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# DECOMPOSITION AND CLASSIFICATION THEOREMS FOR SEMI-SYMMETRIC IMMERSIONS

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Ю. ЛУМИСТЕ. ТЕОРЕМЫ О РАЗЛОЖЕНИИ И КЛАССИФИКАЦИИ ПОЛУСИММЕТРИЧЕСКИХ  
ПОГРУЖЕНИЙ

(Presented by G. Vainikko)

Let  $f: M^m \rightarrow E^n$  be an isometric immersion of an  $m$ -dimensional Riemannian manifold  $(M^m, g)$  into an  $n$ -dimensional Euclidean space  $E^n$ . Let  $\bar{\nabla}$  and  $\alpha_2$  be its van der Waerden — Bortolotti connection and the second fundamental form, respectively. If  $\bar{\nabla}\alpha_2=0$ , then  $f$  is a locally symmetric immersion [1,2] and  $M^m$  is a locally symmetric space (by E. Cartan). The integrability condition of the differential system  $\bar{\nabla}\alpha_2=0$  is the symmetry of  $\bar{\nabla}_X\bar{\nabla}_Y\alpha_2$  with respect to tangent vectors  $X$  and  $Y$  (or, equivalently, the condition  $\bar{\Omega}\cdot\alpha_2=0$ , where  $\bar{\Omega}$  is the curvature form operator of  $\bar{\nabla}$ ). An immersion  $f$  satisfying this condition is called semi-symmetric (cf. [3] where the term «semi-parallel» is used); then  $M^m$  is a semi-symmetric Riemannian manifold in the sense of [4,5,6]. If, particularly,  $\bar{\nabla}_X\bar{\nabla}_Y\alpha_2=0$  for every  $X$  and  $Y$ , then  $f$  is said to be an immersion with parallel third fundamental form  $\alpha_3=\bar{\nabla}\alpha_2$  [7,8].

In [9,10] some decomposition theorems were given for the last case. They can be generalized to the case of semi-symmetric immersions as follows.

Let  $H$  denote the mean curvature vector of the immersion  $f$  and  $\alpha_2^H$  the second fundamental form corresponding to  $H$ . In every point  $x \in M^m$  the form  $\alpha_2^H$  is a real symmetric bilinear form.

An immersion  $f$  is called a product of immersions  $f_\varphi: M^{m_\varphi} \rightarrow E^{n_\varphi}$ ,  $\varphi \in \{1, 2, \dots, s\}$ , if (1)  $M^m = M^{m_1} \times \dots \times M^{m_s}$ , (2)  $E^n = E^{n_1} \times \dots \times E^{n_s}$ , (3) any two distinct  $E^{n_\varphi}$  and  $E^{n_\psi}$  are totally orthogonal. If  $f$  is a semi-symmetric immersion (resp. an immersion with  $\bar{\nabla}\alpha_3=0$ ), then every  $f_\varphi$  is semi-symmetric (resp. with  $\bar{\nabla}\alpha_3=0$ ), and vice versa.



**Theorem 1.** Let  $f: M^m \rightarrow E^n$  be a semi-symmetric immersion and  $U^m$  an open part of  $(M^m, g)$ , on which  $\alpha_2^H$  has distinct eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_r$  of constant multiplicities ( $r \leq m$ ). Then the corresponding eigenspaces form  $r$  foliations  $\Delta_1, \dots, \Delta_r$  on  $U^m$  which are pairwise conjugated with respect to  $g$  and  $\alpha_2$  (i.e.  $g(\Delta_p, \Delta_\sigma) = 0$  and  $\alpha_2(\Delta_p, \Delta_\sigma) = 0$ , if  $p \neq \sigma$ ). Let  $\Delta'_1, \dots, \Delta'_s$  be direct sums of  $\Delta_1, \dots, \Delta_r$  such that  $\Delta'_\varphi \cap \Delta'_\psi = \{0\}$ , if  $\varphi \neq \psi$ , and  $\Delta'_1 \oplus \dots \oplus \Delta'_s = TU^m$ . Let every  $\Delta'_\varphi$  be parallel in the Levi-Civita connection  $\nabla$  of  $g$ . Then around every point  $x \in U^m$  the immersion  $f$  coincides with a product of semi-symmetric immersions  $f_\varphi: U^{m_\varphi} \rightarrow E^{m_\varphi}$ , where  $U^{m_\varphi}$  is a leaf of  $\Delta'_\varphi$ .

Remark that the first part of Theorem 1 can be deduced from [7], (Theorem 5), stating before that in the case of semi-symmetric immersion  $f$  the mean curvature vector  $H$  is a commuting vector in the sense of [7]. The second part of Theorem 1 can be considered as a consequence from the first one and from the local version of the fundamental lemma, given in [11] in a global formulation. In fact a direct proof of Theorem 1 exists by straightforward computation using the adapted orthonormal frame bundle and Cartan's method: derivation formulas, exterior differential calculus, curvature forms, etc. Replacing in Theorem 1 the words «semi-symmetric immersion» by «immersion with  $\bar{\nabla}\alpha_3=0$ » (in two places), we get the corresponding theorem in [10].

**Theorem 2.** Let  $f$ ,  $U^m$ , and  $\Delta'_1, \dots, \Delta'_s$  be as in Theorem 1 and let  $\lambda_r=0$ ,  $\Delta'_s=\Delta_r$ . Suppose there is an orthogonal direct decomposition  $\Delta'_s = \Delta_s^{(1)} \oplus \dots \oplus \Delta_s^{(s)}$ , so that  $\Delta_1^*, \dots, \Delta_s^*$  are parallel in  $\nabla$ , where  $\Delta_\chi^* = \Delta'_\chi \oplus \Delta_s^{(\chi)}$ , if  $1 \leq \chi \leq s-1$ , and  $\Delta_s^* = \Delta_s^{(s)}$  (the possibility that some of  $\Delta_s^{(\varphi)}$ ,  $1 \leq \varphi \leq s$ , are  $\{0\}$ , is not excluded). Then around every point  $x \in U^m$  the immersion  $f$  coincides with a product of semi-symmetric immersions  $f_\varphi: U^{m_\varphi} \rightarrow E^{m_\varphi}$ , where  $U^{m_\varphi}$  is a leaf of  $\Delta_\varphi^*$ .

This theorem is a light extension of Theorem 1.

These two decomposition theorems have valuable applications to the problems of local classification of semi-symmetric immersions. All semi-symmetric surface immersions ( $m=2$ ) are described in [3], where the author of [3] announces that he has a classification of semi-symmetric hypersurface immersions ( $n=m+1$ ), too. Those of them which have parallel  $\alpha_3$  (i.e.  $\bar{\nabla}\alpha_3=0$ ), were found out independently in [8].

The following two theorems give the local classification of all two-codimensional semi-symmetric immersions (and immersions with  $\bar{\nabla}\alpha_3=0$  among them).

Firstly we give a list of immersions proved to be semi-symmetric:

(1) plane immersion:  $f(M^m) = E^m$  is an  $m$ -dimensional Euclidean subspace ( $m$ -plane) in  $E^n$ ,

(2) sphere immersion:  $f(M^m) = S^m$  is an orbit ( $m$ -sphere) in  $E^{m+1}$  described in all rotations around a fixed point (centre) by a point different from it,

(3) round cone immersion:  $f(M^m) = C^m$  is a regular part of an  $m$ -cone of revolution in  $E^{m+1}$  generated in all rotations around a fixed one-dimensional axis by a straight line having a common point (vertex) with it,

(4) rank 1 immersion:  $f(M^m)$  is a regular part of the envelope of a one-parameter family of  $m$ -planes in  $E^n$ ,

(5) rank 2 immersion with flat  $\bar{\nabla}$ :  $f(M^m)$  is a regular part of the envelope of a two-parameter family of  $m$ -planes in  $E^n$ ,  $n \geq m+2$ , and  $f$  has flat  $\bar{\nabla}$  (i.e.  $\bar{\Omega} \equiv 0$ ),



(6) orthogonal canal immersion:  $f(M^m) = \mathcal{S}^m$  is a regular part of the envelope of a one-parameter family of  $m$ -spheres  $S^m$  in  $E^n$ ,  $n \geq m+2$ , and the principal (or the first) normal of the orthogonal trajectory of the family of characteristic  $(m-1)$ -spheres on  $\mathcal{S}^m$  is everywhere orthogonal to the  $(m+1)$ -plane of the family  $m$ -sphere  $S^m$ ,

(7) orthogonal canal cone immersion:  $f(M^m) = \mathcal{C}^m$  is a regular part of the envelope of a one-parameter family of round cones  $\mathcal{C}^m$  with a common vertex in  $E^n$ , such that the intersection of the envelope and an  $(n-1)$ -sphere around the vertex is a noneuclidean analogue to the previous case.

The classification theorem for semi-symmetric immersions of codimension  $\leq 2$  states the following.

**Theorem 3.** *Every semi-symmetric immersion  $f: M^m \rightarrow E^{m+2}$  locally coincides*

(i) *with one of hypersurface immersions (2)–(4) or with its product by an identity plane immersion (i.e. immersion (1) in the case  $m=n$ ) superposed by a hyperplane immersion, or*

(ii) *with one of (1), (4)–(7) in the case  $n=m+2$  or*

(iii) *with a two-codimensional product of several of these immersions.*

Remark that (i) gives a full description of semi-symmetric hypersurface immersions. Note also that plane immersions (1) have  $\alpha_2=0$ , sphere immersions (2) and their products by identity plane immersions have  $\bar{\nabla}\alpha_2=0$ . These are only hypersurface immersions with  $\bar{\nabla}\alpha_2=0$ . In the case of codimension 2 only products of two sphere immersions and their products by identity plane immersions are to be added to get all immersions with  $\bar{\nabla}\alpha_2=0$  and codimension  $\leq 2$ .

The next theorem gives the classification of all other two-codimensional immersions with  $\bar{\nabla}\alpha_3=0$  (recall that  $\alpha_3=\bar{\nabla}\alpha_2$ ).

**Theorem 4.** *Any two-codimensional immersion with parallel  $\alpha_3 \neq 0$  locally coincides*

(a) *with a product of a clothoid immersion by an identity plane immersion superposed by a hyperplane immersion, or*

(b) *with a product of a clothoid immersion by clothoid or spherical immersion and by an identity plane immersion, or*

(c) *with a product of a spherical clothoid immersion by an identity plane immersion, or*

(d) *with a product of a twisted spherical clothoid binormal regulus immersion by an identity plane immersion.*

Here the identity plane immersion can be trivial (i.e. (1) with  $m=n=0$ ) and not essential in products.

The immersions with  $\bar{\nabla}\alpha_3=0$  listed in Theorem 4 as the first components of products are found in [8] by classification of surface immersions with  $\bar{\nabla}\alpha_3=0$ , and are as follows.

In the case of clothoid immersion  $f(M^1)$  is a line in  $E^2$  with natural equation  $k=as$ . In the case of spherical clothoid immersion  $f(M^1)$  is a line on  $S^2$  in  $E^3$  with geodesic curvature  $k_g=as$ . In the case of twisted spherical clothoid binormal regulus immersion  $f(M^2)$  is a surface in  $E^4$ , generated by great circles of a  $S^3$  binormal to a line on  $S^3$  with the geodesic first curvature  $k_g=as$  and the geodesic second curvature  $\kappa_g = \pm \frac{1}{r}$ , where  $r$  is the radius of  $S^3$ .

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