

# HOPF HYPERSURFACES IN COMPLEX TWO-PLANE GRASSMANNIANS WITH REEB PARALLEL SHAPE OPERATOR

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ABSTRACT. In this paper we consider a new notion of *Reeb parallel shape operator* for real hypersurfaces  $M$  in complex two-plane Grassmannians  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$ . When  $M$  has Reeb parallel shape operator and non-vanishing geodesic Reeb flow, it becomes a real hypersurface of Type (A) with exactly four distinct constant principal curvatures. Moreover, if  $M$  has vanishing geodesic Reeb flow and Reeb parallel shape operator, then  $M$  is model space of Type (A) with the radius  $r = \frac{\pi}{4\sqrt{2}}$ .

## INTRODUCTION

We denote by  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  the set of all complex two-dimensional linear subspaces in  $\mathbb{C}^{m+2}$ . This Riemannian symmetric space  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  has a remarkable geometric structure. It is the unique compact irreducible Riemannian manifold with both a Kähler structure  $J$  and a quaternionic Kähler structure  $\mathfrak{J}$  not containing  $J$ . Namely,  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  is a unique compact, irreducible, Kähler, quaternionic Kähler manifold which is not a hyper-Kähler manifold. Accordingly, in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  we have two natural geometric conditions for real hypersurfaces  $M$ : that the 1-dimensional distribution  $[\xi] = \text{Span}\{\xi\}$  and the 3-dimensional distribution  $\mathfrak{D}^\perp = \text{Span}\{\xi_1, \xi_2, \xi_3\}$  are invariant under the shape operator  $A$  of  $M$  (see [2], [3] and [4]).

The almost contact structure vector field  $\xi$  is defined by  $\xi = -JN$  and is said to be a *Reeb* vector field, where  $N$  denotes a local unit normal vector field of  $M$  in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$ . The *almost contact 3-structure* vector fields  $\{\xi_1, \xi_2, \xi_3\}$  for the 3-dimensional distribution  $\mathfrak{D}^\perp$  of  $M$  in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  are defined by  $\xi_\nu = -J_\nu N$  ( $\nu = 1, 2, 3$ ), where  $J_\nu$  denotes a canonical local basis of a quaternionic Kähler structure  $\mathfrak{J}$  and  $T_x M = \mathfrak{D} \oplus \mathfrak{D}^\perp$ ,  $x \in M$ .

By using two invariant conditions mentioned above and the result in Alekseevskii [1], Berndt and Suh [3] proved the following:

**Theorem A.** *Let  $M$  be a connected orientable real hypersurface in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$ ,  $m \geq 3$ . Then both  $[\xi]$  and  $\mathfrak{D}^\perp$  are invariant under the shape operator of  $M$  if and only if*

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- (A)  $M$  is an open part of a tube around a totally geodesic  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+1})$  in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$ ,  
or  
(B)  $m$  is even, say  $m = 2n$ , and  $M$  is an open part of a tube around a totally geodesic  $\mathbb{H}P^n$  in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$ .

Furthermore, the Reeb vector field  $\xi$  is said to be *Hopf* if it is invariant under the shape operator  $A$ . The one dimensional foliation of  $M$  by the integral manifolds of the Reeb vector field  $\xi$  is said to be a *Hopf foliation* of  $M$ . We say that  $M$  is a *Hopf hypersurface* in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  if and only if the Hopf foliation of  $M$  is totally geodesic. By the formulas in Section 2 it can be easily checked that  $M$  is Hopf if and only if the Reeb vector field  $\xi$  is Hopf. In particular,  $M$  is said to be a real hypersurface with *non-vanishing geodesic Reeb flow* in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  if it has a nonzero principal curvature for the Reeb vector field  $\xi$ , that is,  $A\xi = \alpha\xi$  where  $\alpha = g(A\xi, \xi) \neq 0$ .

Using Theorem A, many geometers have given characterizations for Hopf hypersurfaces in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  under certain assumption for various geometry quantities, for instance, shape operator, normal (or structure) Jacobi operator, structure tensor, and so on.

In [4], Berndt and Suh considered some equivalent conditions of isometric Reeb flow. Here the Reeb flow on  $M$  in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  is *isometric* means the Reeb vector field  $\xi$  on  $M$  is Killing. Using this notion, they gave a characterization of real hypersurfaces of Type (A) in Theorem A as follows:

**Theorem B.** *Let  $M$  be a connected orientable real hypersurface in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$ ,  $m \geq 3$ . Then the Reeb flow on  $M$  is isometric if and only if  $M$  is an open part of a tube around a totally geodesic  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+1})$  in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$ .*

Among the equivalent conditions of isometric Reeb flow in [4], it is very useful to our proof in Section 4 that the Reeb flow on  $M$  is isometric if and only if the shape operator  $A$  and the structure tensor field  $\phi$  commute with each other, that is,  $A\phi = \phi A$ .

Moreover, Lee and Suh [9] gave a characterization of real hypersurfaces of Type (B) in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  in terms of the Reeb vector field  $\xi$  as follows:

**Theorem C.** *Let  $M$  be a connected orientable Hopf hypersurface in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$ ,  $m \geq 3$ . Then the Reeb vector field  $\xi$  belongs to the distribution  $\mathfrak{D}$  if and only if  $M$  is locally congruent to an open part of a tube around a totally geodesic  $\mathbb{H}P^n$  in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$ ,  $m = 2n$ , where the distribution  $\mathfrak{D}$  denotes the orthogonal complement of  $\mathfrak{D}^\perp = \text{Span}\{\xi_1, \xi_2, \xi_3\}$ .*

In [11], Suh proved the non-existence of real hypersurfaces in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  with *parallel shape operator*, that is,  $(\nabla_X A)Y = 0$ , where  $X$  and  $Y$  are any tangent vector field on  $M$ . Moreover, he [12] also considered a new condition which is to restrict  $X$  to a distribution  $\mathfrak{F} = [\xi] \cup \mathfrak{D}^\perp$ , namely  *$\mathfrak{F}$ -parallel shape operator*, and gave two non-existence theorems to the following two cases of real hypersurfaces  $M$  in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  with  $\mathfrak{F}$ -parallel shape operator: One is when  $M$  is a Hopf hypersurface. Another is when  $M$  is a real hypersurface in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  satisfying  $\mathfrak{D}^\perp$ -invariance under the shape operator, that is,  $A\mathfrak{D}^\perp \subset \mathfrak{D}^\perp$ . As regards a weaker condition for a real hypersurface in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  with parallel shape operator, in [6] and [8] Kim, Yang and the first author considered *recurrent* and  *$\eta$ -parallel shape operator* and gave non-existence theorems of Hopf hypersurfaces in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  satisfying such weaker parallelism conditions, respectively.

Motivated by these notions, it is natural to consider a condition weaker than parallel shape operator for real hypersurfaces  $M$  in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$ . From such a point of view, the authors in [5] studied a generalized parallelness for the shape operator of  $M$  in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$ , namely,  $\eta$ -parallel shape operator of  $M$ . They defined the  $\eta$ -parallel shape operator of  $M$  in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  if the shape operator  $A$  of  $M$  satisfies  $g((\nabla_X A)Y, Z) = 0$  for any tangent vectors  $X, Y, Z \in \mathfrak{h}$ , where  $\mathfrak{h}$  denotes the set of all tangent vectors being orthogonal to the Reeb vector  $\xi$  in  $T_x M$ ,  $x \in M$ . From this definition, we see that it becomes a weaker condition than parallel shape operator.

Accordingly, we consider a new notion weaker than parallel shape operator, that is, *Reeb parallel shape operator* which is defined by

$$(*) \quad (\nabla_\xi A)Y = 0$$

for any tangent vector field  $Y$  on  $M$ .

In this paper, we give a classification of real hypersurfaces in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  with *Reeb parallel shape operator* as follows:

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $M$  be a connected orientable real hypersurface in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$ ,  $m \geq 3$ , with non-vanishing geodesic Reeb flow. Then the shape operator of  $M$  is Reeb parallel if and only if  $M$  is an open part of a tube of some radius  $r \in (0, \frac{\pi}{4\sqrt{2}}) \cup (\frac{\pi}{4\sqrt{2}}, \frac{\pi}{2\sqrt{2}})$  around a totally geodesic  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+1})$  in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$ .*

Actually, when the Reeb vector field  $\xi$  belongs to the distribution  $\mathfrak{D}^\perp$ , the shape operator  $A$  for a Hopf hypersurface  $M$  in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  with vanishing geodesic Reeb flow satisfies automatically the Reeb parallelness (see Section 5). Using this fact, we give:

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $M$  be a connected orientable real hypersurface in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$ ,  $m \geq 3$ , with Reeb parallel shape operator and vanishing geodesic Reeb flow. If the squared norm of the shape operator satisfies  $\text{Tr}A^2 = \|A\|^2 \leq 4m$ , then  $M$  is locally congruent to an open part of a tube of radius  $r = \frac{\pi}{4\sqrt{2}}$  around a totally geodesic  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+1})$  in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$ .*

In order to give the proof of our theorems, in Section 1 we recall Riemannian geometry of complex two-plane Grassmannians  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$ . In Section 2 some fundamental formulas including the Codazzi and Gauss equations for real hypersurfaces in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  will be also recalled. In Section 3 we will prove that the Reeb vector field  $\xi$  of a Hopf hypersurface in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  with Reeb parallel shape operator belongs to either the distribution  $\mathfrak{D}$  or the distribution  $\mathfrak{D}^\perp$ . And in the same section we will check whether real hypersurfaces of Type (A) or Type (B) in Theorem A satisfy the condition (\*) or not. In Section 4 we will give a complete proof of our Theorem 1 according to the non-vanishing geodesic Reeb flow. Finally we will give the proof of Theorem 2 in Section 5.

## 1. RIEMANNIAN GEOMETRY OF $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$

In this section we summarize basic material about  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$ , for details we refer to [2], [3], and [4]. By  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  we denote the set of all complex two-dimensional linear subspaces in  $\mathbb{C}^{m+2}$ . The special unitary group  $G = SU(m+2)$

acts transitively on  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  with stabilizer isomorphic to  $K = S(U(2) \times U(m)) \subset G$ . Then  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  can be identified with the homogeneous space  $G/K$ , which we equip with the unique analytic structure for which the natural action of  $G$  on  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  becomes analytic. Denote by  $\mathfrak{g}$  and  $\mathfrak{k}$  the Lie algebra of  $G$  and  $K$ , respectively, and by  $\mathfrak{m}$  the orthogonal complement of  $\mathfrak{k}$  in  $\mathfrak{g}$  with respect to the Cartan-Killing form  $B$  of  $\mathfrak{g}$ . Then  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{k} \oplus \mathfrak{m}$  is an  $Ad(K)$ -invariant reductive decomposition of  $\mathfrak{g}$ . We put  $o = eK$  and identify  $T_oG_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  with  $\mathfrak{m}$  in the usual manner. Since  $B$  is negative definite on  $\mathfrak{g}$ , its negative restricted to  $\mathfrak{m} \times \mathfrak{m}$  yields a positive definite inner product on  $\mathfrak{m}$ . By  $Ad(K)$ -invariance of  $B$  this inner product can be extended to a  $G$ -invariant Riemannian metric  $g$  on  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$ . In this way  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  becomes a Riemannian homogeneous space, even a Riemannian symmetric space. For computational reasons we normalize  $g$  such that the maximal sectional curvature of  $(G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2}), g)$  is eight.

When  $m = 1$ ,  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^3)$  is isometric to the two-dimensional complex projective space  $\mathbb{C}P^2$  with constant holomorphic sectional curvature eight.

When  $m = 2$ , we note that the isomorphism  $Spin(6) \simeq SU(4)$  yields an isometry between  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^4)$  and the real Grassmann manifold  $G_2^+(\mathbb{R}^6)$  of oriented two-dimensional linear subspaces in  $\mathbb{R}^6$ . In this paper, we will assume  $m \geq 3$ .

The Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{k}$  of  $K$  has the direct sum decomposition  $\mathfrak{k} = \mathfrak{su}(m) \oplus \mathfrak{su}(2) \oplus \mathfrak{R}$ , where  $\mathfrak{R}$  denotes the center of  $\mathfrak{k}$ . Viewing  $\mathfrak{k}$  as the holonomy algebra of  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$ , the center  $\mathfrak{R}$  induces a Kähler structure  $J$  and the  $\mathfrak{su}(2)$ -part a quaternionic Kähler structure  $\mathfrak{J}$  on  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$ . If  $J_\nu$  is any almost Hermitian structure in  $\mathfrak{J}$ , then  $JJ_\nu = J_\nu J$ , and  $JJ_\nu$  is a symmetric endomorphism with  $(JJ_\nu)^2 = I$  and  $\text{tr}(JJ_\nu) = 0$  for  $\nu = 1, 2, 3$ .

A canonical local basis  $\{J_1, J_2, J_3\}$  of  $\mathfrak{J}$  consists of three local almost Hermitian structures  $J_\nu$  in  $\mathfrak{J}$  such that  $J_\nu J_{\nu+1} = J_{\nu+2} = -J_{\nu+1} J_\nu$ , where the index  $\nu$  is taken modulo three. Since  $\mathfrak{J}$  is parallel with respect to the Riemannian connection  $\tilde{\nabla}$  of  $(G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2}), g)$ , there exist for any canonical local basis  $\{J_1, J_2, J_3\}$  of  $\mathfrak{J}$  three local one-forms  $q_1, q_2, q_3$  such that

$$(1.1) \quad \tilde{\nabla}_X J_\nu = q_{\nu+2}(X)J_{\nu+1} - q_{\nu+1}(X)J_{\nu+2}$$

for all vector fields  $X$  on  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$ .

The Riemannian curvature tensor  $\tilde{R}$  of  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  is locally given by

$$(1.2) \quad \begin{aligned} \tilde{R}(X, Y)Z &= g(Y, Z)X - g(X, Z)Y + g(JY, Z)JX \\ &\quad - g(JX, Z)JY - 2g(JX, Y)JZ \\ &\quad + \sum_{\nu=1}^3 \left\{ g(J_\nu Y, Z)J_\nu X - g(J_\nu X, Z)J_\nu Y - 2g(J_\nu X, Y)J_\nu Z \right\} \\ &\quad + \sum_{\nu=1}^3 \left\{ g(J_\nu JY, Z)J_\nu JX - g(J_\nu JX, Z)J_\nu JY \right\}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\{J_1, J_2, J_3\}$  denotes a canonical local basis of  $\mathfrak{J}$ .

## 2. SOME FUNDAMENTAL FORMULAS

In this section we derive some basic formulas and the Codazzi equation for a real hypersurface in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  (see [9], [10], [11], [12] and [7]).

Let  $M$  be a real hypersurface of  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$ , that is, a submanifold of  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  with real codimension one. The induced Riemannian metric on  $M$  will also be denoted by  $g$ , and  $\nabla$  denotes the Riemannian connection of  $(M, g)$ . Let  $N$  be a local unit normal vector field of  $M$  and  $A$  the shape operator of  $M$  with respect to  $N$ .

Now let us put

$$(2.1) \quad JX = \phi X + \eta(X)N, \quad J_\nu X = \phi_\nu X + \eta_\nu(X)N$$

for any tangent vector field  $X$  of a real hypersurface  $M$  in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$ , where  $N$  denotes a unit normal vector field of  $M$  in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$ . From the Kähler structure  $J$  of  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  there exists an almost contact metric structure  $(\phi, \xi, \eta, g)$  induced on  $M$  in such a way that

$$(2.2) \quad \phi^2 X = -X + \eta(X)\xi, \quad \eta(\xi) = 1, \quad \phi\xi = 0, \quad \eta(X) = g(X, \xi)$$

for any vector field  $X$  on  $M$ . Furthermore, let  $\{J_1, J_2, J_3\}$  be a canonical local basis of  $\mathfrak{J}$ . Then the quaternionic Kähler structure  $J_\nu$  of  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$ , together with the condition  $J_\nu J_{\nu+1} = J_{\nu+2} = -J_{\nu+1} J_\nu$  in section 1, induces an almost contact metric 3-structure  $(\phi_\nu, \xi_\nu, \eta_\nu, g)$  on  $M$  as follows:

$$(2.3) \quad \begin{aligned} \phi_\nu^2 X &= -X + \eta_\nu(X)\xi_\nu, & \eta_\nu(\xi_\nu) &= 1, & \phi_\nu \xi_\nu &= 0, \\ \phi_{\nu+1} \xi_\nu &= -\xi_{\nu+2}, & \phi_\nu \xi_{\nu+1} &= \xi_{\nu+2}, \\ \phi_\nu \phi_{\nu+1} X &= \phi_{\nu+2} X + \eta_{\nu+1}(X)\xi_\nu, \\ \phi_{\nu+1} \phi_\nu X &= -\phi_{\nu+2} X + \eta_\nu(X)\xi_{\nu+1} \end{aligned}$$

for any vector field  $X$  tangent to  $M$ . Moreover, from the commuting property of  $J_\nu J = J J_\nu$ ,  $\nu = 1, 2, 3$  in section 1 and (2.1), the relation between these two contact metric structures  $(\phi, \xi, \eta, g)$  and  $(\phi_\nu, \xi_\nu, \eta_\nu, g)$ ,  $\nu = 1, 2, 3$ , can be given by

$$(2.4) \quad \begin{aligned} \phi \phi_\nu X &= \phi_\nu \phi X + \eta_\nu(X)\xi - \eta(X)\xi_\nu, \\ \eta_\nu(\phi X) &= \eta(\phi_\nu X), & \phi \xi_\nu &= \phi_\nu \xi. \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, from the parallelism of Kähler structure  $J$ , that is,  $\tilde{\nabla} J = 0$  and the quaternionic Kähler structure  $\mathfrak{J}$  (see (1.1)), together with Gauss and Weingarten formulas it follows that

$$(2.5) \quad (\nabla_X \phi)Y = \eta(Y)AX - g(AX, Y)\xi, \quad \nabla_X \xi = \phi AX,$$

$$(2.6) \quad \nabla_X \xi_\nu = q_{\nu+2}(X)\xi_{\nu+1} - q_{\nu+1}(X)\xi_{\nu+2} + \phi_\nu AX,$$

$$(2.7) \quad \begin{aligned} (\nabla_X \phi_\nu)Y &= -q_{\nu+1}(X)\phi_{\nu+2}Y + q_{\nu+2}(X)\phi_{\nu+1}Y + \eta_\nu(Y)AX \\ &\quad - g(AX, Y)\xi_\nu. \end{aligned}$$

Combining these formulas, we find the following:

$$\begin{aligned}
(2.8) \quad \nabla_X(\phi_\nu \xi) &= \nabla_X(\phi \xi_\nu) \\
&= (\nabla_X \phi) \xi_\nu + \phi (\nabla_X \xi_\nu) \\
&= q_{\nu+2}(X) \phi_{\nu+1} \xi - q_{\nu+1}(X) \phi_{\nu+2} \xi + \phi_\nu \phi AX \\
&\quad - g(AX, \xi) \xi_\nu + \eta(\xi_\nu) AX.
\end{aligned}$$

Using the above expression (1.2) for the curvature tensor  $\tilde{R}$  of  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$ , the equations of Codazzi and Gauss are respectively given by

$$\begin{aligned}
(2.9) \quad (\nabla_X A)Y - (\nabla_Y A)X &= \eta(X)\phi Y - \eta(Y)\phi X - 2g(\phi X, Y)\xi \\
&\quad + \sum_{\nu=1}^3 \left\{ \eta_\nu(X)\phi_\nu Y - \eta_\nu(Y)\phi_\nu X - 2g(\phi_\nu X, Y)\xi_\nu \right\} \\
&\quad + \sum_{\nu=1}^3 \left\{ \eta_\nu(\phi X)\phi_\nu \phi Y - \eta_\nu(\phi Y)\phi_\nu \phi X \right\} \\
&\quad + \sum_{\nu=1}^3 \left\{ \eta(X)\eta_\nu(\phi Y) - \eta(Y)\eta_\nu(\phi X) \right\} \xi_\nu
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
(2.10) \quad R(X, Y)Z &= g(Y, Z)X - g(X, Z)Y \\
&\quad + g(\phi Y, Z)\phi X - g(\phi X, Z)\phi Y - 2g(\phi X, Y)\phi Z \\
&\quad + \sum_{\nu=1}^3 \left\{ g(\phi_\nu Y, Z)\phi_\nu X - g(\phi_\nu X, Z)\phi_\nu Y - 2g(\phi_\nu X, Y)\phi_\nu Z \right\} \\
&\quad + \sum_{\nu=1}^3 \left\{ g(\phi_\nu \phi Y, Z)\phi_\nu \phi X - g(\phi_\nu \phi X, Z)\phi_\nu \phi Y \right\} \\
&\quad - \sum_{\nu=1}^3 \left\{ \eta(Y)\eta_\nu(Z)\phi_\nu \phi X - \eta(X)\eta_\nu(Z)\phi_\nu \phi Y \right\} \\
&\quad - \sum_{\nu=1}^3 \left\{ \eta(X)g(\phi_\nu \phi Y, Z) - \eta(Y)g(\phi_\nu \phi X, Z) \right\} \xi_\nu \\
&\quad + g(AY, Z)AX - g(AX, Z)AY,
\end{aligned}$$

where  $R$  denotes the curvature tensor of a real hypersurface  $M$  in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$ .

### 3. HOPF HYPERSURFACES IN $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$ WITH REEB PARALLEL SHAPE OPERATOR

From now on, we assume that  $M$  is a Hopf hypersurface in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  with Reeb parallel shape operator, that is, the shape operator  $A$  of  $M$  satisfies:

$$(*) \quad (\nabla_\xi A)Y = 0$$

for any tangent vector field  $Y$  on  $M$ .

Then from the equation of Codazzi (2.9), we have

$$(\nabla_\xi A)Y = (\nabla_Y A)\xi + \phi Y + \sum_{\nu=1}^3 \{ \eta_\nu(\xi)\phi_\nu Y - \eta_\nu(Y)\phi_\nu \xi + 3\eta_\nu(\phi Y)\xi_\nu \}$$

for any tangent vector field  $Y$  on  $M$ .

Since  $(\nabla_Y A)\xi = (Y\alpha)\xi + \alpha\phi AY - A\phi AY$ , the condition (\*) can be written as

$$(3.1) \quad \begin{aligned} & (Y\alpha)\xi + \alpha\phi AY - A\phi AY + \phi Y \\ & + \sum_{\nu=1}^3 \{ \eta_\nu(\xi)\phi_\nu Y - \eta_\nu(Y)\phi_\nu \xi + 3\eta_\nu(\phi Y)\xi_\nu \} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

for any tangent vector field  $Y$  on  $M$ .

Substituting  $Y = \xi$  in above equation, we have  $(\xi\alpha)\xi = 0$ . From this, we obtain the following result:

**Lemma 3.1.** *Let  $M$  be a Hopf hypersurface in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$ ,  $m \geq 3$ , with Reeb parallel shape operator. Then the principal curvature  $\alpha$  is constant along the direction of  $\xi$ , that is,  $\xi\alpha = 0$ .*

In this section, our main purpose is to show that the Reeb vector field  $\xi$  belongs to either the distribution  $\mathfrak{D}$  or the orthogonal complement  $\mathfrak{D}^\perp$  such that  $T_x M = \mathfrak{D} \oplus \mathfrak{D}^\perp$  for any point  $x \in M$ .

To show this fact, unless otherwise stated in this section, we consider that the Reeb vector field  $\xi$  satisfies

$$(**) \quad \xi = \eta(X_0)X_0 + \eta(\xi_1)\xi_1$$

for some unit vectors  $X_0 \in \mathfrak{D}$  and  $\xi_1 \in \mathfrak{D}^\perp$  and  $\eta(X_0)\eta(\xi_1) \neq 0$ .

**Remark 3.2.** Under this situation, in [7] the authors proved that  $\mathfrak{D}$  and  $\mathfrak{D}^\perp$ -components of the Reeb vector field  $\xi$  are invariant under the shape operator when a Hopf hypersurface in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  satisfies the condition  $\xi\alpha = 0$ .

On the other hand, using the notion of the geodesic Reeb flow, Berndt and Suh ([3], [4]) proved the following:

**Lemma A.** *If  $M$  is a connected orientable real hypersurface in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  with geodesic Reeb flow, then we have the following two equations:*

$$(3.2) \quad Y\alpha = (\xi\alpha)\eta(Y) - 4 \sum_{\nu=1}^3 \eta_\nu(\xi)\eta_\nu(\phi Y),$$

and

$$(3.3) \quad \begin{aligned} \alpha A\phi Y + \alpha\phi AY - 2A\phi AY + 2\phi Y = & 2 \sum_{\nu=1}^3 \left\{ -\eta_\nu(Y)\phi\xi_\nu - \eta_\nu(\phi Y)\xi_\nu \right. \\ & \left. - \eta_\nu(\xi)\phi_\nu Y + 2\eta(Y)\eta_\nu(\xi)\phi\xi_\nu + 2\eta_\nu(\phi Y)\eta_\nu(\xi)\xi \right\} \end{aligned}$$

for any tangent vector field  $Y$  on  $M$ .

**Remark 3.3.** Assume that the  $\mathfrak{D}$ -component of  $\xi$  is invariant under the shape operator  $A$ , that is,  $AX_0 = \alpha X_0$ . By putting  $Y = X_0$  in (3.3) and using the fact  $\phi X_0 = -\eta(\xi_1)\phi_1 X_0$  which is induced by  $\phi\xi = 0$ , we see that

$$(3.4) \quad \alpha A\phi X_0 = (\alpha^2 + 4\eta^2(X_0))\phi X_0.$$

Now, using these facts, we prove the following proposition:

**Proposition 3.4.** *Let  $M$  be a real hypersurface in complex two-plane Grassmannians  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$ ,  $m \geq 3$  with Reeb parallel shape operator. Then the Reeb vector field  $\xi$  belongs to either the distribution  $\mathfrak{D}$  or the distribution  $\mathfrak{D}^\perp$ .*

*Proof.* Under our assumption,  $M$  is a Hopf hypersurface with Reeb parallel shape operator, we see that  $\xi\alpha = 0$  (Lemma 3.1). Moreover, we know that  $\mathfrak{D}$  and  $\mathfrak{D}^\perp$ -components of the Reeb vector field  $\xi$  are invariant under the shape operator  $A$  of  $M$ , that is,  $A\xi_1 = \alpha\xi_1$  and  $AX_0 = \alpha X_0$  (see Remark 3.2).

Actually, when the smooth function  $\alpha = g(A\xi, \xi)$  identically vanishes, this proposition can be verified directly from (3.2).

Thus, in this proof we consider only the case that the function  $\alpha$  is non-vanishing. In order to prove our proposition, we put  $Y = X_0$  in (3.1). It follows

$$(X_0\alpha)\xi + \alpha\phi AX_0 - A\phi AX_0 + \phi X_0 + \sum_{\nu=1}^3 \{\eta_\nu(\xi)\phi_\nu X_0 + 3\eta_\nu(\phi X_0)\xi_\nu\} = 0.$$

Since  $\phi X_0 \in \mathfrak{D}$  and  $AX_0 = \alpha X_0$ , it becomes

$$(X_0\alpha)\xi + \alpha^2\phi X_0 - \alpha A\phi X_0 + \phi X_0 + \sum_{\nu=1}^3 \eta_\nu(\xi)\phi_\nu X_0 = 0.$$

Moreover, using (\*\*), we have

$$\eta(X_0)(X_0\alpha)X_0 + \eta(\xi_1)(X_0\alpha)\xi_1 + \alpha^2\phi X_0 - \alpha A\phi X_0 + \phi X_0 + \eta(\xi_1)\phi_1 X_0 = 0.$$

From (3.4), we obtain

$$\eta(X_0)(X_0\alpha)X_0 + \eta(\xi_1)(X_0\alpha)\xi_1 - 4\eta^2(X_0)\phi X_0 + \phi X_0 + \eta(\xi_1)\phi_1 X_0 = 0.$$

Using  $\phi\xi = 0$  and (\*\*), we see that  $\phi X_0 = -\eta(\xi_1)\phi_1 X_0$ . It implies that

$$(3.5) \quad \eta(X_0)(X_0\alpha)X_0 + \eta(\xi_1)(X_0\alpha)\xi_1 + 4\eta^2(X_0)\eta(\xi_1)\phi_1 X_0 = 0.$$

Taking the inner product with  $\phi_1 X_0$  in (3.5), we get  $4\eta^2(X_0)\eta(\xi_1) = 0$ . It contradicts our assumption  $\eta(X_0)\eta(\xi_1) \neq 0$ . Accordingly, we get a complete proof of our Proposition 3.4.  $\square$

Before giving the proofs of our Theorems in the introduction, let us check whether the shape operator  $A$  of real hypersurfaces of Type (A) and of Type (B) in Theorem A satisfies the condition (\*) or not for any tangent vector field  $Y \in TM$ .

First let us check our problem for the case that  $M$  is locally congruent to a real hypersurface of Type (A), that is, an open part of a tube around a totally geodesic  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+1})$  in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  with some radius  $r \in (0, \frac{\pi}{2\sqrt{2}})$ . In order to do this, we recall a proposition due to Berndt and Suh [3] as follows:

**Proposition A.** *Let  $M$  be a connected real hypersurface of  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$ . Suppose that  $A\mathfrak{D} \subset \mathfrak{D}$ ,  $A\xi = \alpha\xi$ , and  $\xi$  is tangent to  $\mathfrak{D}^\perp$ . Let  $J_1 \in \mathfrak{J}$  be the almost Hermitian structure such that  $JN = J_1N$ . Then  $M$  has three (if  $r = \pi/2\sqrt{8}$ ) or four (otherwise) distinct constant principal curvatures*

$$\alpha = \sqrt{8} \cot(\sqrt{8}r), \quad \beta = \sqrt{2} \cot(\sqrt{2}r), \quad \lambda = -\sqrt{2} \tan(\sqrt{2}r), \quad \mu = 0$$

with some  $r \in (0, \pi/\sqrt{8})$ . The corresponding multiplicities are

$$m(\alpha) = 1, \quad m(\beta) = 2, \quad m(\lambda) = 2m - 2 = m(\mu),$$

and the corresponding eigenspaces are

$$T_\alpha = \mathbb{R}\xi = \mathbb{R}JN = \mathbb{R}\xi_1 = \text{Span}\{\xi\} = \text{Span}\{\xi_1\},$$

$$T_\beta = \mathbb{C}^\perp\xi = \mathbb{C}^\perp N = \mathbb{R}\xi_2 \oplus \mathbb{R}\xi_3 = \text{Span}\{\xi_2, \xi_3\},$$

$$T_\lambda = \{X \mid X \perp \mathbb{H}\xi, JX = J_1X\},$$

$$T_\mu = \{X \mid X \perp \mathbb{H}\xi, JX = -J_1X\}$$

where  $\mathbb{R}\xi$ ,  $\mathbb{C}\xi$  and  $\mathbb{H}\xi$  respectively denotes real, complex and quaternionic span of the structure vector field  $\xi$  and  $\mathbb{C}^\perp\xi$  denotes the orthogonal complement of  $\mathbb{C}\xi$  in  $\mathbb{H}\xi$ .

For our convenience, let  $M_A$  be a real hypersurface of Type (A) in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$ . By using the equation of Codazzi (2.9) and the fact that the principal curvature  $\alpha$  of  $\xi$  is a constant, we have the following equation.

$$(3.6) \quad (\nabla_\xi A)Y = \alpha\phi AY - A\phi AY + \phi Y + \phi_1 Y + 2\eta_3(Y)\xi_2 - 2\eta_2(Y)\xi_3$$

for any tangent vector field  $Y$  on  $M$ .

From now on, using (3.6), let us check whether each eigenspace,  $T_\alpha$ ,  $T_\beta$ ,  $T_\lambda$ , and  $T_\mu$  of  $M_A$  in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  has Reeb parallel shape operator or not.

**Case A-1:**  $Y = \xi (= \xi_1) \in T_\alpha$ .

By putting  $Y = \xi$  into (3.6), we know that the shape operator  $A$  becomes *Reeb parallel*, that is,  $(\nabla_\xi A)\xi = 0$ .

**Case A-2:**  $Y \in T_\beta$  where  $T_\beta = \text{Span}\{\xi_2, \xi_3\}$ .

Since  $T_\beta$  is spanned by  $\xi_2$  and  $\xi_3$ , we put  $Y = \xi_2$  and  $Y = \xi_3$  in (3.6). Then we have

$$(\nabla_\xi A)\xi_2 = (\beta^2 - \alpha\beta - 2)\xi_3,$$

and

$$(\nabla_\xi A)\xi_3 = -(\beta^2 - \alpha\beta - 2)\xi_2,$$

respectively. On the other hand, we know that

$$\beta^2 - \alpha\beta - 2 = 0,$$

because  $\alpha = \sqrt{8} \cot(\sqrt{8}r)$  and  $\beta = \sqrt{2} \cot(\sqrt{2}r)$  in Proposition A. So we conclude that the shape operator of  $M_A$  also satisfies  $(\nabla_\xi A)Y = 0$  for any eigenvector  $Y \in T_\beta$ .

**Case A-3:**  $Y \in T_\lambda = \{Y \mid Y \in \mathfrak{D}, JY = J_1Y\}$ .

We naturally see that if  $Y \in T_\lambda$  then  $\phi Y = \phi_1 Y$ . Moreover, the vector  $\phi Y$  also belong to the eigenspace  $T_\lambda$  for any  $Y \in T_\lambda$ , that is,  $\phi T_\lambda \subset T_\lambda$ . Putting  $Y \in T_\lambda$  in (3.6) and together with these facts, we obtain

$$(\nabla_\xi A)Y = -(\lambda^2 - \alpha\lambda - 2)\phi Y.$$

But in Proposition A, since the principal curvatures  $\alpha$  and  $\lambda$  are given by  $\alpha = \sqrt{8} \cot(\sqrt{8}r)$  and  $\lambda = -\sqrt{2} \tan(\sqrt{2}r)$  for  $r \in (0, \pi/\sqrt{8})$ , respectively, we get

$$\lambda^2 - \alpha\lambda - 2 = 0.$$

It implies that  $(\nabla_{\xi}A)Y = 0$  for any tangent vector field  $Y \in T_{\lambda}$ .

**Case A-4:**  $Y \in T_{\mu} = \{Y \mid Y \in \mathfrak{D}, JY = -J_1Y\}$ .

In this case, if  $Y \in T_{\mu}$  then  $\phi Y = -\phi_1 Y$ . Moreover, we see  $\phi T_{\mu} \subset T_{\mu}$ . So, the equation (3.6) is reduced to  $(\nabla_{\xi}A)X = 0$ , because  $\mu = 0$ .

Summing up all cases mentioned above, we can assert that:

**Remark 3.5.** The shape operator  $A$  of real hypersurfaces of Type (A) in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  is *Reeb parallel*.

Next, let us check whether the shape operator  $A$  of real hypersurfaces of Type (B) satisfies the condition (\*) for any tangent vector field  $Y \in TM$ . From now on, we will denote such real hypersurfaces by  $M_B$  for the sake of convenience. As is well known,  $M_B$  has five distinct constant principal curvatures as follows [3]:

**Proposition B.** *Let  $M$  be a connected real hypersurface of  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$ . Suppose that  $A\mathfrak{D} \subset \mathfrak{D}$ ,  $A\xi = \alpha\xi$ , and  $\xi$  is tangent to  $\mathfrak{D}$ . Then the quaternionic dimension  $m$  of  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  is even, say  $m = 2n$ , and  $M$  has five distinct constant principal curvatures*

$$\alpha = -2 \tan(2r), \quad \beta = 2 \cot(2r), \quad \gamma = 0, \quad \lambda = \cot(r), \quad \mu = -\tan(r)$$

with some  $r \in (0, \pi/4)$ . The corresponding multiplicities are

$$m(\alpha) = 1, \quad m(\beta) = 3 = m(\gamma), \quad m(\lambda) = 4n - 4 = m(\mu)$$

and the corresponding eigenspaces are

$$\begin{aligned} T_{\alpha} &= \mathbb{R}\xi = \text{Span}\{\xi\}, \\ T_{\beta} &= \mathfrak{J}J\xi = \text{Span}\{\xi_{\nu} \mid \nu = 1, 2, 3\}, \\ T_{\gamma} &= \mathfrak{J}\xi = \text{Span}\{\phi_{\nu}\xi \mid \nu = 1, 2, 3\}, \\ T_{\lambda}, \quad T_{\mu}, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$T_{\lambda} \oplus T_{\mu} = (\mathbb{H}\mathbb{C}\xi)^{\perp}, \quad \mathfrak{J}T_{\lambda} = T_{\lambda}, \quad \mathfrak{J}T_{\mu} = T_{\mu}, \quad JT_{\lambda} = T_{\mu}.$$

The distribution  $(\mathbb{H}\mathbb{C}\xi)^{\perp}$  is the orthogonal complement of  $\mathbb{H}\mathbb{C}\xi$  where

$$\mathbb{H}\mathbb{C}\xi = \mathbb{R}\xi \oplus \mathbb{R}J\xi \oplus \mathfrak{J}\xi \oplus \mathfrak{J}J\xi.$$

Now, to prove the claim, we suppose that  $M_B$  has Reeb parallel shape operator. Then, since  $\xi \in \mathfrak{D}$ ,  $M_B$  satisfies the following equation:

$$\alpha\phi AY - A\phi AY + \phi Y - \sum_{\nu=1}^3 \{\eta_{\nu}(Y)\phi_{\nu}\xi - 3\eta_{\nu}(\phi Y)\xi_{\nu}\} = 0, \quad \forall Y \in TM,$$

from (3.1).

If we put  $Y = \xi_2 \in T_{\beta}$  in above equation, it becomes

$$\alpha\beta\phi\xi_2 = 0$$

because  $A\phi_2\xi = \gamma\phi_2\xi$  and  $\gamma = 0$ . From this, it follows that

$$\alpha\beta = 0.$$

But, from Proposition B, we see that  $\alpha\beta = -4$  for some  $r \in (0, \pi/4)$ . This is a contradiction. So this case can not occur.

Therefore we also have the following:

**Remark 3.6.** The shape operator  $A$  of real hypersurfaces of Type (B) in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  does not satisfy the *Reeb parallel* condition (\*).

#### 4. THE PROOF OF THEOREM 1

In this section, let  $M$  be a real hypersurface in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  with Reeb parallel shape operator and non-vanishing geodesic Reeb flow.

In [4] Berndt and Suh proved that

**Lemma B.** *Let  $M$  be a connected orientable real hypersurface in Kähler manifolds. Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (a) *The Reeb flow on  $M$  is geodesic;*
- (b) *The Reeb vector field  $\xi$  is a principal curvature vector of  $M$  everywhere;*
- (c) *The maximal complex subbundle  $\mathfrak{B}$  of  $TM$  is invariant under the shape operator  $A$  of  $M$ .*

From this we see that a real hypersurface  $M$  satisfying our condition becomes Hopf, since our real hypersurface  $M$  has non-vanishing geodesic Reeb flow. Thus by Proposition 3.4 we consider the following two cases:

- **Case I:** the Reeb vector field  $\xi$  belongs to the distribution  $\mathfrak{D}^\perp$ ,
- **Case II:** the Reeb vector field  $\xi$  belongs to the distribution  $\mathfrak{D}$ .

First of all, let us consider the Case I, that is,  $\xi \in \mathfrak{D}^\perp$ . Accordingly, we may put  $\xi = \xi_1$ . Under these assumptions, we prove the following:

**Proposition 4.1.** *Let  $M$  be a real hypersurface in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$ ,  $m \geq 3$ , with Reeb parallel shape operator and non-vanishing geodesic Reeb flow. If the Reeb vector field  $\xi$  belongs to the distribution  $\mathfrak{D}^\perp$ , then the shape operator  $A$  commutes with the structure tensor field  $\phi$ .*

*Proof.* From our assumptions, the equation (3.1) can be written as

$$(Y\alpha)\xi + \alpha\phi AY - A\phi AY + \phi Y + \phi_1 Y + 2\eta_3(Y)\xi_2 - 2\eta_2(Y)\xi_3 = 0$$

for any tangent vector field  $Y$  on  $M$ . It follows that

$$2A\phi AY = 2(Y\alpha)\xi + 2\alpha\phi AY + 2\phi Y + 2\phi_1 Y + 4\eta_3(Y)\xi_2 - 4\eta_2(Y)\xi_3.$$

On the other hand, from (3.3) we also obtain

$$2A\phi AY = \alpha A\phi Y + \alpha\phi AY + 2\phi Y + 2\phi_1 Y + 4\eta_3(Y)\xi_2 - 4\eta_2(Y)\xi_3.$$

Thus from the preceding two equations, we have finally

$$(4.1) \quad 2(Y\alpha)\xi + \alpha\phi AY - \alpha A\phi Y = 0$$

for any tangent vector field  $Y$  on  $M$ .

But, under our assumptions, we have already seen that  $\xi\alpha = 0$  (see Lemma 3.1). From this fact, the equation (3.2) can be written as

$$Y\alpha = -4 \sum_{\nu=1}^3 \eta_{\nu}(\xi)\eta_{\nu}(\phi Y)$$

for any  $Y \in TM$ . Therefore since  $\xi = \xi_1$ , it follows that  $Y\alpha = 0$ . Substituting this result into (4.1), it follows that

$$\alpha(\phi A - A\phi)Y = 0$$

for any tangent vector field  $Y$  on  $M$ . It means that the shape operator  $A$  commutes with the structure tensor field  $\phi$  on  $M$  in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$ , since  $M$  has non-vanishing geodesic Reeb flow. It completes the proof of our Proposition 4.1.  $\square$

**Remark 4.2.** As mentioned in the introduction, the structure tensor field  $\phi$  and the shape operator  $A$  of  $M$  commute with each other if and only if the Reeb flow on  $M$  is isometric (see [4]).

Therefore from Theorem B and Remark 3.5, we have the following:

**Theorem 4.3.** *Let  $M$  be a connected real hypersurface in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$ ,  $m \geq 3$  with non-vanishing geodesic Reeb flow. The shape operator  $A$  of  $M$  is Reeb parallel and the Reeb vector field  $\xi$  belongs to the distribution  $\mathfrak{D}^{\perp}$  if and only if  $M$  is locally congruent to an open part of a tube around radius  $r$  on a totally geodesic  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+1})$  in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  where  $r \in (0, \frac{\pi}{4\sqrt{2}}) \cup (\frac{\pi}{4\sqrt{2}}, \frac{\pi}{2\sqrt{2}})$ .*

Next we consider the case  $\xi \in \mathfrak{D}$ . By Theorem C, we see that  $M$  is locally congruent to a real hypersurface of Type (B) under our assumptions. But as mentioned in Section 3, a real hypersurface of Type (B) does not have Reeb parallel shape operator (see Remark 3.6). From these facts, we obtain the following theorem:

**Theorem 4.4.** *There does not exist any real hypersurface in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$ ,  $m \geq 3$ , with Reeb parallel shape operator and non-vanishing geodesic Reeb flow when the Reeb vector field  $\xi$  belongs to the distribution  $\mathfrak{D}$ .*

Combining Proposition 3.4, and Theorems 4.3 and 4.4, this completes the proof of our Theorem 1 in the introduction.  $\square$

## 5. THE PROOF OF THEOREM 2

From now on, let  $M$  be a real hypersurface in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$ ,  $m \geq 3$ , with Reeb parallel shape operator and vanishing geodesic Reeb flow. By virtue of Lemma B given in the previous section,  $M$  must be Hopf, that is,  $A\xi = \alpha\xi$  where  $\alpha = g(A\xi, \xi) = 0$ . Then by Proposition 3.4 we consider the following two cases:

- **Case I:** the Reeb vector field  $\xi$  belongs to the distribution  $\mathfrak{D}^{\perp}$ ,
- **Case II:** the Reeb vector field  $\xi$  belongs to the distribution  $\mathfrak{D}$ .

By virtue of Theorem C and Proposition B, we assert that *when the Reeb vector field  $\xi$  belongs to the distribution  $\mathfrak{D}$ , there does not exist any real hypersurface in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$ ,  $m \geq 3$ , with Reeb parallel shape operator and vanishing geodesic Reeb*

flow. In fact, a real hypersurface of Type (B) in Theorem A due to Berndt and Suh [3] does not have vanishing geodesic Reeb flow (see Proposition B in section 3).

From such a point of view, from now on we only consider the Case I, that is,  $\xi \in \mathfrak{D}^\perp$ . Accordingly, we may put  $\xi = \xi_1$ . Under these assumptions, we prove the following:

**Proposition 5.1.** *Let  $M$  be a real hypersurface in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$ ,  $m \geq 3$ , with Reeb parallel shape operator and vanishing geodesic Reeb flow. If the Reeb vector field  $\xi$  belongs to the distribution  $\mathfrak{D}^\perp$  and the squared norm of the shape operator satisfies  $\|A\|^2 \leq 4m$ , then the Reeb flow on  $M$  is isometric.*

*Proof.* Since  $M$  has vanishing geodesic Reeb flow, that is,  $A\xi = 0$ , we obtain

$$(\nabla_X A)\xi = -A\phi AX$$

for any tangent vector field  $X$  on  $M$ . Using the equation of Codazzi (2.9), we get

$$(\nabla_X A)\xi = -\phi X - \phi_1 X - 2\eta_3(X)\xi_2 + 2\eta_2(X)\xi_3$$

together with our assumptions that  $M$  has Reeb parallel shape operator and  $\xi = \xi_1$  (since we now consider the case  $\xi \in \mathfrak{D}^\perp$ , we may put  $\xi = \xi_1$ ). Hence the above two equations give us

$$(5.1) \quad A\phi AX = \phi X + \phi_1 X + 2\eta_3(X)\xi_2 - 2\eta_2(X)\xi_3$$

for any vector field  $X \in TM$ .

Moreover, applying the structure tensor  $\phi$  to the equation (5.1), it can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} \phi A\phi AX &= \phi^2 X + \phi\phi_1 X + 2\eta_3(X)\phi\xi_2 - 2\eta_2(X)\phi\xi_3 \\ &= -X + \eta(X)\xi + \phi\phi_1 X - 2\eta_3(X)\xi_3 - 2\eta_2(X)\xi_2 \end{aligned}$$

for any tangent vector field  $X$  on  $M$ .

Let  $\{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_{4m-1}\}$  be an orthonormal basis for  $T_x M$  where  $x$  is any point of  $M$ . Then we get

$$(5.2) \quad \phi A\phi Ae_i = -e_i + \eta(e_i)\xi + \phi\phi_1 e_i - 2\eta_3(e_i)\xi_3 - 2\eta_2(e_i)\xi_2$$

for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 4m - 1$ . From this, we calculate the trace of the matrix  $\phi A\phi A$ , that is,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Tr}(\phi A\phi A) &= \sum_{i=1}^{4m-1} g(\phi A\phi Ae_i, e_i) \\ &= - \sum_{i=1}^{4m-1} g(e_i, e_i) + \sum_{i=1}^{4m-1} \eta(e_i)g(\xi, e_i) + \sum_{i=1}^{4m-1} g(\phi\phi_1 e_i, e_i) \\ &\quad - 2 \sum_{i=1}^{4m-1} \eta_3(e_i)g(\xi_3, e_i) - 2 \sum_{i=1}^{4m-1} \eta_2(e_i)g(\xi_2, e_i) \\ &= -(4m - 1) + g(\xi, \xi) + \text{Tr}(\phi\phi_1) - 2g(\xi_3, \xi_3) - 2g(\xi_2, \xi_2) \\ &= -4m, \end{aligned} \tag{5.3}$$

together with  $\text{Tr}(\phi\phi_\nu) = 2\eta_\nu(\xi)$ ,  $\nu = 1, 2, 3$  (see [13]).

On the other hand, we are able to calculate the following:

$$\begin{aligned}
\|\phi A - A\phi\|^2 &= \sum_{i=1}^{4m-1} g((\phi A - A\phi)e_i, (\phi A - A\phi)e_i) \\
&= - \sum_{i=1}^{4m-1} g(A\phi^2 A e_i, e_i) + \sum_{i=1}^{4m-1} g(\phi A \phi A e_i, e_i) \\
&\quad + \sum_{i=1}^{4m-1} g(A\phi A \phi e_i, e_i) - \sum_{i=1}^{4m-1} g(\phi A^2 \phi e_i, e_i) \\
(5.4) \quad &= \sum_{i=1}^{4m-1} g(A^2 e_i, e_i) - \sum_{i=1}^{4m-1} \eta(A e_i) g(A \xi, e_i) \\
&\quad + 2 \sum_{i=1}^{4m-1} g(A\phi A \phi e_i, e_i) - \sum_{i=1}^{4m-1} g(\phi A^2 \phi e_i, e_i) \\
&= \text{Tr} A^2 + 2\text{Tr}(A\phi A\phi) - \text{Tr}(\phi A^2 \phi) \\
&= \text{Tr} A^2 + 2\text{Tr}(\phi A \phi A) - \text{Tr}(A^2 \phi^2) \\
&= 2\text{Tr} A^2 + 2\text{Tr}(\phi A \phi A),
\end{aligned}$$

using the facts,  $A\xi = 0$  and  $\text{Tr}(AB) = \text{Tr}(BA)$  for any two matrices  $A, B$  with same size.

From this, together with (5.3) and our assumption for the squared norm of shape operator  $A$  of  $M$ , the left side of (5.4) should vanish for a real hypersurface  $M$  in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  with  $\alpha = 0$  and  $\nabla_\xi A = 0$ . This gives that the shape operator  $A$  commutes with the structure tensor  $\phi$ , that is,  $A\phi = \phi A$ . According to the result due to Berndt and Suh [4], the Reeb flow on  $M$  becomes isometric. It completes a proof of our proposition.  $\square$

Hence from Theorem B we can assert that *if a real hypersurface  $M$  in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  satisfies the conditions in Proposition 5.1, then  $M$  becomes a model space of Type (A) in Theorem A.* To serve the convenience of notation, a model space of Type (A) with radius  $r$  is denoted by  $M_A$  or  $M_A(r)$ . From this let us now check if the model space  $M_A$  satisfies the assumptions in Proposition 5.1 or not.

First, we can state that  $M_A$  has Reeb parallel shape operator from the observation given in section 3. Moreover, we see that a model space  $M_A$  becomes an open part of a tube around a totally geodesic  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+1})$  in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  with radius  $r = \frac{\pi}{4\sqrt{2}}$ , because the principal curvature  $\alpha$  of  $\xi$  on  $M_A$  must be zero. From this and Proposition A in section 3, we have the following three distinct principal curvatures and the corresponding multiplicities with respect to the eigenspaces of  $M_A(\frac{\pi}{4\sqrt{2}})$ :

principal curvature	multiplicity	eigenspace
$\alpha = 0$	1	$T_\alpha = \text{Span}\{\xi\}$
$\beta = \sqrt{2}$	2	$T_\beta = \text{Span}\{\xi_2, \xi_3\}$
$\lambda = -\sqrt{2}$	$2(m-1)$	$T_\lambda = \{X \mid X \perp \mathbb{H}\xi, JX = J_1 X\}$
$\mu = 0$	$2(m-1)$	$T_\mu = \{X \mid X \perp \mathbb{H}\xi, JX = -J_1 X\}$

By this table and a straightforward calculation we have the squared norm of the shape operator  $A$  on  $M_A(\frac{\pi}{4\sqrt{2}})$  as follows.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \|A^2\| &= \sum_{i=1}^{4m-1} g(Ae_i, Ae_i) \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^{2m-2} g(Ae_i, Ae_i) + \sum_{i=2m-1}^{4m-4} g(Ae_i, Ae_i) + g(Ae_{4m-3}, Ae_{4m-3}) \\
 &\quad + g(Ae_{4m-2}, Ae_{4m-2}) + g(Ae_{4m-1}, Ae_{4m-1}) \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^{2m-2} \lambda^2 g(e_i, e_i) + \sum_{i=2m-1}^{4m-4} \mu^2 g(e_i, e_i) + g(A\xi, A\xi) \\
 &\quad + g(A\xi_2, A\xi_2) + g(A\xi_3, A\xi_3) \\
 &= 2(m-1)\lambda^2 + 2(m-1)\mu^2 + \alpha^2 + 2\beta^2 \\
 &= 4(m-1) + 4 \\
 &= 4m,
 \end{aligned}$$

where  $e_1, e_2, \dots, e_{2m-2} \in T_\lambda$ ,  $e_{2m-1}, \dots, e_{4m-4} \in T_\mu$ ,  $e_{4m-3} = \xi = \xi_1$ ,  $e_{4m-2} = \xi_2$ ,  $e_{4m-1} = \xi_3$ . From this calculation, we see that  $M_A(\frac{\pi}{4\sqrt{2}})$  also satisfies our assumption in Proposition 5.1.

Summing up these discussions we obtain our Theorem 2 mentioned in the introduction.  $\square$

Lastly, we will give a proof for our assertion given in the introduction as follows.

**Lemma 5.2.** *Let  $M$  be a real hypersurface in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$ ,  $m \geq 3$ , with vanishing geodesic Reeb flow. If the Reeb vector field  $\xi$  belongs to the distribution  $\mathfrak{D}^\perp$ , then the shape operator  $A$  of  $M$  is Reeb parallel.*

*Proof.* Using the equation of Codazzi (2.9), we obtain that

$$(\nabla_\xi A)Y - (\nabla_Y A)\xi = \phi Y + \sum_{\nu=1}^3 \{ \eta_\nu(\xi)\phi_\nu Y - \eta_\nu(Y)\phi_\nu \xi + 3\eta_\nu(\phi Y)\xi_\nu \}$$

for any tangent vector field  $Y$  on  $M$ .

From our assumptions,  $A\xi = 0$  and  $\xi = \xi_1$ , we have

$$(5.5) \quad (\nabla_\xi A)Y + A\phi AY = \phi Y + \phi_1 Y + 2\eta_2(Y)\xi_2 - 2\eta_3(Y)\xi_3.$$

Moreover, since  $M$  is Hopf, the equation (3.3) implies that

$$(5.6) \quad A\phi AY = \phi Y + \phi_1 Y + 2\eta_2(Y)\xi_2 - 2\eta_3(Y)\xi_3,$$

together with  $\alpha = 0$  and  $\xi = \xi_1$ .

From above two equations, (5.5) and (5.6), we get  $(\nabla_\xi A)Y = 0$  for any tangent vector field  $Y$  on  $M$ . That is, a real hypersurface  $M$  in  $G_2(\mathbb{C}^{m+2})$  with vanishing geodesic Reeb flow, that is,  $\alpha = g(A\xi, \xi) = 0$  and  $\xi \in \mathfrak{D}^\perp$  has automatically Reeb parallel shape operator.  $\square$

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