F - \varepsilon &< F(p), \\ |\text{grad } F| &< \varepsilon, \\ \Delta F &< \varepsilon. \end{aligned} \tag{2.19}$$

**Lemma 2.2** (see Okumura [6]), *Let  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  be real numbers satisfies  $\sum a_j = 0$  and  $\sum a_j^2 = K^2 (K > 0)$ , then we have*

$$|\sum a_j^3| \leq (n - 2)[n(n - 1)]^{-1/2} K^3.$$

### 3 Theorem and its proof

**Theorem.** *Let  $M^n$  be an  $n$ -dimensional complete space-like submanifold in  $M_p^{n+p}(c)$  with parallel mean curvature vector. If*

$$H^2 \leq c, \quad \text{when } n = 2, \tag{3.1}$$

$$n^2 H^2 < 4(n - 1)c, \quad \text{when } n \geq 3. \tag{3.2}$$

*then,  $M^n$  is totally umbilical.*

*Proof.* From (2.18) and Gaussian formula, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta h^{\alpha}_{ij} &= \sum h^{\alpha}_{kkij} + nch^{\alpha}_{ij} - c \sum h^{\alpha}_{kk} \delta_{ij} + \sum h^{\alpha}_{km} h^{\beta}_{mk} h^{\beta}_{ij} - 2 \sum h^{\alpha}_{mk} h^{\beta}_{mj} h^{\beta}_{ik} \\ &\quad + \sum h^{\alpha}_{mi} h^{\beta}_{mk} h^{\beta}_{kj} - \sum h^{\alpha}_{mi} h^{\beta}_{mj} h^{\beta}_{kk} + \sum h^{\alpha}_{jm} h^{\beta}_{mk} h^{\beta}_{ki}. \end{aligned} \tag{3.3}$$

Because the mean curvature vector is parallel, we have that mean curvature  $H$  is constant.

If  $H = 0$ ,  $M^n$  is maximal. From the theorem 1.1 in [5], we know that  $M^n$  is totally geodesic.

If  $H \neq 0$ , we can choose  $e_{n+1}$  in such a way that its direction coincides with that of mean curvature vector  $h$ . Then

$$\omega_{\beta, n+1} = 0, \quad H = \text{constant}, \tag{3.4}$$

$$H^{\alpha} H^{n+1} = H^{n+1} H^{\alpha}, \tag{3.5}$$

$$\text{tr } H^{n+1} = nH, \quad \text{tr } H^{\alpha} = 0, \quad \alpha \neq n + 1, \tag{3.6}$$

where  $H^\alpha$  denote the matrix  $(h_{ij}^\alpha)$ .

Putting

$$\mu_{ij} = h_{ij}^{n+1} - H\delta_{ij}, \quad \tau_{ij}^\alpha = h_{ij}^\alpha, \quad \alpha \neq n + 1, \quad (3.7)$$

we have

$$\|\mu\|^2 = \text{tr}(\mu)^2 = \sum \mu_{ij}^2 = \text{tr}(H^{n+1})^2 - nH^2, \quad (3.8)$$

$$\|\tau\|^2 = \sum_{\beta \neq n+1} \text{tr}(\tau^\beta)^2 = \sum_{\beta \neq n+1} \|\tau^\beta\|^2 = \sum_{\beta \neq n+1} (\tau_{ij}^\beta)^2 = \sum_{\beta \neq n+1} (h_{ij}^\beta)^2, \quad (3.9)$$

$$\text{tr} \mu = 0, \quad \text{tr}(\tau^\beta) = 0, \quad \beta \neq n + 1, \quad (3.10)$$

$$S = \|\mu\|^2 + \|\tau\|^2 + nH^2, \quad (3.11)$$

where  $S$  is the square of length of the second fundamental form. Hence, it may be seen that  $\|\tau\|^2$  as well  $\|\mu\|^2$  are independent of the choice of the frame field and are functions globally defined on  $M^n$ .

A submanifold  $M^n$  is said to be pseudo-umbilical if it is umbilical with respect to the direction of the mean curvature vector  $h$ , i.e.,  $h_{ij}^{n+1} = H\delta_{ij}$ . From (3.7) ~ (3.11) one can easily see that  $M^n$  is pseudo-umbilical if and only if  $\|\mu\|^2 = 0$ ,  $M^n$  is totally umbilical if and only if it is pseudo-umbilical and  $\|\tau\|^2 = 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta h_{ij}^{n+1} &= nch_{ij}^{n+1} - ncH\delta_{ij} + \sum h_{km}^{n+1}h_{mk}^\beta h_{ij}^\beta - 2\sum h_{km}^{n+1}h_{mj}^\beta h_{ik}^\beta \\ &\quad + \sum h_{mi}^{n+1}h_{mk}^\beta h_{kj}^\beta - nH\sum h_{mi}^{n+1}h_{mj}^{n+1} + \sum h_{jm}^{n+1}h_{mk}^\beta h_{ki}^\beta, \end{aligned} \quad (3.12)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta h_{ij}^\alpha &= nch_{ij}^\alpha + \sum h_{km}^\alpha h_{mk}^\beta h_{ij}^\beta - 2\sum h_{mk}^\alpha h_{mj}^\beta h_{ik}^\beta + \sum h_{mi}^\alpha h_{mk}^\beta h_{kj}^\beta \\ &\quad - nH\sum h_{mi}^\alpha h_{mj}^{n+1} + \sum h_{jm}^\alpha h_{mk}^\beta h_{ki}^\beta, \quad \alpha \neq n + 1. \end{aligned} \quad (3.13)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2}\Delta \|\mu\|^2 &= \sum (h_{ijk}^{n+1})^2 + nc\sum (h_{ij}^{n+1})^2 - n^2cH^2 + \sum h_{mk}^{n+1}h_{mk}^\beta h_{ij}^\beta h_{ij}^{n+1} \\ &\quad - 2\sum h_{mk}^{n+1}h_{mj}^\beta h_{ik}^\beta h_{ij}^{n+1} + \sum h_{mi}^{n+1}h_{mk}^\beta h_{ki}^\beta h_{ij}^{n+1} - nH\sum h_{mi}^{n+1}h_{mj}^{n+1}h_{ij}^{n+1} \\ &\quad + \sum h_{jm}^{n+1}h_{mk}^\beta h_{ki}^\beta h_{ij}^{n+1} \\ &= \sum (h_{ijk}^{n+1})^2 + nc\sum (h_{ij}^{n+1})^2 - n^2cH^2 - nH \text{tr}(H^{n+1})^3 \\ &\quad + \sum_{\beta \neq n+1} \text{tr}(H^{n+1}H^\beta)^2 + [\text{tr}(H^{n+1})^2]^2. \end{aligned} \quad (3.14)$$

Here we use  $H^{n+1}H^\beta = H^\beta H^{n+1}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2}\Delta \|\tau\|^2 &= \sum_{\alpha \neq n+1} (\tau_{ijk}^\alpha)^2 + nc\|\tau\|^2 + \sum_{\alpha \neq n+1} h_{km}^\alpha h_{mk}^\beta h_{ij}^\beta h_{ij}^\alpha \\ &\quad - 2\sum_{\alpha \neq n+1} h_{mk}^\alpha h_{mj}^\beta h_{ik}^\beta h_{ij}^\alpha + \sum_{\alpha \neq n+1} h_{mi}^\alpha h_{mk}^\beta h_{kj}^\beta h_{ij}^\alpha \\ &\quad - nH\sum_{\alpha \neq n+1} h_{mi}^\alpha h_{ij}^\alpha h_{mj}^{n+1} + \sum_{\alpha \neq n+1} h_{jm}^\alpha h_{mk}^\beta h_{ki}^\beta h_{ij}^\alpha. \end{aligned} \quad (3.15)$$

On the other hand,

$$\text{tr}(H^{n+1})^3 = \text{tr} \mu^3 + 3H[\text{tr}(H^{n+1})^2 - nH^2] + nH^3. \quad (3.16)$$

(3.14) and (3.16) imply

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2}\Delta \|\mu\|^2 &\geq (\|\mu\|^2 + nH^2)^2 - nH[\text{tr}(\mu)^3 + 3H\|\mu\|^2 + nH^3] + nc\|\mu\|^2 \\ &= \|\mu\|^2 [\|\mu\|^2 + nc - nH^2] - nH \text{tr}(\mu)^3. \end{aligned} \quad (3.17)$$

Since  $\text{tr } \mu = 0$ , we can apply Lemma 2.2 to the eigenvalues of  $\mu$  and hence

$$|\text{tr}(\mu)^3| \leq (n - 2)[n(n - 1)]^{-1/2} \|\mu\|^3. \tag{3.18}$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} \Delta \|\mu\|^2 &\geq \|\mu\|^2 [\|\mu\|^2 + nc - nH^2] - n|H|(n - 2)[n(n - 1)]^{-1/2} \|\mu\|^3 \\ &= \|\mu\|^2 \{ \|\mu\|^2 - n|H|(n - 2)[n(n - 1)]^{-1/2} \|\mu\| + nc - nH^2 \}. \end{aligned} \tag{3.19}$$

From (2.10), we know that the Ricci curvature of  $M^n$  is bounded from below. Putting  $F = -(\|\mu\|^2 + a)^{-1/2}$ , since  $M^n$  is space-like and  $F$  is bounded, we can apply Lemma 2.1 to the function  $F$ . For given any positive number  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists a point  $p$  at which  $F$  satisfies the properties (2.19) in Lemma 2.1. Consequently, the following relationship.

$$\frac{1}{2} F^4(p) \Delta \|\mu(p)\|^2 < 3\varepsilon^2 - F(p)\varepsilon. \tag{3.20}$$

can be derived by the simple and direct calculation. For a convergent  $\{\varepsilon_m\}$  such that  $\varepsilon_m \rightarrow 0$  ( $m \rightarrow \infty$ ), there exists a point sequence  $\{p_m\}$  such that the sequence  $\{F(p_m)\}$  converges to  $F_0$  because  $\{F(p_m)\}$  is a bounded sequence, by taking a subsequence, if necessary. From the definition of the supremum and (2.19), we have  $F_0 = \sup F$  and hence the definition of  $F$  gives rise to  $\lim \|\mu(p_m)\|^2 = \sup \|\mu\|^2$ .

On the other hand, it follows from (3.20) that we have

$$\frac{1}{2} F^4(p_m) \Delta \|\mu(p_m)\|^2 < 3\varepsilon_m^2 - F(p_m)\varepsilon_m. \tag{3.21}$$

The right hand side of (3.21) converges to 0 because  $F$  is bounded. Accordingly, for any positive number  $\varepsilon > 0$  ( $\varepsilon < 2$ ) there is a sufficiently large integer  $m$  for which we have

$$F(p_m)^4 \Delta \|\mu(p_m)\|^2 < \varepsilon. \tag{3.22}$$

This relationship and (3.19) yield

$$\begin{aligned} (2 - \varepsilon) \|\mu(p_m)\|^4 - 2(n - 2)[n(n - 1)]^{-1/2} n|H| \|\mu(p_m)\|^3 \\ + 2(nc - nH^2 - \varepsilon a) \|\mu(p_m)\|^2 - \varepsilon a^2 < 0. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $\{\|\mu(p_m)\|\}$  is bounded. Thus the supremum of  $F$  satisfies  $F_0 = \sup F > 0$ . According to (3.22), we have

$$\limsup_{m \rightarrow \infty} \Delta \|\mu(p)\|^2 \leq 0. \tag{3.23}$$

(3.19) implies

$$\sup \|\mu\|^2 [\sup \|\mu\|^2 - (n - 2)[n(n - 1)]^{-1/2} n|H| \sup \|\mu\| + (nc - nH^2)] \leq 0. \tag{3.24}$$

1), when  $n = 2$  and  $H^2 \leq c$ ,

$$\sup \|\mu\|^2 [\sup \|\mu\|^2 + nc - nH^2] \leq 0.$$

Hence  $\sup \|\mu\|^2 = 0$ , i.e.,  $\|\mu\|^2 \equiv 0$ .

2), when  $n \geq 3$  and  $n^2 H^2 < 4(n - 1)c$ , we have also

$$\sup \|\mu\|^2 = 0, \text{ hence } \|\mu\|^2 \equiv 0.$$

That is,  $M^n$  is pseudo-umbilical. Hence  $h_{ij}^{n+1} = H\delta_{ij}$ .

From (3.15), we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{1}{2} \Delta \|\tau\|^2 &= \sum_{\alpha \neq n+1} (\tau_{ijk}^\alpha)^2 + nc \|\tau\|^2 + \sum_{\alpha \neq n+1} h_{km}^\alpha h_{mk}^\beta h_{ij}^\beta h_{ij}^\alpha \\
 &\quad - 2 \sum_{\alpha \neq n+1} h_{mk}^\alpha h_{mj}^\beta h_{ik}^\beta h_{ij}^\alpha + \sum_{\alpha \neq n+1} h_{mi}^\alpha h_{mk}^\beta h_{kj}^\beta h_{ij}^\alpha \\
 &\quad - nH \sum_{\alpha \neq n+1} h_{mi}^\alpha h_{mj}^{n+1} h_{ij}^\alpha + \sum_{\alpha \neq n+1} h_{jm}^\alpha h_{mk}^\beta h_{ki}^\beta h_{ij}^\alpha \\
 &= \sum_{\alpha \neq n+1} (\tau_{ijk}^\alpha)^2 + nc \|\tau\|^2 + \sum_{\alpha, \beta \neq n+1} [\text{tr}(H_\alpha H_\beta)]^2 \\
 &\quad - nH \|\tau\|^2 - 2 \sum_{\beta, \alpha \neq n+1} h_{mk}^\alpha h_{mj}^\beta h_{ik}^\beta h_{ij}^\alpha \\
 &\quad + \sum_{\alpha, \beta \neq n+1} h_{mi}^\alpha h_{mk}^\beta h_{kj}^\beta h_{ij}^\alpha + \sum_{\alpha, \beta \neq n+1} h_{jm}^\alpha h_{mk}^\beta h_{ki}^\beta h_{ij}^\alpha. \tag{3.25}
 \end{aligned}$$

Here we make use of  $h_{ij}^{n+1} = H\delta_{ij}$ .

We put  $S_{\alpha\beta} = \sum h_{ij}^\alpha h_{ij}^\beta$  for  $\alpha, \beta \neq n+1$ . Then  $(S_{\alpha\beta})$  is a  $(p-1) \times (p-1)$  symmetrix matrix.. It can be assumed to be diagonal for a suitable choice of  $e_{n+2}, \dots, e_{n+p}$ . Set  $S_\alpha = S_{\alpha\alpha}$  and we have  $\|\tau\|^2 = \sum S_\alpha$ . In general, for a matrix  $A = (a_{ij})$ , we put  $N(A) = \text{tr}(A^t A)$ . Now we have from (3.25)

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{1}{2} \Delta \|\tau\|^2 &= \sum_{\alpha \neq n+1} (\tau_{ijk}^\alpha)^2 + (nc - nH^2) \|\tau\|^2 + \sum_{\alpha \neq n+1} S_\alpha^2 \\
 &\quad + \sum_{\alpha, \beta \neq n+1} N(H^\alpha H^\beta - H^\beta H^\alpha).
 \end{aligned}$$

Obviously,  $N(H^\alpha H^\beta - H^\beta H^\alpha) \geq 0$ . Let

$$(p-1)\sigma_1 = \sum_{\alpha \neq n+1} S_\alpha = \|\tau\|^2, \quad [(p-1)(p-2)\sigma_2]/2 = \sum_{\substack{\alpha < \beta \\ \alpha, \beta \neq n+1}} S_\alpha S_\beta$$

Thus we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{\alpha \neq n+1} S_\alpha^2 &= (p-1)\sigma_1^2 + (p-1)(p-2)(\sigma_1^2 - \sigma_2), \\
 (p-1)^2(p-2)(\sigma_1^2 - \sigma_2) &= \sum_{\substack{\alpha < \beta \\ \alpha, \beta \neq n+1}} (S_\alpha - S_\beta)^2.
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $\sum_{\alpha \neq n+1} S_\alpha^2 = [1/(p-1)]\|\tau\|^4 + [1/(p-1)] \sum_{\substack{\alpha < \beta \\ \alpha, \beta \neq n+1}} (S_\alpha - S_\beta)^2$ . Thus we obtain

$$\frac{1}{2} \Delta \|\tau\|^2 \geq (nc - nH^2) \|\tau\|^2 + [1/(p-1)] \|\tau\|^4.$$

We make use of the similar methods of proof of  $\|\mu\|^2$  for  $\|\tau\|^2$ . We have  $\|\tau\|^2 \equiv 0$ . Hence,  $M^n$  is totally umbilical.

*Remark.* When  $n = 2$ , condition (3.1) is best possible from [1] and [9]. When  $n \geq 3$ , condition (3.2) is also best possible from following example.

*Example.* We consider Riemannian product  $H^1(c_1) \times S^{n-1}(c_2)$ , where  $n \geq 3$ ,  $c_1 = (2-n)c$  and  $c_2 = [(n-2)/(n-1)]c$ . Because  $H^1(c_1) \times S^{n-1}(c_2) \subset S_1^{n+1}(c)$ , then we can get  $n^2 H^2 = 4(n-1)c$ .

**References**

1. Akutagawa, K.: On space-like hypersurfaces with constant mean curvature in the de Sitter space. *Math. Z.* **196**, 13–19 (1987)
2. Calabi, E.: Examples of Bernstein problems for some nonlinear equations. *Proc. Symp. Pure Appl. Math.* **15**, 223–230 (1970)
3. Cheng, S.Y., Yau, S.T.: Maximal space-like hypersurfaces in the Lorentz-Minkowski. *Ann. Math.* **104**, 407–419 (1976)
4. Goddard, A.J.: Some remarks on the existence of spacelike hyperbolic of constant mean curvature. *Math. Proc. Camb. Philos. Soc.* **82**, 489–495 (1977)
5. Ishihara, T.: Maximal spacelike submanifolds of pseudo-hyperbolic space with second fundamental form of maximal length (Preprint)
6. Okumura, M.: Hypersurfaces and a pinching problem on the second fundamental tensor. *Am. J. Math.* **96**, 207–213 (1974)
7. Omori, H.: Isometric immersion of Riemannian manifolds. *J. Math. Soc. Jpn* **19**, 205–214 (1967)
8. O'Neill, B.: *Semi-Riemannian Geometry*. New York: Academic Press 1983
9. Ramanathan, J.: Complete space-like hypersurfaces of constant mean curvature in the de Sitter space. *Indiana Univ. Math. J.* **36**, 349–359 (1987)
10. Treibergs, T.E.: Entire hypersurfaces of constant mean curvature in Minkowski 3-space. *Invent. Math.* **66**, 39–56 (1982)
11. Yau, S.T.: Harmonic functions on complete Riemannian manifolds. *Comm. Pure and Appl. Math.* **28**, 201–228 (1975)