

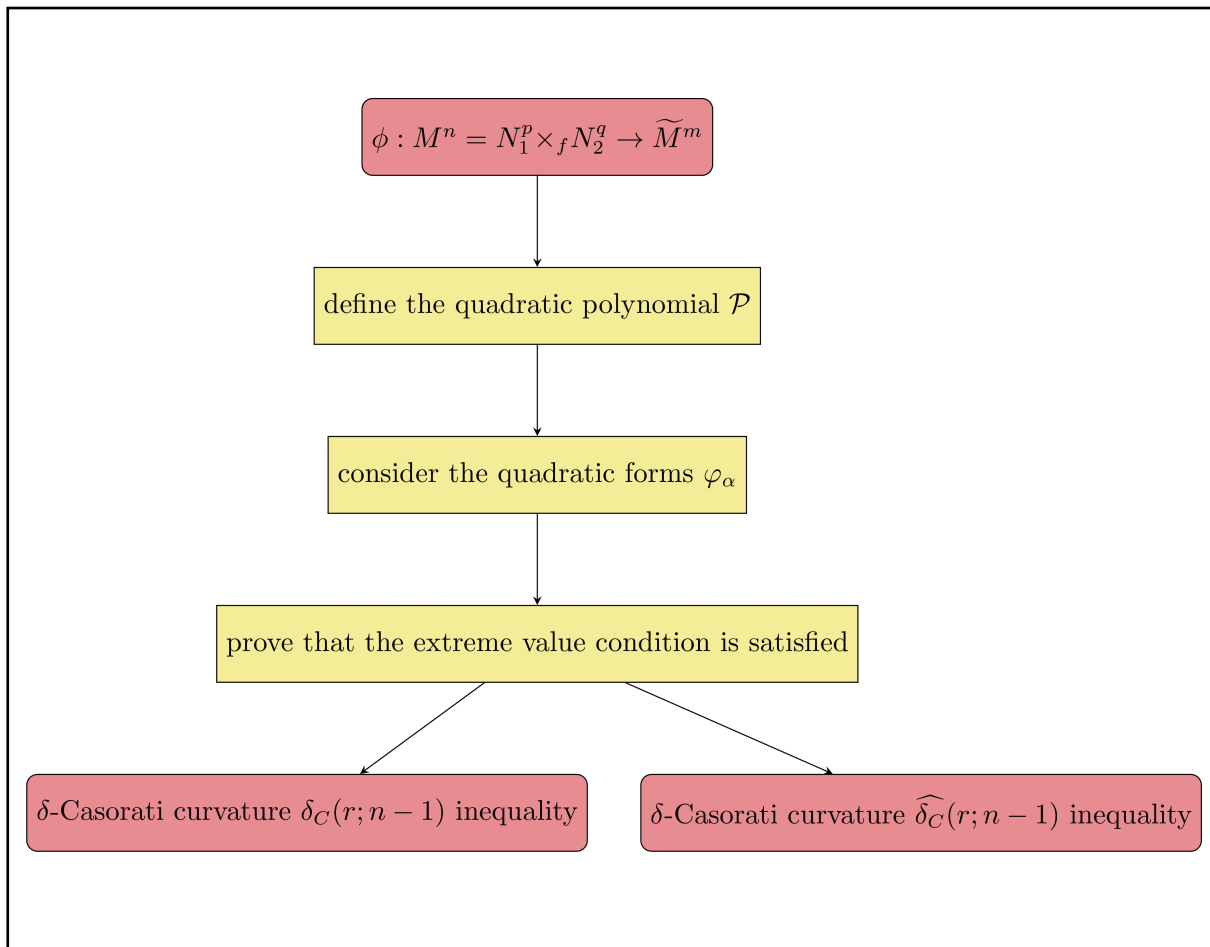
Inequalities of warped product submanifolds in a Riemannian manifold of quasi-constant curvature

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Graphical abstract




The process of establishing the generalized normalized δ -Casorati curvatures inequality.


Public summary

- We establish Chen-like inequalities for generalized normalized δ -Casorati curvatures of warped product submanifolds in a Riemannian manifold of quasi-constant curvature.
- Our inequalities extend the optimal inequalities involving the scalar curvature and the Casorati curvature of a Riemannian submanifold in a real space form.

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Abstract: By optimization methods on Riemannian submanifolds, we establish two inequalities between the intrinsic and extrinsic invariants, for generalized normalized δ -Casorati curvatures of warped product submanifolds in a Riemannian manifold of quasi-constant curvature. We generalize the conclusions of the optimal inequalities of submanifolds in real space forms.

Keywords: Casorati curvature; optimization methods; scalar curvature

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1 Introduction

In 1993, Chen^[1] introduced δ -invariants, and established relationships between intrinsic invariants and extrinsic invariants for minimal submanifolds. In 1995, Chen^[2] found Chen-like inequalities for Riemannian submanifolds and gave some applications of δ -invariants. Submanifolds are ideal submanifolds when Chen-like inequalities are equal and they receive the least possible tension at each point from ambient spaces.

The Casorati curvature was originally introduced in 1980 for surfaces in 3-dimensional Euclidean space and is defined as the normalized square of the length of the second fundamental form (see Ref. [3]). In 2007, Decu et al.^[4] introduced the normalized δ -Casorati curvatures $\widehat{\delta}_c(n-1)$ and $\delta_c(n-1)$ and established two optimal inequalities involving the scalar curvature and the normalized δ -Casorati curvature. In 2008, Decu et al.^[5] introduced the generalized normalized δ -Casorati curvatures $\widehat{\delta}_c(r; n-1)$ and $\delta_c(r; n-1)$ and proved two sharp inequalities. In 2017, Park^[6] obtained two types of optimal inequalities for the real hypersurfaces of complex two-plane Grassmannians and complex hyperbolic two-plane Grassmannians. In 2020, Choudhary and Blaga^[7] established some sharp inequalities involving generalized normalized δ -Casorati curvatures for invariant, anti-invariant and slant submanifolds in metallic Riemannian space forms and characterized the submanifolds for which the equality holds.

In this study, we establish Chen-like inequalities for generalized normalized δ -Casorati curvatures of warped product submanifolds in a Riemannian manifold of quasi-constant curvature.

Let N_1^p and N_2^q be two Riemannian manifolds with positive dimensions equipped with Riemannian metrics $g_{N_1^p}$ and $g_{N_2^q}$, respectively. Let f be a positive function on N_1^p . Consider the product manifold $N_1^p \times N_2^q$, with its projections $\pi : N_1^p \times N_2^q \rightarrow N_1^p$ and $\eta : N_1^p \times N_2^q \rightarrow N_2^q$. The warped product manifold $M^n = N_1^p \times_f N_2^q$ is the product manifold $N_1^p \times N_2^q$ equipped with a Riemannian structure such that

$$\|X\|^2 = \|\pi_*(X)\|^2 + f^2(\pi(x))\|\eta_*(X)\|^2 \quad (1)$$

for any tangent vector $X \in T_x M^n$. Thus, we have $g = g_{N_1^p} + f^2 g_{N_2^q}$. The function f is called the warping function of the warped product manifold.

A Riemannian manifold $(\widetilde{M}^m, \widetilde{g})$ is called a Riemannian manifold of quasi-constant curvature if the curvature tensor satisfies the following condition (see Ref. [8]):

$$\begin{aligned} \widetilde{R}(X, Y, Z, W) = & a[\widetilde{g}(X, Z)\widetilde{g}(Y, W) - \widetilde{g}(Y, Z)\widetilde{g}(X, W)] + \\ & b[\widetilde{g}(X, Z)T(Y)T(W) - \widetilde{g}(X, W)T(Y)T(Z) + \\ & \widetilde{g}(Y, W)T(X)T(Z) - \widetilde{g}(Y, Z)T(X)T(W)] \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

where a and b are scalar functions, T is a 1-form defined by

$$T(X) = \widetilde{g}(X, P) \quad (3)$$

where P denotes the unit vector field. We uniquely decompose the vector field P on M^n into its tangent component P^T and normal component P^\perp , that is,

$$P = P^T + P^\perp \quad (4)$$

Theorem 1.1. Let $\phi : M^n = N_1^p \times_f N_2^q \rightarrow \widetilde{M}^m$ be an isometric immersion of an n -dimensional warped product submanifold M^n into an m -dimensional Riemannian manifold of a quasi-constant curvature \widetilde{M}^m . Then

(i) the generalized normalized δ -Casorati curvature $\delta_c(r; n-1)$ satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{2}{n(n-1)} \times \left\{ \frac{q\Delta f}{f} + \frac{p(p-1)a}{2} + b(p-1)\|P^T\|_{N_1^p}^2 + \frac{q(q-1)a}{2} + \right. \\ \left. b(q-1)\|P^T\|_{N_2^q}^2 \right\} + \frac{\delta_c(r; n-1)}{n(n-1)} - \frac{npr(n^2 - n + qr - r)\|H\|^2}{(n-1)\{(n^2 - n - r + qr)^2 + p^2 r^2\}} \geq \rho \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

for any real number r such that $0 < r < n(n-1)$, where $\|P^T\|_{N_1^p}^2 = \sum_{i=1}^p g(P^T, e_i)^2$, $\|P^T\|_{N_2^q}^2 = \sum_{s=p+1}^n g(P^T, e_s)^2$, ρ is the normalized scalar curvature, $\|H\|^2$ is the squared mean curvature, a and b are scalar functions;

(ii) the generalized normalized δ -Casorati curvature $\widehat{\delta}_c(r; n-1)$ satisfies

$$\frac{2}{n(n-1)} \times \left\{ \frac{q\Delta f}{f} + \frac{p(p-1)a}{2} + b(p-1)\|P^T\|_{N_1^p}^2 + \frac{q(q-1)a}{2} + b(q-1)\|P^T\|_{N_2^q}^2 \right\} + \frac{\widehat{\delta}_c(r; n-1)}{n(n-1)} - \frac{npr(n^2 - n + qr - r)\|H\|^2}{(n-1)\{(n^2 - n - r + qr)^2 + p^2r^2\}} \geq \rho \tag{6}$$

for any real number $r > n(n-1)$.

Equalities hold in (5) and (6) if and only if the shape operators for the suitable tangent and normal orthonormal frames are given by

$$\left. \begin{aligned} A_{e_{n+1}} = & \begin{pmatrix} h_{11}^{n+1} & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & h_{22}^{n+1} & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & h_{pp}^{n+1} & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & h_{p+1, p+1}^{n+1} & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & h_{p+2, p+2}^{n+1} & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & h_{n-1, n-1}^{n+1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & h_{nn}^{n+1} \end{pmatrix}, \\ h_{11}^{n+1} = \dots = h_{pp}^{n+1} = & pr^2 f_1 e_{n+1}, \\ h_{p+1, p+1}^{n+1} = \dots = h_{n-1, n-1}^{n+1} = & (n^2 - n + qr - r) r f_1 e_{n+1}, h_{nn}^{n+1} = \\ & n(n-1)(n^2 - n + qr - r) f_1 e_{n+1}, \\ h_{ij}^{n+1} = 0, & i \neq j, \\ A_{e_{n+2}} = \dots = A_{e_{n+m}} = & 0 \end{aligned} \right\} \tag{7}$$

where f_i is a function on M^n .

Let $b = 0$ and $a = \text{const}$. Then we have

Corollary 1.1. Let $\phi : M^n = N_1^p \times_f N_2^q \rightarrow \widetilde{M}^m(a)$ be an isometric immersion of an n -dimensional warped product submanifold M^n into an m -dimensional Riemannian manifold of a constant sectional curvature a . Then

(i) the generalized normalized δ -Casorati curvature $\delta_c(r; n-1)$ satisfies

$$\frac{2}{n(n-1)} \times \left\{ \frac{q\Delta f}{f} + \frac{p(p-1)a}{2} + \frac{q(q-1)a}{2} \right\} + \frac{\delta_c(r; n-1)}{n(n-1)} - \frac{npr(n^2 - n + qr - r)\|H\|^2}{(n-1)\{(n^2 - n - r + qr)^2 + p^2r^2\}} \geq \rho \tag{8}$$

for any real number r such that $0 < r < n(n-1)$;

(ii) the generalized normalized δ -Casorati curvature $\widehat{\delta}_c(r; n-1)$ satisfies

$$\frac{2}{n(n-1)} \times \left\{ \frac{q\Delta f}{f} + \frac{p(p-1)a}{2} + \frac{q(q-1)a}{2} \right\} + \frac{\widehat{\delta}_c(r; n-1)}{n(n-1)} - \frac{npr(n^2 - n + qr - r)\|H\|^2}{(n-1)\{(n^2 - n - r + qr)^2 + p^2r^2\}} \geq \rho \tag{9}$$

for any real number $r > n(n-1)$.

Equalities hold in (8) and (9) if and only if the shape operators for the suitable tangent and normal orthonormal frames are given by Eq. (7).

Moreover, let $p = 0, q = n$ and $f = 1$. Then we have

Corollary 1.2. Let $\phi : M^n \rightarrow \widetilde{M}^m(a)$ be an isometric immersion of an n -dimensional warped product submanifold into

$\widetilde{M}^m(a)$. We have

(i) for any real number r such that $0 < r < n(n-1)$,

$$\delta_c(r; n-1) + n(n-1)a \geq n(n-1)\rho \tag{10}$$

(ii) for any real number r such that $r > n(n-1)$,

$$\widehat{\delta}_c(r; n-1) + n(n-1)a \geq n(n-1)\rho \tag{11}$$

Equalities hold in (10) and (11) if and only if M^n is an invariantly quasi-umbilical submanifold.

Remark: Corollary 1.2 is Theorem 2.1, and Corollary 3.1 in Ref. [5].

2 Preliminaries

Let M^n be an n -dimensional warped product submanifold of an m -dimensional Riemannian manifold of quasi-constant curvature \widetilde{M}^m . Let ∇ and $\widetilde{\nabla}$ be the Levi-Civita connection on M^n and \widetilde{M}^m , respectively. Then, the Gauss and Weingarten formulas are given respectively by

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \widetilde{\nabla}_X Y &= \nabla_X Y + h(X, Y) \\ \widetilde{\nabla}_X N &= -A_N X + \nabla_X^\perp N \end{aligned} \right\} \tag{12}$$

for vector fields X, Y tangent to M^n , and vector field N normal to M^n . Here h denotes the second fundamental form, ∇^\perp is the normal connection and A is the shape operator. The second fundamental form and shape operator are related by

$$\widetilde{g}(h(X, Y), N) = g(A_N X, Y) \tag{13}$$

where \widetilde{g} and g denote the metric on \widetilde{M}^m and M^n respectively. If R and \widetilde{R} are the curvature tensors of M^n and \widetilde{M}^m , respectively, then the Gauss equation is given by

$$\begin{aligned} R(X, Y, Z, W) &= \widetilde{R}(X, Y, Z, W) + \widetilde{g}(h(X, Z), h(Y, W)) - \\ &\widetilde{g}(h(X, W), h(Y, Z)) \end{aligned} \tag{14}$$

for any vector field X, Y, Z , and W tangent to M^n .

Let $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$ be an orthonormal basis of the tangent space $T_x M^n$ and let $\{e_{n+1}, \dots, e_m\}$ be an orthonormal basis of normal space $T_x^\perp M^n$. The mean curvature vector H at x is

$$H(x) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{\alpha=n+1}^m \left(\sum_{i=1}^n h_{ii}^\alpha \right) e_\alpha \tag{15}$$

The squared mean curvature of the submanifold M^n in \widetilde{M}^m is defined as

$$\|H\|^2 = \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{\alpha=n+1}^m \left(\sum_{i=1}^n h_{ii}^\alpha \right)^2 \tag{16}$$

Also, we set

$$\|h\|^2 = \sum_{\alpha=n+1}^m \sum_{i, j=1}^n \widetilde{g}(h(e_i, e_j), e_\alpha)^2 \tag{17}$$

Let $K(e_i \wedge e_j)$ be the sectional curvature of the plane section spanning e_i and e_j at $x \in M^n$. Subsequently, the scalar curvature $\tau(x)$ of M^n is given by

$$\tau(x) = \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} K(e_i \wedge e_j) \tag{18}$$

and the normalized scalar curvature ρ of M^n at x is defined as

$$\rho(x) = \frac{2\tau(x)}{n(n-1)} \tag{19}$$

The Casorati curvature C of the submanifold M^n is the squared norm of the second fundamental form h over dimension n and is given by

$$C = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{\alpha=n+1}^m \sum_{i,j=1}^n (h_{ij}^\alpha)^2 \tag{20}$$

If L is an l -dimensional subspace of $T_x M^n$, where $l \geq 2$ and $\{e_1, \dots, e_l\}$ is an orthonormal basis of L , the scalar curvature $\tau(L)$ of the l -plane section L is defined as

$$\tau(L) = \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq l} K(e_i \wedge e_j) \tag{21}$$

and the Casorati curvature of the subspace L , denoted by $C(L)$, is given by

$$C(L) = \frac{1}{l} \sum_{\alpha=n+1}^m \sum_{i,j=1}^l (h_{ij}^\alpha)^2 \tag{22}$$

The generalized normalized δ -Casorati curvatures $\delta_c(r; n-1)$ and $\widehat{\delta}_c(r; n-1)$ of the submanifold M^n are defined for a positive real number $r \neq n(n-1)$ as

$$[\delta_c(r; n-1)]_x = rC_x + \frac{(n-1)(n+r)(n^2-n-r)}{rn} \inf\{C(L)|L : \text{a hyperplane of } T_x M^n\} \tag{23}$$

if $0 < r < n^2 - n$; and

$$[\widehat{\delta}_c(r; n-1)]_x = rC_x - \frac{(n-1)(n+r)(r-n^2+n)}{rn} \sup\{C(L)|L : \text{a hyperplane of } T_x M^n\} \tag{24}$$

if $r > n^2 - n$.

By Gauss equation, we get

$$K(e_i \wedge e_j) = \widetilde{K}(e_i \wedge e_j) + \sum_{\alpha=n+1}^m (h_{ii}^\alpha h_{jj}^\alpha - (h_{ij}^\alpha)^2) \tag{25}$$

where $K(e_i \wedge e_j)$ and $\widetilde{K}(e_i \wedge e_j)$ denote the sectional curvatures of the plane section spanned by e_i and e_j at x in the submanifold M^n and in the ambient manifold \widetilde{M}^m , respectively. By Eqs. (2) and (25), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \tau(N_1^p) &= \sum_{\alpha=n+1}^m \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq p} (h_{ii}^\alpha h_{jj}^\alpha - (h_{ij}^\alpha)^2) + \widetilde{\tau}(N_1^p) = \\ & \frac{p(p-1)a}{2} + b(p-1)\|P^r\|_{N_1^p}^2 + \sum_{\alpha=n+1}^m \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq p} (h_{ii}^\alpha h_{jj}^\alpha - (h_{ij}^\alpha)^2) \end{aligned} \tag{26}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \tau(N_2^q) &= \sum_{\alpha=n+1}^m \sum_{p+1 \leq s < t \leq n} (h_{ss}^\alpha h_{tt}^\alpha - (h_{st}^\alpha)^2) + \widetilde{\tau}(N_2^q) = \\ & \frac{q(q-1)a}{2} + b(q-1)\|P^r\|_{N_2^q}^2 + \sum_{\alpha=n+1}^m \sum_{p+1 \leq s < t \leq n} (h_{ss}^\alpha h_{tt}^\alpha - (h_{st}^\alpha)^2) \end{aligned} \tag{27}$$

where $\|P^r\|_{N_1^p}^2 = \sum_{i=1}^p g(P^r, e_i)^2$, $\|P^r\|_{N_2^q}^2 = \sum_{s=p+1}^n g(P^r, e_s)^2$.

Definition 2.1. For the differential function f on M^n , the Laplacian Δf and gradient ∇f of f are defined by

$$g(\nabla f, X) = X(f) \tag{28}$$

$$\Delta f = \sum_{i=1}^n ((\nabla_{e_i} e_i)f - e_i e_i f) \tag{29}$$

for any vector field X that is tangent to M^n .

Lemma 2.1.^[9] Let $M^n = N_1^p \times_f N_2^q$ be a warped product submanifold of \widetilde{M}^m . The relation between the sectional curvature and Laplacian Δf of f is

$$\sum_{i=1}^p \sum_{k=p+1}^n K(e_i \wedge e_k) = \frac{q\Delta f}{f} = q(\Delta \ln f - \|\nabla \ln f\|^2) \tag{30}$$

Lemma 2.2.^[10] Let N_1 be a Riemannian submanifold of a Riemannian manifold (N_2, \bar{g}) , $\varphi : N_2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a differentiable function and consider the constrained extremum problem

$$\min_{x \in N_1} \varphi(x) \tag{31}$$

If $x_0 \in N_1$ is a solution of the problem (31), then

- (i) $(\text{grad } \varphi)(x_0) \in T_{x_0}^\perp N_1$;
- (ii) the bilinear form $\Lambda : T_{x_0} N_1 \times T_{x_0} N_1 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by

$$\Lambda(X, Y) = \text{Hess}_\varphi(X, Y) + \bar{g}(h_1(X, Y), (\text{grad } \varphi)(x_0)) \tag{32}$$

is positive semi-definite, where h_1 is the second fundamental form of N_1 in N_2 and $\text{grad } \varphi$ is the gradient of φ .

3 Proof of the theorem

Proof of Theorem 1.1 From Eqs. (26), (27), (30), and the Gauss equation, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \tau(x) &= \sum_{i=1}^p \sum_{k=p+1}^n K(e_i \wedge e_k) + \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq p} K(e_i \wedge e_j) + \sum_{p+1 \leq s < t \leq n} K(e_s \wedge e_t) = \\ & \frac{q\Delta f}{f} + \frac{p(p-1)a}{2} + b(p-1)\|P^r\|_{N_1^p}^2 + \frac{q(q-1)a}{2} + b(q-1)\|P^r\|_{N_2^q}^2 + \\ & \sum_{\alpha=n+1}^m \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq p} (h_{ii}^\alpha h_{jj}^\alpha - (h_{ij}^\alpha)^2) + \sum_{\alpha=n+1}^m \sum_{p+1 \leq s < t \leq n} (h_{ss}^\alpha h_{tt}^\alpha - (h_{st}^\alpha)^2) \end{aligned} \tag{33}$$

We define the following quadratic polynomial \mathcal{P} in the components of the second fundamental form as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{P} &= rC + \frac{(n-1)(n+r)(n^2-n-r)}{nr} C(L) - 2\tau + 2 \times \left\{ \frac{q\Delta f}{f} + \right. \\ & \left. \frac{p(p-1)a}{2} + b(p-1)\|P^r\|_{N_1^p}^2 + \frac{q(q-1)a}{2} + b(q-1)\|P^r\|_{N_2^q}^2 \right\} \end{aligned} \tag{34}$$

where L denotes the hyperplane of $T_x M^n$. Without loss of generality, we can suppose that L is spanned by e_1, e_2, \dots, e_{n-1} . From Eqs. (33) and (34), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{P} &= \frac{r}{n} \sum_{\alpha=n+1}^m \sum_{i,j=1}^n (h_{ij}^\alpha)^2 + \frac{(n+r)(n^2-n-r)}{nr} \sum_{\alpha=n+1}^m \sum_{i,j=1}^{n-1} (h_{ij}^\alpha)^2 - \\ & 2 \sum_{\alpha=n+1}^m \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq p} (h_{ii}^\alpha h_{jj}^\alpha - (h_{ij}^\alpha)^2) - 2 \sum_{\alpha=n+1}^m \sum_{p+1 \leq s < t \leq n} (h_{ss}^\alpha h_{tt}^\alpha - (h_{st}^\alpha)^2) \geq \\ & \frac{n^2-n+nr-2r}{r} \sum_{\alpha=n+1}^m \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} (h_{ii}^\alpha)^2 + \frac{r}{n} \sum_{\alpha=n+1}^m (h_{nn}^\alpha)^2 - \\ & 2 \sum_{\alpha=n+1}^m \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq p} h_{ii}^\alpha h_{jj}^\alpha - 2 \sum_{\alpha=n+1}^m \sum_{p+1 \leq s < t \leq n} h_{ss}^\alpha h_{tt}^\alpha \end{aligned} \tag{35}$$

We consider the quadratic forms

$$\varphi_\alpha : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad \alpha = n+1, n+2, \dots, m \tag{36}$$

defined by

$$\varphi_\alpha(h_{11}^\alpha, \dots, h_m^\alpha) = \frac{n^2 - n + nr - 2r}{r} \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} (h_{ii}^\alpha)^2 + \frac{r}{n} (h_m^\alpha)^2 - 2 \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq p} h_{ij}^\alpha h_{jj}^\alpha - 2 \sum_{p+1 \leq s < t \leq n} h_{st}^\alpha h_{tt}^\alpha \quad (37)$$

Then by Eqs. (35) and (37), we derive

$$\mathcal{P} \ni \sum_{\alpha=n+1}^m \varphi_\alpha \quad (38)$$

Next, for α , we consider the extremum problem

$$\min \varphi_\alpha, \quad \text{subject to} \quad \Gamma : h_{11}^\alpha + h_{22}^\alpha + \dots + h_m^\alpha = K^\alpha \quad (39)$$

where K^α is a real constant (see Ref. [11]). The partial derivatives of function φ_α are

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \varphi_\alpha}{\partial h_{11}^\alpha} &= \frac{2(n+r)(n-1)}{r} h_{11}^\alpha - 2 \sum_{i=1}^p h_{ii}^\alpha, \\ &\vdots \\ \frac{\partial \varphi_\alpha}{\partial h_{pp}^\alpha} &= \frac{2(n+r)(n-1)}{r} h_{pp}^\alpha - 2 \sum_{i=1}^p h_{ii}^\alpha \\ \frac{\partial \varphi_\alpha}{\partial h_{p+1p+1}^\alpha} &= \frac{2(n+r)(n-1)}{r} h_{p+1p+1}^\alpha - 2 \sum_{s=p+1}^n h_{ss}^\alpha \\ &\vdots \\ \frac{\partial \varphi_\alpha}{\partial h_{n-1n-1}^\alpha} &= \frac{2(n+r)(n-1)}{r} h_{n-1n-1}^\alpha - 2 \sum_{s=p+1}^n h_{ss}^\alpha \\ \frac{\partial \varphi_\alpha}{\partial h_{nn}^\alpha} &= \frac{2(n+r)}{n} h_{nn}^\alpha - 2 \sum_{s=p+1}^n h_{ss}^\alpha \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (40)$$

Applying Lemma 2.2, for an optimal solution $(h_{11}^\alpha, h_{22}^\alpha, \dots, h_m^\alpha)$ of the minimum problem, vector $grad \varphi_\alpha$ is normal at Γ and collinear with the vector $(1, 1, \dots, 1)$.

From Eq. (40) and Lemma 2.2, we derive that a critical point of the problem has the following form:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} h_{11}^\alpha = \dots = h_{pp}^\alpha &= \frac{pr^2}{(n^2 - n - r + qr)^2 + p^2 r^2} K^\alpha \\ h_{p+1p+1}^\alpha = \dots = h_{n-1n-1}^\alpha &= \frac{(n^2 - n + qr - r)r}{(n^2 - n - r + qr)^2 + p^2 r^2} K^\alpha \\ h_{nn}^\alpha &= \frac{n(n-1)(n^2 - n + qr - r)}{(n^2 - n - r + qr)^2 + p^2 r^2} K^\alpha \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (41)$$

We fixed an arbitrary point $x \in \Gamma$. According to Lemma 2.2,

$$\text{Hess}_{\varphi_\alpha} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2(n+r)(n-1)-2r}{r} & \dots & -2 & \dots & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ -2 & \dots & \frac{2(n+r)(n-1)-2r}{r} & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & \frac{2(n+r)(n-1)-2r}{r} & \dots & -2 & -2 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & -2 & \dots & \frac{2(n+r)(n-1)-2r}{r} & -2 \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & -2 & \dots & -2 & \frac{2r}{n} \end{pmatrix} \quad (47)$$

we deduce that the corresponding bilinear form $\Lambda : T_x \Gamma \times T_x \Gamma \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is given by

$$\Lambda(X, Y) = \text{Hess}_{\varphi_\alpha}(X, Y) + g(h'(X, Y), (\text{grad } \varphi_\alpha)(x)) \quad (42)$$

where h' is the second fundamental form of Γ in \mathbb{R}^n and g is the inner product on \mathbb{R}^n .

By Eq. (40), for $i, j \in \{1, \dots, p\}$, $i \neq j$ and $s, t \in \{p+1, \dots, n\}$, $s \neq t$, we get

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2 \varphi_\alpha}{\partial (h_{ii}^\alpha)^2} &= \frac{2(n+r)(n-1)-2r}{r} \\ \frac{\partial^2 \varphi_\alpha}{\partial h_{ii}^\alpha \partial h_{jj}^\alpha} &= -2 \\ \frac{\partial^2 \varphi_\alpha}{\partial h_{ii}^\alpha \partial h_{tt}^\alpha} &= 0 \\ \frac{\partial^2 \varphi_\alpha}{\partial (h_{ss}^\alpha)^2} &= \frac{2(n+r)(n-1)-2r}{r} \\ \frac{\partial^2 \varphi_\alpha}{\partial h_{ss}^\alpha \partial h_{tt}^\alpha} &= -2 \\ \frac{\partial^2 \varphi_\alpha}{\partial (h_{mm}^\alpha)^2} &= \frac{2r}{n} \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (43)$$

Note that

$$(\text{Hess}_{\varphi_\alpha})_{ij} = (\varphi_\alpha)_{,ij} = \frac{\partial^2 \varphi_\alpha}{\partial h_{ii}^\alpha \partial h_{jj}^\alpha} - \frac{\partial \varphi_\alpha}{\partial h_{kk}^\alpha} \Gamma_{ij}^k \quad (44)$$

where

$$\Gamma_{ij}^k = \frac{1}{2} g^{kl} \left(\frac{\partial g_{il}}{\partial h_{jj}^\alpha} + \frac{\partial g_{lj}}{\partial h_{ii}^\alpha} - \frac{\partial g_{ij}}{\partial h_{ll}^\alpha} \right) \quad (45)$$

Since g is the inner product on \mathbb{R}^n , g_{ij} is constant, and Γ_{ij}^k is 0. Then, we have

$$(\text{Hess}_{\varphi_\alpha})_{ij} = (\varphi_\alpha)_{,ij} = \frac{\partial^2 \varphi_\alpha}{\partial h_{ii}^\alpha \partial h_{jj}^\alpha} \quad (46)$$

The Hessian matrix of φ_α is

As Γ is totally geodesic in \mathbb{R}^n , we consider a vector $X = (X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)$ tangent to Γ at an arbitrary point x on Γ , that is, we verify the relation $\sum_{i=1}^n X_i = 0$ (see Ref. [11]). Next, we prove $\Lambda(X, X) \geq 0$.

(i) For $n = 1$, we have two possibilities

$$(a) \text{Hess}_{\varphi_\alpha} = (2r), \quad (b) \text{Hess}_{\varphi_\alpha} = (-2) \tag{48}$$

Since $X_1 = 0$, in this two cases

$$\text{Hess}_{\varphi_\alpha}(X, X) = 0 \tag{49}$$

(ii) For $n = 2$. we have three possibilities

$$(a) \text{Hess}_{\varphi_\alpha} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{4}{r} & -2 \\ -2 & \frac{4}{r} \end{pmatrix}, \quad (b) \text{Hess}_{\varphi_\alpha} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{4}{r} & 0 \\ 0 & r \end{pmatrix}, \quad (c) \text{Hess}_{\varphi_\alpha} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{4}{r} & -2-2r \end{pmatrix} \tag{50}$$

For (a),

$$\text{Hess}_{\varphi_\alpha}(X, X) = \frac{4+2r}{r}(X_1^2 + X_2^2) - 2(X_1 + X_2)^2 = \frac{4+2r}{r}(X_1^2 + X_2^2) \geq 0 \tag{51}$$

For (b), $\text{Hess}_{\varphi_\alpha}$ is positive definite, i.e., $\text{Hess}_{\varphi_\alpha}(X, X) > 0$. For (c), $\text{Hess}_{\varphi_\alpha}$ is positive semi-definite, i.e., $\text{Hess}_{\varphi_\alpha}(X, X) \geq 0$.

(iii) For $n \geq 3$, when $n = p$, we have

$$\text{Hess}_{\varphi_\alpha}(X, X) = \frac{2(n+r)(n-1)}{r} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2 \right) - 2 \left(\sum_{i=1}^n X_i \right)^2 = \frac{2(n+r)(n-1)}{r} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2 \right) \geq 0 \tag{52}$$

When $n > p$, let

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2(n+r)(n-1)-2r}{r} & -2 & \dots & -2 \\ -2 & \frac{2(n+r)(n-1)-2r}{r} & \dots & -2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ -2 & -2 & \dots & \frac{2(n+r)(n-1)-2r}{r} \end{pmatrix}, \tag{53}$$

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2(n+r)(n-1)-2r}{r} & -2 & \dots & -2 & -2 \\ -2 & \frac{2(n+r)(n-1)-2r}{r} & \dots & -2 & -2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ -2 & -2 & \dots & \frac{2(n+r)(n-1)-2r}{r} & -2 \\ -2 & -2 & \dots & -2 & \frac{2r}{n} \end{pmatrix}$$

Note that $|\lambda E - A| =$

$$\left[\lambda - \frac{2(n+r)(n-1)}{r} \right]^{p-1} \left(\lambda - \frac{2(n+r)(n-1)-2pr}{r} \right) = \left[\lambda - \frac{2(n+r)(n-1)}{r} \right]^{p-1} \left(\lambda - \frac{2n(n-1)+2(n-1-p)r}{r} \right) \tag{54}$$

Thus, all eigenvalues of A are greater than 0, i.e., A is positive definite.

Since $n > p$, when $n - p = q = 1$, we have

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2r}{n} \end{pmatrix} \tag{55}$$

B is positive definite. When $n - p = q \geq 2$, we have

$$0 = |\lambda E - B| = \left[\lambda - \frac{2(n+r)(n-1)}{r} \right]^{q-2} \left[\left(\lambda - \frac{2(n+r)}{n} \right) \left(\lambda - \frac{2(n+r)(n-1)-2(q-1)r}{r} \right) - 2 \left(-\lambda + \frac{2(n+r)(n-1)}{r} \right) \right] =$$

$$\left[\lambda - \frac{2(n+r)(n-1)}{r} \right]^{q-2} \left[\lambda^2 - \left(\frac{2(n+r)}{n} + \frac{2(n+r)(n-1)-2(q-1)r}{r} \right) \lambda + \right.$$

$$\left. \frac{2(n+r)}{n} \times \frac{2(n+r)(n-1)-2(q-1)r}{r} - \frac{4(n+r)(n-1)}{r} \right] =$$

$$\left[\lambda - \frac{2(n+r)(n-1)}{r} \right]^{q-2} \left[\lambda^2 - \left(\frac{2r}{n} + \frac{2(n+r)(n-1)-2(q-1)r}{r} \right) \lambda + \frac{4(n+r)}{r} \times \frac{rp}{n} \right] \tag{56}$$

Since

$$\lambda^2 - \left(\frac{2r}{n} + \frac{2(n+r)(n-1) - 2(q-1)r}{r}\right)\lambda + \frac{4(n+r)}{r} \times \frac{rp}{n} = 0 \quad \lambda_{n-1} \geq 0, \quad \lambda_n > 0 \quad \text{or} \quad \lambda_{n-1} > 0, \quad \lambda_n \geq 0 \quad (59)$$

we have

$$\lambda_{n-1}\lambda_n = \frac{4(n+r)}{r} \times \frac{rp}{n} \geq 0, \lambda_{n-1} + \lambda_n = \frac{2r}{n} + \frac{2(n+r)(n-1) - 2(q-1)r}{r} = \frac{2r}{n} + \frac{2n(n-1) + 2pr}{r} > 0 \quad (58)$$

that is,

We prove that all eigenvalues of B are greater than or equal to 0, i.e., B is positive semi-definite. Thus, we prove that $\text{Hess}_{\varphi_a}(X, X) \geq 0$.

Combining (i), (ii) and (iii), we have

$$\Lambda(X, X) \geq \text{Hess}_{\varphi_a}(X, X) \geq 0 \quad (60)$$

Hence, by Eq. (41), the point $(h_{11}^\alpha, h_{22}^\alpha, \dots, h_{nn}^\alpha)$ is a global minimum point. From Eqs. (37) and (41), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_a \geq & \frac{(n^2 - n + nr - 2r)[p^3r^3 + (q-1)r(n^2 - n + qr - r)^2](K^\alpha)^2}{\{(n^2 - n - r + qr)^2 + p^2r^2\}^2} + \\ & \frac{rn(n-1)^2(n^2 - n + qr - r)^2(K^\alpha)^2}{\{(n^2 - n - r + qr)^2 + p^2r^2\}^2} - \frac{p(p-1)(pr^2)^2(K^\alpha)^2}{\{(n^2 - n - r + qr)^2 + p^2r^2\}^2} \\ & \frac{\{(q-1)(q-2)(n^2 - n + qr - r)^2r^2 + 2(n^2 - n + qr - r)^2rn(n-1)(q-1)\}(K^\alpha)^2}{\{(n^2 - n - r + qr)^2 + p^2r^2\}^2} = \\ & \frac{pr(n^2 - n + qr - r)^3(K^\alpha)^2}{\{(n^2 - n - r + qr)^2 + p^2r^2\}^2} + \frac{p^3r^3(n^2 - n + qr - r)(K^\alpha)^2}{\{(n^2 - n - r + qr)^2 + p^2r^2\}^2} = \\ & \frac{pr(n^2 - n + qr - r)\{(n^2 - n - r + qr)^2 + p^2r^2\}(K^\alpha)^2}{\{(n^2 - n - r + qr)^2 + p^2r^2\}^2} = \\ & \frac{pr(n^2 - n + qr - r)(K^\alpha)^2}{(n^2 - n - r + qr)^2 + p^2r^2} \end{aligned} \quad (61)$$

We divide the proof of Theorem 1.1 into two main cases, according to $0 < r < n(n-1)$ or $r > n(n-1)$.

Case 1: $0 < r < n(n-1)$. In this case, using (38) and (61), we derive

$$\mathcal{P} \geq \sum_{\alpha=n+1}^m \frac{pr(n^2 - n + qr - r)(K^\alpha)^2}{(n^2 - n - r + qr)^2 + p^2r^2} = \frac{pr(n^2 - n + qr - r)n^2\|H\|^2}{(n^2 - n - r + qr)^2 + p^2r^2} \quad (62)$$

By Eqs. (34) and (62), we derive

$$\begin{aligned} & 2 \times \left\{ \frac{q\Delta f}{f} + \frac{p(p-1)a}{2} + b(p-1)\|P^T\|_{N_1^p}^2 + \frac{q(q-1)a}{2} + b(q-1)\|P^T\|_{N_2^q}^2 \right\} + rC + \\ & \frac{(n-1)(n+r)(n^2 - n - r)}{nr} C(L) \geq 2\tau + \frac{pr(n^2 - n + qr - r)n^2\|H\|^2}{(n^2 - n - r + qr)^2 + p^2r^2} \end{aligned} \quad (63)$$

Taking the infimum over all tangent hyperplanes L of T_xM^n in (63), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{2}{n(n-1)} \times \left\{ \frac{q\Delta f}{f} + \frac{p(p-1)a}{2} + b(p-1)\|P^T\|_{N_1^p}^2 + \frac{q(q-1)a}{2} + b(q-1)\|P^T\|_{N_2^q}^2 \right\} + \\ & \frac{\delta_C(r; n-1)}{n(n-1)} - \frac{npr(n^2 - n + qr - r)\|H\|^2}{(n-1)\{(n^2 - n - r + qr)^2 + p^2r^2\}} \geq \rho \end{aligned} \quad (64)$$

Case 2: $r > n(n-1)$. Similarly, using the same method, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{2}{n(n-1)} \times \left\{ \frac{q\Delta f}{f} + \frac{p(p-1)a}{2} + b(p-1)\|P^T\|_{N_1^p}^2 + \frac{q(q-1)a}{2} + b(q-1)\|P^T\|_{N_2^q}^2 \right\} + \\ & \frac{\widehat{\delta}_C(r; n-1)}{n(n-1)} - \frac{npr(n^2 - n + qr - r)\|H\|^2}{(n-1)\{(n^2 - n - r + qr)^2 + p^2r^2\}} \geq \rho \end{aligned} \quad (65)$$

Equalities hold in (64) and (65) at a point $x \in M^n$ if and only if inequalities (35) and (61) become equalities. Thus, we have

$$\left. \begin{aligned} h_{11}^\alpha = \dots = h_{pp}^\alpha &= \frac{pr^2}{(n^2 - n - r + qr)^2 + p^2r^2} K^\alpha \\ h_{p+1p+1}^\alpha = \dots = h_{n-1n-1}^\alpha &= \frac{(n^2 - n + qr - r)r}{(n^2 - n - r + qr)^2 + p^2r^2} K^\alpha \\ h_{mm}^\alpha &= \frac{n(n-1)(n^2 - n + qr - r)}{(n^2 - n - r + qr)^2 + p^2r^2} K^\alpha \\ h_{ij}^\alpha &= 0, \quad i \neq j \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (66)$$

By choosing an orthonormal basis such that e_{n+1} is in the direction of the mean curvature vector, we have

$$\left. \begin{aligned} h(e_1, e_1) = \dots = h(e_p, e_p) &= pr^2 f_1 e_{n+1}, \\ h(e_{p+1}, e_{p+1}) = \dots = h(e_{n-1}, e_{n-1}) &= (n^2 - n + qr - r)r f_1 e_{n+1}, \\ h(e_n, e_n) &= n(n-1)(n^2 - n + qr - r)f_1 e_{n+1}, \\ h(e_i, e_j) &= 0, \quad i \neq j \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (67)$$

where $f_1 = \frac{K^{n+1}}{(n^2 - n + qr - r)^2 + p^2r^2}$ is a function on M^n .

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Conflict of interest

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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