Minimal Slant Submanifolds of the smallest dimension in S-manifolds

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Abstract

We study slant submanifolds of S-manifolds with the smallest dimension, specially minimal submanifolds and establish some relations between them and anti-invariant submanifolds in S-manifolds, similar to those ones proved by B.-Y. Chen for slant surfaces and totally real surfaces in Kaehler manifolds.

1. Introduction

Slant immersions in complex geometry were defined by B.-Y. Chen as a natural generalization of both holomorphic and totally real immersions [4, 6]. Recently, A. Lotta has introduced the notion of slant immersion of a Riemannian manifold into an almost contact metric manifold [8]. Slant submanifolds of Sasakian manifolds have been studied in [2] and a general view about slant immersions can be found in [3].

On the other hand, for manifolds with an f-structure, D.E. Blair has introduced S-manifolds as the analogue of the Kaehler structure in the almost complex case and of Sasakian structure in the almost contact case [1].

The purpose of the present paper is to study slant submanifolds of S-manifolds with the smallest dimension, specially, minimal slant submanifolds. After recalling, in Section 2, some basic ideas of Riemannian geometry, we review, in Section 3, formulas and definitions for metric f-manifolds and their submanifolds, which we shall use later. In Section 4 we prove that the smallest dimension of a slant submanifols in an S-manifold is 2+s, where s is denoting the number of structure vector fields of the ambient S-manifold (note that s=0 for Kaehler manifolds and s=1 for Sasakian manifolds) and we give some characterization theorems for these submanifolds in terms

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of the covariant derivatives of the f-structure projection operators on the submanifold. Finally, in Section 5 we study minimal slant submanifolds of the smallest dimension. In particular, we establish some relations between minimal slant (2+s)-dimensional submanifolds and anti-invariant submanifolds in S-manifolds, which correspond, in same sense, to those ones proved by B.-Y. Chen in [4,6].

2. Preliminaries

In this section, we will recall some fundamental results and formulas concerning Riemannian submanifolds for later use (see, e.g. [5] as a general reference).

Let M be a Riemannian manifold isometrically immersed in a Riemannian manifold \widetilde{M} . Let g denote the metric tensor of \widetilde{M} as well as the induced metric tensor on M. Let $\mathcal{X}(\widetilde{M})$ be de Lie algebra of tangent vector fields on \widetilde{M} , $\mathcal{X}(M)$ the Lie algebra of tangent vector fields on M and $T^{\perp}M$ the set of vector fields on \widetilde{M} which are normal to M, that is, $\mathcal{X}(\widetilde{M}) = \mathcal{X}(M) \oplus T^{\perp}M$.

If ∇ y $\widetilde{\nabla}$ denote the Levi-Civita connections of M and \widetilde{M} , respectively, the Gauss-Weingarten formulas are given by

$$\widetilde{\nabla}_X Y = \nabla_X Y + \sigma(X, Y), \ \widetilde{\nabla}_X V = -A_V X + D_X V,$$

for any $X,Y\in\mathcal{X}(M)$ and any $V\in T^{\perp}M$, where D is the normal connection, σ is the second fundamental form of the immersion and A_V is the Weingarten endomorphism associated with V. The endomorphisms A_V and σ are related by

(2.1)
$$g(A_V X, Y) = g(\sigma(X, Y), V),$$

for any $X, Y \in \mathcal{X}(M)$ and any $V \in T^{\perp}M$.

The mean curvature vector H is defined by

$$H = \frac{1}{m} \operatorname{trace} \sigma = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} \sigma(e_i, e_i),$$

where dim M = m and $\{e_1, \ldots, e_m\}$ is a local orthonormal basis of $\mathcal{X}(M)$. M is said to be *minimal* if H vanishes identically or, equivalently, if

trace
$$A_V = 0$$
, for any $V \in T^{\perp}M$.

If $\dim(\widetilde{M}) = \widetilde{m}$, a local orthonormal basis of $\mathcal{X}(\widetilde{M})$

$$\{e_1,\ldots,e_m,e_{m+1},\ldots,e_{\widetilde{m}}\}$$

can be chosen such that, restricted to M, the vector fields e_1, \ldots, e_m are tangent to M and so, $e_{m+1}, \ldots, e_{\tilde{m}}$ are normal to M.

Then, for any $X \in \mathcal{X}(M)$, it can be written that

(2.2)
$$\widetilde{\nabla}_X e_i = \sum_{j=1}^m w_i^j(X) e_j + \sum_{k=m+1}^{\widetilde{m}} w_i^k(X) e_k,$$

(2.3)
$$\widetilde{\nabla}_{X} e_{r} = \sum_{j=1}^{m} w_{r}^{j}(X) e_{j} + \sum_{k=m+1}^{\widetilde{m}} w_{r}^{k}(X) e_{k},$$

for $i \in \{1, ..., m\}$ and $r \in \{m+1, ..., \widetilde{m}\}$. The 1-forms w_i^j , w_i^k , w_r^k given by equations (2.1) and (2.2) are called *connection forms* of M in \widetilde{M} . It is easy to show that

(2.4)
$$w_j^i + w_i^j = 0$$
, for any $i, j \in \{1, \dots, m\}$.

3. Slant submanifolds of S-manifolds

Let (\widetilde{M},g) be a (2m+s)-dimensional Riemannian manifold. Then, it is said to be a metric f-manifold if there exist on \widetilde{M} an f-structure f, that is, a tensor field f of type (1,1) satisfying $f^3 + f = 0$ (see [9]), of rank 2m and s global vector fields ξ_1, \ldots, ξ_s (called structure vector fields) such that, if η_1, \ldots, η_s are the dual 1-forms of ξ_1, \ldots, ξ_s , then

$$f\xi_{\alpha} = 0; \qquad \eta_{\alpha} \circ f = 0; \qquad f^{2} = -I + \sum_{\alpha=1}^{s} \eta_{\alpha} \otimes \xi_{\alpha};$$

$$(3.1) \qquad g(X,Y) = g(fX, fY) + \sum_{\alpha=1}^{s} \eta_{\alpha}(X)\eta_{\alpha}(Y),$$

for any $X, Y \in \mathcal{X}(\widetilde{M})$ and $\alpha = 1, \dots, s$.

The f-structure f is normal if

$$[f, f] + 2\sum_{\alpha=1}^{s} \xi_{\alpha} \otimes d\eta_{\alpha} = 0,$$

where [f, f] is the Nijenhuis tensor of f. Let F be the fundamental 2-form defined by F(X, Y) = g(X, fY), for any $X, Y \in \mathcal{X}(\widetilde{M})$. Then, \widetilde{M} is said to be an S-manifold if the f-structure is normal and

$$\eta_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \eta_s \wedge (\mathrm{d}\eta_\alpha)^n \neq 0, \ F = \mathrm{d}\eta_a,$$

for any $\alpha=1,\ldots,s$. In this case, the structure vector fields are Killing vector fields. When s=1, S-manifolds are Sasakian manifolds.

The Riemannian connection $\widetilde{\nabla}$ of an S-manifold satisfies ([1])

$$\widetilde{\nabla}_X \xi_\alpha = -fX,$$

and

(3.3)
$$(\widetilde{\nabla}_X f)Y = \sum_{\alpha=1}^s (g(fX, fY)\xi_\alpha + \eta_\alpha(Y)f^2X),$$

for any $X, Y \in \mathcal{X}(\widetilde{M})$ and any $\alpha = 1, \dots, s$.

Next, let M be a isometrically immersed submanifold of a metric f-manifold \widetilde{M} . For any $X \in \mathcal{X}(M)$ we write

$$(3.4) fX = TX + NX,$$

where TX and NX are the tangential and normal components of fX, respectively. Similarly, for any $V \in T^{\perp}M$, we have

$$(3.5) fV = tV + nV,$$

where tV (resp., nV) is the tangential component (resp., the normal component) of fV. Since, from (3.1), the metric g satisfies that g(fX,Y) = -g(X, fY), for any $X, Y \in \mathcal{X}(\widetilde{M})$, by using (3.4) and (3.5), we get

$$(3.6) g(TX,Y) = -g(X,TY),$$

$$(3.7) g(nV, U) = -g(V, nU),$$

$$(3.8) g(NX, V) = -g(X, TV),$$

for any $X,Y\in\mathcal{X}(M),\,U,V\in T^{\perp}M$ and, by using (3.5), if the structure vector fields are tangent to M,

$$(3.9) NTX + nNX = 0,$$

for any $X \in \mathcal{X}(M)$. Moreover, in this last case, if \widetilde{M} is an S-manifold, from (3.2) and (3.4) it is easy to show that

(3.10)
$$\sigma(X, \xi_{\alpha}) = -NX,$$

for any $X \in \mathcal{X}(M)$, $\alpha = 1, ..., s$ and, consequently $\sigma(\xi_{\alpha}, \xi_{\beta}) = 0$, for any $\alpha, \beta = 1, ..., s$.

The covariant derivatives of T and N are given by

$$(3.11) \qquad (\nabla_X T)Y = \nabla_X TY - T\nabla_X Y,$$

$$(3.12) \qquad (\nabla_X N)Y = D_X NY - N\nabla_X Y,$$

for any $X, Y \in \mathcal{X}(M)$.

Then, by using (3.3), (3.11), (3.12) and Gauss-Weingarten formulas, it can be obtained that

(3.13)
$$(\nabla_X T)Y = t\sigma(X, Y) + A_{NY}X + \sum_{\alpha=1}^s (g(fX, fY)\xi_\alpha + \eta_\alpha(Y)f^2X),$$

$$(3.14) \quad (\nabla_X N)Y = n\sigma(X, Y) - \sigma(X, TY),$$

for any $X, Y \in \mathcal{X}(M)$.

Now, for later use, we establish two general lemmas for submanifolds of S-manifolds which can be proved from (2.1) and (3.6)-(3.8) by a straightforward computation:

Lemma 3.1 Let M be a submanifold of an S-manifold, tangent to the structure vector fields. Then, there exists a differentiable function λ such that

$$(\nabla_X T)Y = \lambda \sum_{\alpha=1}^s (g(fX, fY)\xi_\alpha + \eta_\alpha(Y)f^2X),$$

for any $X, Y \in \mathcal{X}(M)$, if and only if:

$$A_{NY}X - A_{NX}Y = (\lambda - 1) \sum_{\alpha=1}^{s} (\eta_{\alpha}(Y)f^{2}X - \eta_{\alpha}(X)f^{2}Y).$$

Lemma 3.2 Let M be a submanifold of an S-manifold, tangent to the structure vector fields. Then,

$$(\nabla_X N)Y = \sum_{\alpha=1}^s (2\eta_\alpha(X)NTY + \eta_\alpha(Y)NTX),$$

for any $X, Y \in \mathcal{X}(M)$, if and only if:

$$A_V TY + A_{nV} Y = \sum_{\alpha=1}^{s} (2g(Y, tnV)\xi_{\alpha} + \eta_{\alpha}(Y)tnV),$$

for any $Y \in \mathcal{X}(M)$ and any $V \in T^{\perp}M$.

The submanifold M is said to be *invariant* if N is identically zero, that is, if $fX \in \mathcal{X}(M)$, for any $X \in \mathcal{X}(M)$. On the other hand, M is said to be an anti-invariant submanifold if T is identically zero, that is, if $fX \in T^{\perp}M$, for any $X \in \mathcal{X}(M)$.

From now on, we suppose that all the structure vector fields are tangent to the submanifold M. Then, M is said to be a *slant* submanifold if for any $x \in M$ and any $X \in T_xM$, linearly independent on ξ_1, \ldots, ξ_s , the Wirtinger angle between fX and T_xM is a constant $\theta \in [0, \pi/2]$, called the slant angle of M in \widetilde{M} . Note that this definition generalizes that one given by B.-Y. Chen ([6]) for Complex Geometry and that one given by A. Lotta ([8]) for Contact Geometry.

Furthermore, invariant and anti-invariant submanifolds are slant submanifolds with slant angle $\theta = 0$ and $\theta = \pi/2$, respectively. A slant immersion which is not invariant nor anti-invariant is called a *proper* slant immersion. Observe that, for invariant submanifolds, T = f and, so

$$T^2 = f^2 = -I + \sum_{\alpha=1}^{s} \eta_{\alpha} \otimes \xi_{\alpha},$$

while for anti-invariant submanifolds, $T^2 = 0$. In fact, we have the following general result whose proof can be obtained by following the same steps as in the case s = 1 (see [2]):

Theorem 3.1 Let M be a submanifold of a metric f-manifold \widetilde{M} , tangent to the structure vector fields. Then, M is a slant submanifold if and only if there exists a constant $\lambda \in [0,1]$ such that:

$$T^2 = -\lambda I + \lambda \sum_{\alpha=1}^{s} \eta_{\alpha} \otimes \xi_{\alpha} = \lambda f^2.$$

Furthermore, in such case, if θ is the slant angle of M, it satisfies that $\lambda = \cos^2 \theta$.

Using (3.1), (3.4), (3.6) and Theorem 3.1, a direct computation gives:

Corollary 3.1 Let M be a slant submanifold of a metric f-manifold M, with slant angle θ . Then, for any $X, Y \in \mathcal{X}(M)$, we have:

$$g(TX, TY) = \cos^2 \theta(g(X, Y) - \sum_{\alpha=1}^{s} \eta_{\alpha}(X)\eta_{\alpha}(Y)),$$

$$g(NX, NY) = \sin^2 \theta(g(X, Y) - \sum_{\alpha=1}^{s} \eta_{\alpha}(X)\eta_{\alpha}(Y)).$$

We also have:

Corollary 3.2 Let M be a non-invariant slant (m + s)-dimensional submanifold of a (2m + s)-dimensional metric f-manifold \widetilde{M} with slant angle θ and let $\{e_1, \ldots, e_m, \xi_1, \ldots, \xi_s\}$ be a local orthonormal basis of $\mathcal{X}(M)$. Then,

$$\{(\csc\theta)Ne_1,\ldots,(\csc\theta)Ne_m\}$$

is a local orthonormal basis of $T^{\perp}M$.

Proof. It is easy to show that $\{(\csc\theta)Ne_1,\ldots,(\csc\theta)Ne_m\}$ is a set of m linearly independent vector fields of $T^{\perp}M$, that is, a local basis of $T^{\perp}M$. Moreover, from Corollary 3.1, we obtain that:

$$g((\csc \theta)Ne_i,(\csc \theta)Ne_j) = \csc^2 \theta \sin^2 \theta g(e_i,e_j) = \delta_{ij}.$$

In a similar way, by using Theorem 3.1 and Corollary 3.1, we get:

Corollary 3.3 Let M be a non anti-invariant (2 + s)-dimensional slant submanifold of a metric f-manifold with slant angle θ . Let e_1 be a unit vector field, tangent to M and normal to the structure vector fields and define $e_2 = (\sec \theta)Te_1$. Then $e_1 = -(\sec \theta)Te_2$ and $\{e_1, e_2, \xi_1, \dots, \xi_s\}$ is a local orthonormal basis of $\mathcal{X}(M)$.

Finally, combining Corollary 3.2 and Corollary 3.3 and using Theorem 3.1 again, we obtain:

Corollary 3.4 Let M be a proper (2 + s)-dimensional slant submanifold of a (4 + s)-dimensional metric f-manifold with slant angle θ . Let e_1 be a unit vector field, tangent to M and normal to the structure vector fields and define:

$$e_2 = (\sec \theta) T e_1, \ e_3 = (\csc \theta) N e_1 \ and \ e_4 = (\csc \theta) N e_2.$$

Then, $e_1 = -(\sec \theta)Te_2$ and $\{e_1, e_2, e_3, e_4, \xi_1, \dots, \xi_s\}$ is a local orthonormal basis of $\mathcal{X}(\widetilde{M})$ such that $e_1, e_2, \xi_1, \dots, \xi_s$ are tangent to M and e_3, e_4 are normal to M. Moreover:

$$te_3 = -\sin\theta e_1, \ ne_3 = -\cos\theta e_4, \ te_4 = -\sin\theta e_2, \ ne_4 = \cos\theta e_3.$$

The basis $\{e_1, e_2, e_3, e_4, \xi_1, \dots, \xi_s\}$ is said to be an adapted slant basis.

4. Slant submanifolds of the smallest dimension

Observe that 2+s is the smallest dimension of a proper slant submanifold in a metric f-manifold. Indeed, if we denote $Q=T^2$ and consider the orthogonal decomposition

$$\mathcal{X}(M) = \mathcal{L} \oplus \mathcal{M}$$

where \mathcal{M} is the distribution spanned by the structure vector fields and \mathcal{L} is its complementary orthogonal distribution, then, since $T\mathcal{L} \subseteq \mathcal{L}$, $Q|_{\mathcal{L}}$ is an endomorphism on \mathcal{L} . Furthermore, it is a symmetric endomorphism because, from (3.6),

$$g(QX,Y) = g(T^2X,Y) = -g(TX,TY) = g(X,T^2Y) = g(X,QY),$$

for any $X, Y \in \mathcal{X}(M)$. Consequently, for each $x \in M$, the subspace \mathcal{L}_x of T_xM admits a decomposition of the form

$$\mathcal{L}_x = \mathcal{L}_x^1 \oplus \mathcal{L}_x^2 \oplus \cdots \oplus \mathcal{L}_x^{k(x)},$$

where \mathcal{L}_x^i is the proper subspace of eigenvectors associated with an eigenvalue λ_i of $Q|_{\mathcal{L}}$. Then, we can easily prove:

Proposition 4.1 Let M be a submanifold of a metric f-manifold, tangent to the structure vector fields. Then, at each point of M, we have the following properties:

- 1. $\lambda_i \in [-1,0]$, for any eigenvalue λ_i of $Q|_{\mathcal{L}}$.
- 2. $TX \in \mathcal{L}^i$, for any $X \in \mathcal{L}^i$.
- 3. If $\lambda_i \neq 0$, \mathcal{L}^i is of even dimension and $T(\mathcal{L}^i) = \mathcal{L}^i$.

Corollary 4.1 Let M be a (1+s)-dimensional submanifold of a metric f-manifold, tangent to the structure vector fields. Then, M is an anti-invariant submanifold.

Proof. Since \mathcal{L} is of odd dimension (equal to 1), from Proposition 4.1 we get $\lambda = 0$ and M is an anti-invariant submanifold.

From this corollary, we deduce that there are not proper slant submanifolds of a metric f-manifold of dimension smaller than 2+s. Now, we are going to study submanifolds of such dimension when the ambient manifold is an S-manifold. First, by using Theorem 3.1, if M is a slant submanifold with slant angle θ , a direct calculation gives

(4.1)
$$(\nabla_X Q)Y = \cos^2 \theta \sum_{\alpha=1}^s (g(X, TY)\xi_\alpha - \eta_\alpha(Y)TX),$$

for any $X, Y \in \mathcal{X}(M)$, where we recall that

$$(\nabla_X Q)Y = \nabla_X QY - Q\nabla_X Y.$$

Next, we have the following general characterization:

Theorem 4.1 Let M be a submanifold of an S-manifold, tangent to the structure vector fields. Then, M is a slant submanifold if and only if the following conditions are satisfied:

- 1. The endomorphism $Q|_{\mathcal{L}}$ has only one eigenvalue at any point of M.
- 2. There exists a function $\lambda: M \longrightarrow [0,1]$ such that

$$(\nabla_X Q)Y = \lambda \sum_{\alpha=1}^s (g(X, TY)\xi_\alpha - \eta_\alpha(Y)TX),$$

for any $X, Y \in \mathcal{X}(M)$.

Moreover, in this case, if θ is the slant angle of M, then $\lambda = \cos^2 \theta$.

Proof. If M is a slant submanifold with slant angle θ , from Theorem 3.1, we have

$$T^2X = QX = \cos^2\theta f^2X,$$

for any $X \in \mathcal{X}(M)$. Then, $Q|_{\mathcal{L}} = -\cos^2\theta I$ and $\lambda_1 = -\cos^2\theta$ is the only eigenvalue of $Q|_{\mathcal{L}}$ at any point of M. Furthermore, Condition 2 is (4.1).

Conversely, let $\lambda_1(x)$ be the only eigenvalue of $Q|_{\mathcal{L}}$ at any point $x \in M$. Thus, by using Condition 2 we get that λ_1 is a constant. Now, let $X \in \mathcal{X}(M)$. If we put

$$X = \widetilde{X} + \sum_{\alpha=1}^{s} \eta_{\alpha}(X)\xi_{a},$$

where $\widetilde{X} \in \mathcal{L}$, then $QX = Q\widetilde{X} = \lambda_1 \widetilde{X}$ and, so:

$$QX = \lambda_1 X - \lambda_1 \sum_{\alpha=1}^{s} \eta_{\alpha}(X) \xi_a.$$

By applying Theorem 3.1 we obtain that M is a slant submanifold and, by (4.1), $\lambda = -\lambda_1 = \cos^2 \theta$.

Corollary 4.2 Let M be a (2+s)-dimensional submanifold of an S-manifold tangent to the structure vector fields. Then, M is a slant submanifold if and only if there exists a function $\lambda: M \longrightarrow [0,1]$ such that

(4.2)
$$(\nabla_X Q)Y = \lambda \sum_{\alpha=1}^s (g(X, TY)\xi_\alpha - \eta_\alpha(Y)TX),$$

for any $X, Y \in \mathcal{X}(M)$. Moreover, in this case, if θ is the slant angle of M, then $\lambda = \cos^2 \theta$.

Proof. We only have to prove that $Q|_{\mathcal{L}}$ has only one eigenvalue at any point of M. But it is a direct consequence of 3. of Proposition 4.1.

Theorem 4.2 Let M be a (2+s)-dimensional submanifold of an S-manifold, tangent to the structure vector fields. Then, M is a slant submanifold if and only if there exists a function $\lambda: M \longrightarrow [0,1]$ such that

(4.3)
$$(\nabla_X T)Y = \lambda \sum_{\alpha=1}^s (g(fX, fY)\xi_\alpha + \eta_\alpha(Y)f^2X),$$

for any $X, Y \in \mathcal{X}(M)$. Moreover, in this case, if θ is the slant angle of M, then $\lambda = \cos^2 \theta$.

Proof. First, it is easy to show that (4.3) implies (4.2). Then, we only have to apply Corollary 4.2 to get that M is a slant submanifold. Conversely, we can suppose that M is a proper slant submanifold because if M is an invariant or an anti-invariant submanifold, we obtain (4.3) directly. Now, since $\dim(M) = 2+s$, from Corollary 3.3, we can choose a local orthonormal basis of $\mathcal{X}(M)$, $\{e_1, e_2, \xi_1, \ldots, \xi_s\}$, such that $e_2 = (\sec \theta)Te_1$ and $e_1 = -(\sec \theta)Te_2$. Thus, for any $X \in \mathcal{X}(M)$, we have

$$(\nabla_X T)e_1 = \cos\theta \sum_{\alpha=1}^s w_2^{\alpha}(X)\xi_{\alpha},$$

because $w_i^i(X) = 0$ and $w_i^j(X) = -w_j^i(X)$. But, by using (3.2) and (3.4), $w_2^{\alpha}(X) = g(e_2, TX)$, for any $\alpha = 1, \ldots, s$ and so:

(4.4)
$$(\nabla_X T) e_1 = \cos \theta \sum_{\alpha=1}^s g(e_2, TX) \xi_\alpha = \cos^2 \theta \sum_{\alpha=1}^s g(X, e_1) \xi_\alpha.$$

Similarly:

$$(4.5) \qquad (\nabla_X T)e_2 = \cos^2 \theta \sum_{\alpha=1}^s g(X, e_2) \xi_\alpha.$$

On the other hand, for any $\alpha = 1, \dots, s$:

$$(4.6) (\nabla_X T)\xi_\alpha = \cos^2 \theta f^2 X.$$

Now, given any $Y \in \mathcal{X}(M)$, since locally

$$Y = Y_1 e_1 + Y_2 e_2 + \sum_{\alpha=1}^{s} \eta_{\alpha}(Y) \xi_{\alpha},$$

we obtain that:

(4.7)
$$(\nabla_X T)Y = Y_1(\nabla_X T)e_1 + Y_2(\nabla_X T)e_2 + \sum_{\alpha=1}^s \eta_\alpha(Y)(\nabla_X T)\xi_\alpha.$$

Substituting (4.4)-(4.6) into (4.7) we conclude the proof.

From Lemma 3.1 we get:

Corollary 4.3 Let M be a submanifold of dimension 2+s in an S-manifold, tangent to the structure vector fields. Then, M is a slant submanifold if and only if there exists a differentiable function $\mu: M \longrightarrow [0,1]$ such that

$$A_{NY}X - A_{NX}Y = \mu \sum_{\alpha=1}^{s} (\eta_{\alpha}(X)f^{2}Y - \eta_{\alpha}(Y)f^{2}X),$$

for any $X, Y \in \mathcal{X}(M)$. Moreover, in this case, if θ is the slant angle of M, then $\mu = \sin^2 \theta$.

5. Minimal slant submanifolds of the smallest dimension

For later use, we are going to prove the following lemmas:

Lemma 5.1 Let M be a proper slant, (2+s)-dimensional submanifold of an S-manifold \widetilde{M} with $\dim(\widetilde{M}) = 4 + s$. If θ is the slant angle,

$$\{e_1,\ldots,e_4,e_5=\xi_1,\ldots,e_{4+s}=\xi_s\}$$

is an adapted slant basis and if we put

$$\sigma_{ij}^r = g(\sigma(e_i, e_j), e_r),$$
 for any $i, j = 1, 2, 5, \dots, 4 + s$ and $r = 3, 4,$

then:

(5.1)
$$\sigma_{12}^3 = \sigma_{11}^4, \ \sigma_{22}^3 = \sigma_{12}^4,$$

(5.2)
$$\sigma_{1(4+\alpha)}^3 = \sigma_{2(4+\alpha)}^4 = -\sin\theta, \ \alpha = 1, \dots, s$$

(5.3)
$$\sigma_{2(4+\alpha)}^3 = \sigma_{1(4+\alpha)}^4 = \sigma_{(4+\alpha)(4+\beta)}^3 = \sigma_{(4+\alpha)(4+\beta)}^4 = 0, \ \alpha, \beta = 1, \dots, s.$$

Proof. We obtain (5.1) by virtue of Corollary 4.3 while (5.2) and (5.3) hold because \widetilde{M} is an S-manifold.

Lemma 5.2 Let M be a (2+s)-dimensional slant submanifold of an S-manifold \widetilde{M} with $\dim(\widetilde{M}) = 4+s$. Then, $\nabla N = 0$ if and only if M is either an invariant or an anti-invariant submanifold.

Proof. If $\nabla N = 0$, then, by applying (3.14) we get, for any $X, Y \in \mathcal{X}(M)$, $V \in T^{\perp}M$:

$$(5.4) -q(\sigma(X,TY),V) = q(\sigma(X,Y),nV).$$

If we suppose that M is a proper slant submanifold with slant angle θ and choose an adapted slant basis

$${e_1,\ldots,e_4,e_5=\xi_1,\ldots,e_{4+s}=\xi_s},$$

then, from (5.4), since $Te_{4+\alpha} = T\xi_{\alpha} = 0$, for any $\alpha = 1, \ldots, s$ and $ne_4 = \cos \theta e_3$,

$$0 = g(\sigma(e_1, e_{4+\alpha}), ne_4) = \cos \theta g(\sigma(e_1, e_{4+\alpha}), e_3) = = \cos \theta \sigma_{1(4+\alpha)}^3 = -\cos \theta \sin \theta,$$

where we have used (5.2). But this contradicts the fact of M being a proper slant submanifold.

Conversely, if M is an invariant submanifold, then N=0 and so, $\nabla N=0$. Finally, if M is anti-invariant submanifold, then n=0 and we only need to apply (3.14). **Theorem 5.1** Let M be a (2+s)-dimensional submanifold of a (4+s)-dimensional S-manifold \widetilde{M} , tangent to the structure vector fields.

1. If M is a minimal proper slant submanifold of \widetilde{M} , then

(5.5)
$$(\nabla_X N)Y = \sum_{\alpha=1}^s (2\eta_\alpha(X)NTY + \eta_\alpha(Y)NTX).$$

for any $X, Y \in \mathcal{X}(M)$.

2. Conversely, suppose that there is an eigenvalue λ of $Q|_{\mathcal{L}}$ at each point of M such that $\lambda \in (-1,0)$. In this case, if (5.5) holds, M is a minimal proper slant submanifold of \widetilde{M} .

Proof. To prove statement 1, we choose an adapted slant basis:

$${e_1,\ldots,e_4,e_5=\xi_1,\ldots,e_{4+s}=\xi_s}.$$

Then, we can show that

(5.6)
$$n\sigma(e_i, e_j) = \cos\theta \sigma_{ij}^4 e_3 - \cos\theta \sigma_{ij}^3 e_4$$

for any i, j = 1, 2, 5, ..., 4 + s. Moreover, since M is minimal, by using $\sigma(\xi_a, \xi_\alpha) = 0$ for any $\alpha = 1, ..., s$, we have:

(5.7)
$$\sigma_{11}^3 = -\sigma_{22}^3, \ \sigma_{11}^4 = -\sigma_{22}^4.$$

Next, writing $X, Y \in \mathcal{X}(M)$ in terms of the adapted slant basis and taking into account (5.1)-(5.3), (5.6) and (5.7), we obtain (5.5) from (3.14) and (3.9).

To prove statement 2, we can choose a unit local vector field e_1 in \mathcal{L} , such that

$$T^2 e_1 = -\cos^2 \theta_1 e_1,$$

where $\theta_1 = \theta(e_1) \in (0, \pi/2)$ denotes the Wirtinger angle of e_1 . Now, we define e_2, e_3, e_4 by

(5.8)
$$e_2(\sec \theta_1)Te_1, e_3 = (\csc \theta_1)Ne_1, e_4 = (\csc \theta_1)Ne_2$$

and $e_{4+\alpha} = \xi_{\alpha}$, $\alpha = 1, \ldots, s$. It is easy to show that $\{e_1, \ldots, e_{4+s}\}$ is a local orthonormal basis of \widetilde{M} such that:

$$te_3 = -\sin\theta_1 e_1$$
, $te_4 = -\sin\theta_1 e_2$, $ne_3 = -\cos\theta_1 e_4$, $ne_4 = \cos\theta_1 e_3$.

Next, from (5.8) and by using Lemma 3.2, we get:

$$A_{Ne_1}e_2 = \sec \theta_1 \sin \theta_1 A_{e_3} Te_1 = \sin \theta_1 A_{e_4} e_1 = A_{Ne_2}e_1.$$

Furthermore, from (3.2) and Gauss-Weingarten formulas, we have, for any $\alpha = 1, \ldots, s$,

$$A_{Ne_1}e_{4+\alpha} = \sin\theta_1 A_{e_3}e_{4+\alpha} = \sin\theta_1 t e_3 = -\sin^2\theta_1 e_1$$

and

$$A_{Ne_2}e_{4+\alpha} = \sin\theta_1 A_{e_4}e_{4+\alpha} = \sin\theta_1 t e_4 = -\sin^2\theta_1 e_2.$$

Hence, a direct computation gives that

$$A_{NY}X = A_{NX}Y - \sin^2 \theta_1 \sum_{\alpha=1}^{s} \Big(\eta_a(Y) f^2 X - \eta_a(X) f^2 Y \Big),$$

for any $X, Y \in \mathcal{X}(M)$ and so, by applying Corollary 4.3, we know that M is a proper slant submanifold, with slant angle θ_1 . Finally, to prove that M is also a minimal submanifold, we only need to show that:

$$\sigma_{11}^3 = -\sigma_{22}^3, \ \sigma_{11}^4 = -\sigma_{22}^4.$$

But,

$$\sigma_{11}^3 = g(\sigma(e_1, e_1), e_3) = (-\sec \theta_1)g(\sigma(e_1, Te_2), e_3)$$

and, from (3.14) y (5.5), $\sigma(e_1, Te_2) = n\sigma(e_1, e_2)$, which together (3.7) implies:

$$\sigma_{11}^3 = -\sigma_{12}^4$$
.

Now, since we have already proved that M is a proper slant submanifold and the chosen basis is an adapted slant one, from Lemma 5.1 we conclude the proof.

Note that (5.5) holds directly in the invariant and anti-invariant cases, since $\nabla N = 0$. On the other hand, the above theorem is the corresponding one to Theorem 5.5 in [6], proved by B.-Y. Chen for surfaces in 4-dimensional Kaehler manifols.

Next, we want to establish some relations between minimal slant (2+s)-dimensional submanifolds and anti-invariant submanifolds in S-manifolds. First, we have the following lemma:

Lemma 5.3 Let M be a proper slant (2+s)-dimensional submanifold in a (4+s)-dimensional S-manifold \widetilde{M} , with slant angle θ . Then, with respect to an adapted slant basis $\{e_1, \ldots, e_{4+s}\}$, we have

(5.9)
$$w_3^4 - w_1^2 = -\cot\theta((\text{trace }\sigma^3)w^1 + (\text{trace }\sigma^4)w^2 - \sum_{\alpha=1}^{3} (2\sin\theta)\eta_\alpha),$$

where w^1, w^2 are the dual forms of e_1, e_2 .

Proof. Since the local basis is an adapted slant one, then, by using (3.14):

$$(5.10) D_{e_1}e_3 = (\csc \theta)D_{e_1}Ne_1 = (\csc \theta)(N(\nabla_{e_1}e_1) + n\sigma(e_1, e_1) - \sigma(e_1, Te_1)).$$

But, from (2.2), (2.4) and applying N, we get:

(5.11)
$$N(\nabla_{e_1}e_1) = w_1^2(e_1)Ne_2 = \sin\theta w_1^2(e_1)e_4.$$

On the other hand:

$$(5.12) n\sigma(e_1, e_1) = \sigma_{11}^3 n e_3 + \sigma_{11}^4 n e_4 = \cos\theta(-\sigma_{11}^3 e_4 + \sigma_{11}^4 e_3),$$

$$(5.13) \quad \sigma(e_1, Te_1) = \cos \theta \sigma(e_1, e_2) = \cos \theta (\sigma_{12}^3 e_3 + \sigma_{12}^4 e_4).$$

Substituting (5.11)-(5.13) into (5.10),

$$D_{e_1}e_3 = w_1^2(e_1)e_4 + \cot\theta(-\sigma_{11}^3e_4 + \sigma_{11}^4e_3 - \sigma_{12}^3e_3 - \sigma_{12}^4e_4),$$

by virtue of Lemma 5.1, since

trace
$$\sigma^3 = \sum_{i=1}^{2} g(\sigma(e_i, e_i), e_3),$$

we have

$$D_{e_1}e_3 = w_1^2(e_1)e_4 - \cot\theta(\text{trace }\sigma^3)e_4$$

and, from (2.3):

(5.14)
$$w_3^4(e_1) - w_1^2(e_1) = -\cot\theta(\text{trace }\sigma^3).$$

Similarly:

(5.15)
$$w_3^4(e_2) - w_1^2(e_2) = -\cot\theta(\text{trace }\sigma).$$

Moreover, for any $\alpha = 1, \ldots, s$,

$$(5.16) D_{e_{4+\alpha}}e_3 = \csc\theta(N(\nabla_{\xi_\alpha}e_1) + n\sigma(e_1, \xi_\alpha) - \sigma(Te_1, \xi_\alpha)),$$

but, by applying (3.9) and (3.10),

$$n\sigma(e_1, \xi_\alpha) - \sigma(Te_1, \xi_\alpha) = -nNe_1 + NTe_1 = 2NTe_1,$$

and, consequently, from Corollary 3.4, we obtain:

$$(5.17) n\sigma(e_1, \xi_\alpha) - \sigma(Te_1, \xi_\alpha) = 2\sin\theta\cos\theta e_4.$$

Furthermore:

(5.18)
$$N(\nabla_{e_{4+\alpha}}e_1) = w_1^2(e_{4+\alpha})Ne_2 = \sin\theta w_1^2(\xi_\alpha)e_4.$$

Thus, substituting (5.17) and (5.18) into (5.16) and taking into account that

$$D_{e_{4+\alpha}}e_3=w_3^4(e_{4+\alpha})e_4,$$

we get:

$$(5.19) w_3^4(e_{4+\alpha}) - w_1^2(e_{4+\alpha}) = 2\cos\theta = -\cot\theta(-2\sin\theta).$$

Then, since $\{e_1, e_2, e_5, \dots, e_{4+s}\}$ is a local orthonormal basis of $\mathcal{X}(M)$, dual of $\{w^1, w^2, \eta_1, \dots, \eta_s\}$, equation (5.9) follows from (5.14), (5.15) and (5.19).

Theorem 5.2 Let M be a proper slant submanifold of an S-manifold

$$(\widetilde{M}, f, \xi_1, \ldots, \xi_s, \eta_1, \ldots, \eta_s, g),$$

with dim $\widetilde{M} = 2 + s$, dim $\widetilde{M} = 4 + s$ and slant angle θ . Suppose that there exists on \widetilde{M} an f-structure \overline{f} such that

$$(\widetilde{M}, \overline{f}, \xi_1, \dots, \xi_s, \eta_1, \dots, \eta_s, g)$$

is a metric f-manifold satisfying

(5.20)
$$g((\widetilde{\nabla}_X \overline{f})Y, Z) = 0,$$

for any X,Y,Z normal to the structure vector fields. If M is an anti-invariant submanifold with respect to this structure, then M is a minimal submanifold of \widetilde{M} .

Proof. Let $\{e_1, \ldots, e_{4+s}\}$ be an adapted slant basis in the S-manifold

$$(\widetilde{M}, f, \xi_1, \cdots, \xi_s, \eta_1, \cdots, \eta_s, g),$$

being $\{e_3, e_4\}$ a local orthonormal frame of $T^{\perp}M$. Hence, since M is an anti-invariant submanifold in

$$(\widetilde{M},\overline{f},\xi_1,\ldots,\xi_s,\eta_1,\ldots,\eta_s,g),$$

we have that $\{\overline{f}e_1, \overline{f}e_2\}$ is another local orthonormal basis of $T^{\perp}M$, by virtue of (3.1). Consequently, there exists a function φ in M such that:

(5.21)
$$e_3 = (\cos \varphi) \overline{f} e_1 + (\sin \varphi) \overline{f} e_2 e_4 = -(\sin \varphi) \overline{f} e_1 + (\cos \varphi) \overline{f} e_2.$$

Consider $X \in \mathcal{L}$. Then, we get:

$$w_3^4(X) = g(\widetilde{\nabla}_X e_3, e_4) = X(\cos\varphi)g(\overline{f}e_1, e_4) + X(\sin\varphi)g(\overline{f}e_2, e_4) + (\cos\varphi)g(\widetilde{\nabla}_X \overline{f}e_1, e_4) + (\sin\varphi)g(\widetilde{\nabla}_X \overline{f}e_2, e_4).$$

Now, since $w_1^1(X) = 0$, $\overline{f}\xi_{\alpha} = 0$ for any $\alpha = 1, ..., s$ and $g(\overline{f}e_4, e_4) = 0$, by using (5.20) and (5.21), we obtain:

(5.22)
$$w_3^4(X) - w_1^2(X) = X\varphi = d\varphi(X).$$

Now, consider any

$$X = \widetilde{X} + \sum_{\alpha=1}^{s} \eta_{\alpha}(X)\xi_{\alpha} \in \mathcal{X}(M),$$

with $\widetilde{X} \in \mathcal{L}$. We find, by using (5.19) and (5.22) that:

$$w_3^4(X) - w_1^2(X) = w_3^4(\widetilde{X}) - w_1^2(\widetilde{X}) + \sum_{\alpha=1}^s \eta_\alpha(X)(w_3^4(\xi_\alpha) - w_1^2(\xi_\alpha)) =$$
$$= d\varphi(\widetilde{X}) + 2\cos\theta \sum_{\alpha=1}^s \eta_\alpha(X).$$

But,

$$d\varphi(\widetilde{X}) = d\varphi(X - \sum_{\alpha=1}^{s} \eta_{\alpha}(X)\xi_{\alpha}) = d\varphi(X) - \sum_{\alpha=1}^{s} \xi_{\alpha}(\varphi)\eta_{\alpha}(X)$$

and, so:

$$w_3^4 - w_1^2 = d\varphi + \sum_{\alpha=1}^{s} (2\cos\theta - \xi_{\alpha}(\varphi))\eta_{\alpha}.$$

Next, taking into account (5.9) we have:

(5.23)
$$-\cot\theta\{(\operatorname{trace}\,\sigma^3)w^1 + (\operatorname{trace}\,\sigma^4)w^2\} = d\varphi - \sum_{\alpha=1}^s \xi_\alpha(\varphi)\eta_\alpha.$$

On the other hand,

$$\sigma_{11}^3 = g(\sigma(e_1, e_1), e_3) = g(A_{e_3}e_1, e_1) = -g(\widetilde{\nabla}_{e_1}e_3, e_1)$$

and from (5.20), (5.21) and since $\overline{f}e_1, \overline{f}e_2 \in T^{\perp}M$, we get:

$$\sigma_{11}^3 = \cos \varphi g(\sigma(e_1, e_1), \overline{f}e_1) + \sin \varphi g(\sigma(e_1, e_2), \overline{f}e_1).$$

However, from (5.21) again:

$$\overline{f}e_1 = \cos\varphi e_3 - \sin\varphi e_4.$$

Consequently:

$$\begin{split} \sigma_{11}^3 &= \cos^2 \varphi \sigma_{11}^3 - \cos \varphi \sin \varphi \sigma_{11}^4 + \cos \varphi \sin \varphi \sigma_{12}^3 - \sin^2 \varphi \sigma_{12}^4 = \\ &= \cos^2 \varphi \sigma_{11}^3 - \sin^2 \varphi \sigma_{22}^3, \end{split}$$

where we have used Lemma 5.1.

Thus, since $\sigma_{\alpha\alpha}^3 = 0$, for any $\alpha = 1, \dots, s$:

(5.24)
$$\sin^2 \varphi(\operatorname{trace} \sigma^3) = 0.$$

Analogously:

(5.25)
$$\sin^2 \varphi(\operatorname{trace} \sigma^4) = 0.$$

Now, let consider the following open subset of M:

$$U = \{x \in M/H(x) \neq 0\}.$$

To conclude the proof, we only need to show that $U \neq \emptyset$. If it is not the case, then, in U,

$$0 \neq H = \frac{1}{2+s} \operatorname{trace} \sigma = \frac{1}{2+s} ((\operatorname{trace} \sigma^3)e_3 + (\operatorname{trace} \sigma^4)e_4),$$

and so:

(5.26) trace
$$\sigma^3 \neq 0$$
 or trace $\sigma^4 \neq 0$.

This implies, by virtue of (5.24) and (5.25), that $\varphi \equiv 0 \pmod{\pi}$ in U. But φ is a continuous function, thus $\varphi \equiv 0$ in U. Hence, $d\varphi = 0$ and $\xi_{\alpha}(\varphi) = 0$ in U, for any $\alpha = 1, \ldots, s$. Then, from (5.23),

$$\cot \theta ((\text{trace }\sigma^3)w^1 + (\text{trace }\sigma^4)w^2) = 0,$$

and from (5.26), $\cot \theta = 0$, which is a contradiction with the fact of M being a proper slant submanifold. So, $U = \emptyset$ and M is minimal.

Note that the above theorem holds, in particular, if

$$(\widetilde{M}, \overline{f}, \xi_1, \dots, \xi_s, \eta_1, \dots, \eta_s, q)$$

is an S-structure on \widetilde{M} because, in such a case, for any $X,Y,Z\in\mathcal{X}(\widetilde{M}),$ from (3.3) we find

$$g((\widetilde{\nabla}_X \overline{f})Y, Z) = \sum_{\alpha=1}^s (g(fX, fY)\eta_\alpha(Z) + \eta_\alpha(Y)g(f^2X, Z)),$$

vanishing this expression if Y, Z are normal to the structure vector fields. In fact, this would be the corresponding theorem to Theorem 4.2 of [4] which was proved by B.-Y. Chen in the Kaehlerian case. However, we have the following proposition:

Proposition 5.1 Let $(\widetilde{M}, f, \xi_1, \dots, \xi_s, \eta_1, \dots, \eta_s, g)$ be an S-manifold. If there exists another f-structure \overline{f} on \widetilde{M} such that

$$(\widetilde{M}, \overline{f}, \xi_1, \dots, \xi_s, \eta_1, \dots, \eta_s, g)$$

is a metric f-manifold with $F_{\overline{f}} = d\eta_a$, for any $\alpha = 1, ..., s$, then $f = \overline{f}$.

Proof. The two fundamental 2-forms satisfy

$$F_f = d\eta_a = F_{\overline{f}}, \quad \text{for any } \alpha = 1, \dots, s.$$

Then, for any $X, Y \in \mathcal{X}(\widetilde{M})$,

$$g(X, fY) = F_f(X, Y) = F_{\overline{f}}(X, Y) = g(X, \overline{f}Y),$$

which implies $fY = \overline{f}Y$, for any $Y \in \mathcal{X}(\widetilde{M})$.

Consequently, Theorem 5.2 is the best possible version of Chen's Theorem for S-manifolds, because there are not different compatible S-structures on the same manifold.

Finally, let us consider an example. Let

$$(\mathbb{R}^{4+s}, f, \xi_1, \dots, \xi_s, \eta_1, \dots, \eta_s, g)$$

be the usual S-structure on \mathbb{R}^{4+s} (see [7] for more details) given by the following elements

$$\eta_{\alpha} = \frac{1}{2} \left(dz^{\alpha} - \sum_{i=1}^{2} y^{i} dx^{i} \right), \quad \xi_{\alpha} = 2 \frac{\partial}{\partial z^{\alpha}},$$

$$g = \sum_{\alpha=1}^{s} \eta_{\alpha} \otimes \eta_{\alpha} + \frac{1}{4} \left(\sum_{i=1}^{2} (dx^{i} \otimes dx^{i} + dy^{i} \otimes dy^{i}) \right),$$

$$f \left(\sum_{i=1}^{2} \left(X_{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^{i}} + Y_{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial y^{i}} \right) + \sum_{\alpha=1}^{s} Z_{\alpha} \frac{\partial}{\partial z^{\alpha}} \right) =$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{2} (Y_{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^{i}} - X_{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial y^{i}}) + \sum_{\alpha=1}^{s} \sum_{i=1}^{2} Y_{i} y^{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial z^{\alpha}},$$

where $(x^1, x^2, y^1, y^2, z^1, \dots, z^s)$ are denoting the cartesian coordinates on \mathbb{R}^{4+s} . Define on \mathbb{R}^{4+s} the (1,1)-tensor field \overline{f} by:

$$\begin{split} \overline{f}\bigg(\sum_{i=1}^{2}(X_{i}\frac{\partial}{\partial x^{i}}+Y_{i}\frac{\partial}{\partial y^{i}})+\sum_{\alpha=1}^{s}Z_{\alpha}\frac{\partial}{\partial z^{\alpha}}\bigg) = \\ &=-X_{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial x^{1}}+X_{1}\frac{\partial}{\partial x^{2}}+Y_{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial y^{1}}-Y_{1}\frac{\partial}{\partial y^{2}}+(y^{2}X_{1}-y^{1}X_{2})\sum_{\alpha=1}^{s}\frac{\partial}{\partial z^{\alpha}}. \end{split}$$

It is easy to prove that

$$(\mathbb{R}^{4+s},\overline{f},\xi_1,\ldots,\xi_s,\eta_1,\ldots,\eta_s,q)$$

is a metric f-manifold. Moreover,

$$(\widetilde{\nabla}_X \overline{f})Y = \sum_{\alpha=1}^s (2\eta_\alpha(X)\overline{f}fY + \eta_\alpha(Y)\overline{f}fX + g(X,\overline{f}fY)\xi_\alpha,$$

for any $X, Y \in \mathcal{X}(\widetilde{M})$. Then, we have (5.20).

Now, consider the (2+s)-dimensional submanifold M of \mathbb{R}^{4+s} defined by

$$x(u, v, t_1, \dots, t_s) = 2(u\cos\theta, u\sin\theta, v, 0, t_1, \dots, t_s),$$

for any $\theta \in (0, \pi/2)$. Then, M is a minimal proper slant submanifold in

$$(\mathbb{R}^{4+s}, f, \xi_1, \dots, \xi_s, \eta_1, \dots, \eta_s, g)$$

(see [3]) and an anti-invariant submanifold in

$$(\mathbb{R}^{4+s},\overline{f},\xi_1,\ldots,\xi_s,\eta_1,\ldots,\eta_s,g).$$

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