

## LOCAL RIGIDITY THEOREMS OF 2-TYPE HYPERSURFACES IN A HYPERSPHERE

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*Dedicated to Professor Tadashi Nagano on his 60th birthday*

### 1. Introduction

A submanifold  $M$  (connected but not necessary compact) of a Euclidean  $m$ -space  $E^m$  is said to be of *finite type* if each component of its position vector  $X$  can be written as a finite sum of eigenfunctions of the Laplacian  $\Delta$  of  $M$ , that is,

$$X = X_0 + \sum_{t=1}^k X_t$$

where  $X_0$  is a constant vector and  $\Delta X_t = \lambda_t X_t$ ,  $t = 1, 2, \dots, k$ . If in particular all eigenvalues  $\{\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_k\}$  are mutually different, then  $M$  is said to be of *k-type* (cf. [3] for details).

In terms of finite type submanifolds, a well-known result of T. Takahashi [10] says that a submanifold  $M$  is  $S^m$  is of 1-type if and only if  $M$  is a minimal submanifold of  $S^m$ . The theory of minimal submanifolds has attracted many mathematicians for many years. Many interesting results concerning minimal submanifolds have been obtained. For instances, T. Otsuki investigated in [7, 8] minimal (i.e., 1-type) hypersurfaces  $M$  of a hypersphere  $S^{n+1}$  of a Euclidean  $(n+2)$ -space  $E^{n+2}$  such that  $M$  has exactly two distinct principal curvatures. Some interesting local classification theorems were obtained by him (cf. [7, 8]). On the other hand, the problem of classification of 2-type hypersurfaces of  $S^{n+1}$  was initiated in [3]. Several results in this respect were obtained in [1, 3, 4, 5, 6].

In this paper we consider the classification problem similar to Otsuki's for 2-type hypersurfaces in  $S^{n+1}$ . As a consequence the following two local rigidity theorems are obtained.

**THEOREM 1.** *Let  $M$  be a hypersurface of the hypersphere  $S^{n+1}(1)$  in*

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$E^{n+2}$  with at most two distinct principal curvatures. Then  $M$  is of 2-type if and only if  $M$  is an open portion of the product of two spheres  $S^p(r_1) \times S^{n-p}(r_2)$  such that  $r_1^2 + r_2^2 = 1$  and  $(r_1, r_2) \neq (\sqrt{p/n}, \sqrt{(n-p)/n})$ .

**THEOREM 2.** Let  $M$  be a hypersurface of the hypersphere  $S^{n+1}(1)$  in  $E^{n+2}$ . Then  $M$  is conformally flat and of 2-type if and only if  $M$  is an open portion of  $S^1(r_1) \times S^{n-1}(r_2)$  where  $r_1^2 + r_2^2 = 1$  and  $(r_1, r_2) \neq (\sqrt{1/n}, \sqrt{(n-1)/n})$ .

*Remark 1.* Theorems 1 and 2 generalize the main results of [1, 6], Theorem 3 of [5] and also Theorem 4.5 of [3, p. 279].

**2. Some basic formulas**

Let  $M$  be a connected hypersurface of the unit hypersphere  $S^{n+1}(1)$  centered at the origin of  $E^{n+2}$ . Then the position vector  $X$  of  $M$  in  $E^{n+2}$  is normal to  $M$  as well as to  $S^{n+1}(1)$ . Denote by  $\xi$  a unit local vector field normal to  $M$  and tangent to  $S^{n+1}(1)$ . Let  $A, h$  and  $H$  denote the Weingarten map, the second fundamental form, and the mean curvature vector of  $M$  in  $E^{n+2}$ , respectively, and  $A', h'$  and  $H'$  the corresponding invariants of  $M$  in  $S^{n+1}(1)$ . We put

$$\alpha^2 = \langle H, H \rangle, \quad \beta^2 = \langle H', H' \rangle$$

where  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  denotes the inner product of  $E^{n+2}$ . We have

$$(2.1) \quad H = H' - X, \quad H' = \beta\xi, \quad \alpha^2 = \beta^2 + 1.$$

For simplicity we put  $B = A_\xi (= A'_\xi)$ . From [3, 4] we have

$$(2.2) \quad \Delta H = (\Delta\beta)\xi + \|h\|^2 H' - n\alpha^2 X + (\Delta H)^T,$$

where  $\|h\|$  is the length of  $h$  and  $(\Delta H)^T$ , the tangential component of  $\Delta H$ , satisfies [4]

$$(2.3) \quad (\Delta H)^T = \frac{n}{2} \text{grad } \beta^2 + 2B(\text{grad } \beta).$$

If  $M$  is of 2-type, then there exist constants  $b, c$  and a constant vector  $X_0$  such that (cf. [3])

$$(2.4) \quad \Delta H = bH + c(X - X_0).$$

From (2.1)–(2.4) we may obtain

$$(2.5) \quad \langle \Delta H, X \rangle = -n\alpha^2 = -b + c - c\langle X, X_0 \rangle,$$

$$(2.6) \quad \frac{n}{2} \text{grad } \beta^2 + 2B(\text{grad } \beta) = -c(X_0)^T,$$

where  $(X_0)^T$  is the tangential component of  $X_0$  and

$$(2.7) \quad \langle \Delta H, H \rangle = \beta \Delta \beta + \beta^2 \|h\|^2 + n\alpha^2 = b\alpha^2 - c - c \langle X_0, H \rangle.$$

On the other hand, the last equality of (2.5) yields

$$(2.8) \quad -n\Delta\alpha^2 = -c\Delta(\langle X, X_0 \rangle) = nc \langle H, X_0 \rangle.$$

Thus, by combining (2.7) and (2.8), we have

$$(2.9) \quad \Delta\alpha^2 = \beta \Delta \beta + \beta^2 \|h\|^2 + (n - b)\alpha^2 + c.$$

From (2.9) and the equation of Gauss we have the following [4]

**LEMMA 1.** *Let  $M$  be a 2-type hypersurface of  $S^{n+1}(1)$ . If  $M$  has constant mean curvature  $\beta$ , then  $M$  has constant length of the second fundamental form and constant scalar curvature.*

Also from (2.5) we may obtain

$$(2.10) \quad c(X_0)^T = n \text{grad } \alpha^2 = n \text{grad } \beta^2.$$

Therefore (2.6) and (2.10) imply [5]

**LEMMA 2.** *Let  $M$  be a 2-type hypersurface of  $S^{n+1}(1)$ . Then  $\text{grad } \beta^2$  is an eigenvector of  $B$  with eigenvalue  $-(3n/2)\beta$  on the open subset  $U = \{u \in M \mid \text{grad } \beta^2 \neq 0 \text{ at } u\}$ .*

Let  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  be an orthonormal local frame field tangent to  $M$ . Denote by  $\omega^1, \dots, \omega^n$  the field of dual frames. Let  $(\omega_B^A)$ ,  $A, B = 1, \dots, n + 2$ , be the connection forms associated with the orthonormal frame  $\{e_1, \dots, e_n, e_{n+1}, e_{n+2}\}$ , where  $e_{n+1} = \xi$  and  $e_{n+2} = X$ . Then the structure equations of  $M$  in  $E^{n+2}$  are given by

$$(2.11) \quad d\omega^i = -\sum_{j=1}^n \omega_j^i \wedge \omega^j, \quad \omega_j^i = -\omega_i^j,$$

$$(2.12) \quad d\omega_j^i = \sum_{k=1}^n \omega_k^i \wedge \omega_k^j + \omega_{n+1}^i \wedge \omega_{n+1}^j + \omega^i \wedge \omega^j,$$

$$(2.13) \quad d\omega_i^{n+1} = \sum_{j=1}^n \omega_j^{n+1} \wedge \omega_j^i, \quad i, j, k = 1, \dots, n.$$

Moreover, if we put  $h_{ij}^{n+1} = \langle h(e_i, e_j), e_{n+1} \rangle$ , then we have

$$(2.14) \quad \omega_i^{n+1} = \sum_{j=1}^n h_{ij}^{n+1} \omega^j, \quad h_i^{n+1} = \langle Be_i, e_j \rangle.$$

In particular, if  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  diagonalize  $B = A_\varepsilon$  such that

$$(2.15) \quad h_{ij}^{n+1} = \mu_i \delta_{ij}.$$

Then from (2.11)–(2.15) we have

$$(2.16) \quad e_i \mu_j = (\mu_i - \mu_j) \omega_i^j(e_j),$$

$$(2.17) \quad (\mu_j - \mu_k) \omega_j^k(e_i) = (\mu_i - \mu_k) \omega_i^k(e_j)$$

for distinct  $i, j, k$ .

### 3. Proof of Theorem 1

Let  $M$  be a 2-type hypersurface of  $S^{n+1}(1)$  with at most 2 distinct principal curvatures. Assume  $M$  has non-constant mean curvature. We put

$$(3.1) \quad W = \{u \in M \mid \beta^2(u) \neq 0 \text{ and } (\text{grad } \beta^2)(u) \neq 0\}.$$

Then  $W$  is nonempty. From Lemma 2 we may choose  $e_1$  in the direction of  $\text{grad } \beta^2$  and hence we have

$$(3.2) \quad e_2 \mu_1 = \dots = e_n \mu_1 = 0, \quad B e_1 = \mu_1 e_1, \quad \mu_1 = -(3n/2)\beta.$$

Let  $T_1 = \{Y \in TU \mid B(Y) = \mu_1 Y\}$ . If  $T_1$  is of dimension  $\geq 2$  on some subset  $Z$  of  $W$ , then we may choose  $e_2 \in T_1$  on  $Z$ . From (2.16) we obtain  $e_1 \mu_2 = e_1 \mu_1 = 0$ . This implies that  $\beta^2$  is constant on  $Z$ , since  $\text{grad } \beta^2$  is parallel to  $e_1$ . However, this is impossible from the definition of  $W$ . Therefore, we see that  $T_1$  is 1-dimensional on  $W$ . Since  $M$  has at most two distinct principal curvatures, (3.2) implies that the remaining principal curvatures are given by

$$(3.3) \quad \mu_2 = \dots = \mu_n = \frac{5n}{2(n-1)}\beta, \quad \text{on } W.$$

From (2.17) and (3.3) we obtain

$$(3.4) \quad \omega_i^k(e_i) = 0, \quad i \neq k, \quad i, k = 2, \dots, n.$$

Moreover, from (2.16), (3.2) and (3.3) we find

$$(3.5) \quad \omega_i^1(e_1) = 0.$$

From (3.2), (3.3) and (3.4) we have

$$(3.6) \quad \omega_1^{n+1} = -\left(\frac{3n}{2}\right)\beta\omega^1, \quad \omega_i^{n+2} = \frac{5n}{2(n-1)}\beta\omega^i, \quad i = 2, \dots, n,$$

$$(3.7) \quad d\beta = (e, \beta)\omega^1.$$

Thus, by taking the exterior differentiation of the first equation of (3.6) and applying (2.13), (3.6) and (3.7), we obtain  $d\omega^1 = 0$ . Therefore, there exists locally a function  $u$  such that

$$(3.8) \quad \omega^1 = du.$$

Equations (3.7) and (3.8) imply that  $\beta$  is a function of  $u$ . Denote by  $\beta'$  and  $\beta''$  the first and the second derivatives of  $\beta$  with respect to  $u$ , respectively. From (2.16), (3.2) and (3.3), we obtain

$$(3.9) \quad \beta\omega_1^k(e_k) = -\left(\frac{5}{3n+2}\right)\beta', \quad k = 2, \dots, n.$$

Combining (3.4) and (3.9) we get

$$(3.10) \quad \omega_i^k = -\left(\frac{5}{3n+2}\right)\left(\frac{\beta'}{\beta}\right)\omega^k, \quad k = 2, \dots, n.$$

By taking exterior differentiation of  $\omega_1^2$  and applying (2.11), (2.12), (3.6) and (3.10) we may obtain

$$(3.11) \quad \left(\frac{5}{3n+2}\right)^2\left(\frac{\beta'}{\beta}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{5}{3n+2}\right)\left(\frac{\beta'}{\beta}\right)' = \frac{15n^2\beta^2}{4(n-1)} - 1,$$

from which we have

$$(3.12) \quad 0 = (3n+2)\beta\beta'' - (3n+7)(\beta')^2 + \frac{3n^2(3n+2)^2}{4(n-1)}\beta^4 - \frac{(3n+2)^2}{5}\beta^2.$$

Solving differential equation (3.12) for  $\beta'$  we get

$$(3.13) \quad (\beta')^2 = -\left(\frac{3n+2}{5}\right)^2\beta^2 - \left(\frac{n(3n+2)}{2(n-1)}\right)^2\beta^4 + c_1\beta^{2(3n+7)/(3n+2)}$$

for some constant  $c_1$ . Also from (2.1), (3.2) and (3.9) we have

$$(3.14) \quad \Delta\alpha^2 = -2\beta\beta'' + \frac{2(2n-7)}{3n+2}(\beta')^2,$$

$$(3.15) \quad \Delta\beta = \frac{5(n-1)(\beta')^2}{(3n+2)\beta} - \beta''.$$

From (2.9), (3.2)–(3.4), (3.14), and (3.15) we obtain

$$(3.16) \quad 0 = \beta\beta'' + \left(\frac{n+9}{3n+2}\right)(\beta')^2 + n\beta^2 + \frac{n^2(9n+16)}{4(n-1)}\beta^4 + (n-b)(1+\beta^2) + c.$$

Combining (3.12) and (3.16) we find

$$(3.17) \quad 4(n+4)(\beta')^2 + \frac{10n^2(3n+2)}{4(n-1)}\beta' + \frac{2(3n+2)(4n+1)}{5}\beta^2 + (3n+2)\{(n-b)(1+\beta^2) + c\} = 0.$$

From (3.13) and (3.17) we conclude that  $\beta$  is constant on  $W$  which is a contradiction. Therefore,  $W$  must be empty. Hence, by continuity, we conclude that  $M$  has constant non-zero mean curvature in  $S^{n+1}(1)$ . Hence, by Lemma 1,  $\|h\|$  is also constant. Since  $M$  has at most two distinct principal curvatures, the constancy of  $\beta$  and of  $\|h\|$  implies that  $M$  has exactly two constant principal curvatures because  $M$  is assumed to be of 2-type. Thus, by Theorem 2.5 of [9],  $M$  is locally the product of two spheres  $S^p(r_1) \times S^{n-p}(r_2)$  such that  $r_1^2 + r_2^2 = 1$ . Moreover, since  $M$  is not minimal in  $S^{n+1}(1)$ , we have  $(r_1, r_2) \neq (\sqrt{p/n}, \sqrt{(n-p)/n})$ .

The converse of this is easy to verify. (Q.E.D.)

#### 4. Proof of Theorem 2

If  $M$  is an open portion of the product  $S^1(r_1) \times S^{n-1}(r_2)$  with  $r_1^2 + r_2^2 = 1$  and  $(r_1, r_2) \neq (\sqrt{1/n}, \sqrt{(n-1)/n})$ , then it is easy to verify that  $M$  is a 2-type conformally flat hypersurface of  $S^{n+1}(1) \subset E^{n+2}$ .

Conversely, assume  $M$  is a 2-type conformally flat hypersurface of  $S^{n+1}(1)$ . If either  $n = 2$  or  $n \geq 4$ , then  $M$  is quasi-umbilical, that is,  $M$  has at most two distinct principal curvatures such that one of them is of multiplicity  $\geq n - 1$ , according to a result of E. Cartan and J. A. Schouten (cf. [2, p. 154]). In these two cases, Theorem 1 implies that  $M$  is an open portion of the product of a circle and an  $(n - 1)$ -sphere with the appropriate radii mentioned above.

In the remaining part of this section we will prove that the same result also holds when  $n = 3$ . Now, assume  $n = 3$ . Denote the Ricci tensor and the scalar curvature of  $M$  respectively by  $R$  and  $r$ . Put

$$(4.1) \quad L = -R + \frac{r}{4}g,$$

where  $g$  denotes the metric tensor of  $M$ . Since  $M$  is conformally flat, a result of H. Weyl (cf. [2, p. 26]) yields

$$(4.2) \quad (\nabla_Y L)(Z, W) = (\nabla_Z L)(Y, W)$$

for vectors  $Y, Z, W$  tangent to  $M$ .

On the other hand, from the equation of Gauss, we have

$$(4.3) \quad R(Y, Z) = 2\langle Y, Z \rangle + 3\beta\langle BY, Z \rangle - \langle B^2Y, Z \rangle.$$

From (4.1) and (4.3) we find

$$(4.4) \quad L(Y, Z) = \left(\frac{r}{4} - 2\right)\langle Y, Z \rangle - 3\beta\langle BY, Z \rangle + \langle B^2Y, Z \rangle.$$

Therefore, by applying (4.2), (4.3), (4.4) and the equation of Codazzi, we obtain

$$(4.5) \quad (Yr)Z - (Zr)Y = 12\{(Y\beta)BZ - (Z\beta)BY\} - 4\{(\nabla_Y B^2)Z - (\nabla_Z B^2)Y\},$$

$$(4.6) \quad r = 6 + 9\beta^2 - \|B\|^2.$$

Let  $e_1, e_2, e_3$  be orthonormal eigenvectors of  $B$  such that

$$(4.7) \quad Be_i = \mu_i e_i, \quad i = 1, 2, 3.$$

From (4.5) and (4.7) we may get

$$(4.8) \quad (\mu_j^2 - \mu_i^2)\omega_i^j(e_j) = 3(e_i\beta)\mu_j - \frac{1}{4}(e_i r) - e_i(\mu_j^2),$$

$$(4.9) \quad (\mu_j^2 - \mu_k^2)\omega_j^k(e_i) = (\mu_i^2 - \mu_k^2)\omega_i^k(e_j)$$

for distinct  $i, j, k$  ( $i, j, k = 1, 2, 3$ ).

Let  $V$  be open subset of  $M$  on which  $V$  has three distinct principal curvatures in  $S^4(1)$ . If  $V$  is empty, then Theorem 2 follows from Theorem 1. So, from now on we may assume that  $V$  is non-empty and we work on  $V$  only.

Since the three principal curvatures  $\mu_1, \mu_2, \mu_3$  are distinct on  $V$ , formulas (2.17) and (4.9) give

$$(4.10) \quad \omega_i^j(e_k) = 0$$

for distinct  $i, j$  and  $k$ . If the mean curvature  $\beta$  is constant on  $V$ , then from Lemma 1 and formula (4.6),  $\|h\|, \|B\|$  and  $r$  are all constant on  $V$ . Thus (4.8) yields

$$(4.11) \quad e_i \mu_j^2 = (\mu_i^2 - \mu_j^2)\omega_i^j(e_j)$$

for distinct  $i$  and  $j$ . Combining (2.16) and (4.11) we find

$$(4.12) \quad e_i \mu_j = 0$$

for distinct  $i$  and  $j$ . Since  $3\beta = \mu_1 + \mu_2 + \mu_3$ , (4.12) implies that  $V$  is an

isoparametric hypersurface in  $S^4(1)$  with three distinct principal curvatures. Furthermore, from (4.11), we have  $\omega_i^j(e_j) = 0$ . Therefore, from (4.10), we get  $\omega_i^j = 0$ . Thus  $V$  is flat and also the product of any two of the three principal curvatures is equal to  $-1$ . But this is a contradiction, since the later condition implies  $V$  is totally umbilical. Consequently, we know that the mean curvature of  $V$  in  $S^4(1)$  is nowhere constant. Hence, by applying Lemma 2, we may choose  $e_1$  in the direction of  $\text{grad } \beta^2$ . In this case we have

$$(4.13) \quad \mu_1 = -\frac{9}{2}\beta, \quad \mu_2 = \frac{15}{4}\beta + \delta, \quad \mu_3 = \frac{15}{4}\beta - \delta$$

for some function  $\delta$  and from (2.16) and (4.13) that

$$(4.14) \quad e_2\beta = e_3\beta = 0, \quad e_1\mu_2 = -\left(\delta + \frac{33}{4}\beta\right)\omega_1^2(e_2), \quad e_1\mu_3 = \left(\delta - \frac{33}{4}\beta\right)\omega_1^3(e_3).$$

From (2.16), (4.13), and (4.14) we get

$$(4.15) \quad \omega_1^2(e_1) = \omega_1^3(e_1) = 0.$$

Therefore, we obtain from (4.10) and (4.15) that

$$(4.16) \quad \omega_1^2 = \phi\omega^2, \quad \omega_1^3 = \eta\omega^3,$$

where

$$(4.17) \quad \phi = -\frac{4e_1\delta + 15e_1\beta}{33\beta + 4\delta}, \quad \eta = \frac{4e_1\delta - 15e_1\beta}{33\beta - 4\delta}.$$

By taking exterior differentiation of  $\omega_1^4 = \mu_1\omega^1$  and applying (2.13), (4.14) and (4.16) we may obtain  $d\omega^1 = 0$ . Thus, there is a local function  $u$  such that

$$(4.18) \quad \omega^1 = du.$$

From (4.14) and (4.18) we see that  $\beta$  is a function of  $u$ . From (2.16) and (4.8) we may obtain

$$(4.19) \quad (\mu_j - \mu_i)e_i\mu_j = 3(e_i\beta)\mu_j - \frac{1}{4}(e_i r), \quad i \neq j,$$

Letting  $i = 1, j = 2$  for (4.9) and using (4.6) we find

$$(4.20) \quad (\mu_2 - \mu_3)\mu_1' + (\mu_1 - \mu_3)\mu_2' + (\mu_2 - \mu_1)\mu_3' = 0.$$

From (4.13) and (4.20) we obtain  $\delta\beta' + 11\beta\delta' = 0$ . Hence we get



$$(4.21) \quad \beta = a\delta^{-11},$$

for some non-zero constant  $a$ . In particular, (4.21) implies that both  $\delta$  and  $r$  are functions of  $u$ . Combining (4.13), (4.16), (4.17), and (4.21), we find

$$(4.22) \quad \mu_1 = -\frac{9}{2}a\delta^{-11}, \quad \mu_2 = \delta + \frac{15}{4}a\delta^{-11}, \quad \mu_3 = -\delta + \frac{15}{4}a\delta^{-11},$$

$$(4.23) \quad \omega_1^2 = \frac{(165a\delta^{-12} - 4)\delta'}{33a\delta^{-11} + 4\delta}\omega^2, \quad \omega_1^3 = \frac{(165a\delta^{-12} + 4)\delta'}{33a\delta^{-11} - 4\delta}\omega^3.$$

From (4.8), (4.10) and the fact  $e_i\delta = e_i r$ ,  $i = 2, 3$ , we have

$$(4.24) \quad \omega_2^3 = 0.$$

Taking exterior differentiation of the first equation of (4.23) and applying (2.11), (2.12), (4.22), (4.23) and (4.24), we may obtain

$$(4.25) \quad \begin{aligned} & (165a\delta^{-12} - 4)\delta'' + (33a\delta^{-11} + 4\delta)^{-1}(32 - 11352a\delta^{-12} + 21780a^2\delta^{-24})(\delta')^2 \\ & = (33a\delta^{-11} + 4\delta)\left(\frac{135}{8}a^2\delta^{-22} + \frac{9}{2}a\delta^{-10} - 1\right). \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, by taking exterior differentiation of the second equation of (4.23) we may obtain

$$(4.26) \quad \begin{aligned} & (165a\delta^{-12} + 4)\delta'' + (33a\delta^{-11} - 4\delta)^{-1}(32 + 11352a\delta^{-12} + 21780a^2\delta^{-24})(\delta')^2 \\ & = (33a\delta^{-11} - 4\delta)\left(\frac{135}{8}a^2\delta^{-22} - \frac{9}{2}a\delta^{-10} - 1\right). \end{aligned}$$

From (4.25) and (4.26) we get

$$(4.27) \quad \begin{aligned} & 176(\delta')^2(208 - 92565a^2\delta^{-24}) \\ & = (1089a^2\delta^{-20} - 16\delta^4)(8415a^2\delta^{-24} - 176\delta^{-2} + 16). \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, by taking the exterior differentiation of (4.24) and applying (2.12), (4.22) and (4.23), we obtain

$$(4.28) \quad \begin{aligned} & 16(\delta')^2(16 - 27225a^2\delta^{-24}) \\ & = (1089a^2\delta^{-22} - 16\delta^2)(225a^2\delta^{-22} - 16\delta^2 + 16). \end{aligned}$$

Combining (4.27) and (4.28) we know that both  $\delta$  and  $\beta$  are constant on  $V$ . This is a contradiction. Consequently,  $V$  is empty. (Q.E.D.)

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