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# Cartan-Kähler Theory and Applicationsto Local Isometric and Conformal Embedding

Nabil Kahouadji

#### Abstract

The goal of this lecture is to give a brief introduction to Cartan-Kähler's theory. As examples to the application of this theory, we choose the local isometric and conformal embedding. We provide lots of details and explanations of the calculation and the tools used<sup>1</sup>.

# **1** Cartan's Structure Equations

Let  $\xi = (E, \pi, M)$  be a vector bundle. Denote  $(\mathfrak{X}(M), [,])$  the Lie algebra of vector fields on M and  $\Gamma(E)$  the moduli space of cross-sections of the vector bundle E.

## 1.1 Connection on a vector bundle

A connection on a vector bundle E is a choice of complement of vertical vector fields on E. A connection induces a covariant differential operator  $\nabla$  on E. A covariant derivative  $\nabla$  on a vector bundle E is a way to "differentiate" bundle sections along tangent vectors and it is sometimes called a connection.

**Definition 1.1.1.** A connection on a vector bundle E is an linear operator defined as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla: \mathfrak{X}(M) \times \Gamma(E) & \longrightarrow \Gamma(E) \\ (X,S) & \longmapsto \nabla_X S \end{aligned}$$

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>See the Master Thesis [7] on which the lecture is based

satisfying

$$\nabla_{(X_1+X_2)}S = \nabla_{X_1}S + \nabla_{X_2}S, \qquad \nabla_{(fX)}S = f\nabla_XS$$
$$\nabla_X(S_1+S_2) = \nabla_XS_1 + \nabla_XS_2, \qquad \nabla_X(fS) = X(f)S + f\nabla_XS$$

 $\forall X, X_1, X_2, Y, Y_1, Y_2 \in \mathfrak{X}(M) \text{ and } \forall S, S_1, S_2 \in \Gamma(E).$ 

## 1.1.1 Curvature of a Connection

**Definition 1.1.2.** The curvature of a connection  $\nabla$  is a vector valued 2-form

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{R}: \mathfrak{X}(M) \times \mathfrak{X}(M) \times \Gamma(E) &\longrightarrow \Gamma(E) \\ X, Y, S &\longmapsto \mathcal{R}(X, Y)S \end{aligned}$$

defined by  $\mathcal{R}(X,Y)S = \left( [\nabla_X, \nabla_Y] - \nabla_{[X,Y]} \right)S$ 

**Theorem 1.1.** For any f, g and h smooth functions on  $M, S \in \Gamma(E)$  a section of  $\xi$  and  $X, Y \in \mathfrak{X}(M)$  two tangent vector fields of M, we have

$$\mathcal{R}(fX,gY)(hS) = fgh\mathcal{R}(X,Y)S \tag{1}$$

#### **1.1.2** Connection and Curvature Forms

Let  $\xi = (E, \pi, M)$  be a vector bundle over a smooth manifold M with an r-dimensional vector space E as a standard fiber. Let  $\nabla$  be a connection on  $\xi$  and  $\mathcal{R}$  its curvature. We deonte by  $\mathcal{U}$  an open set of M.

**Definition 1.1.3.** A set of r local sections  $S = (S_1, S_2, ..., S_r)$  of  $\xi$  is called a frame field (or a moving frame) if  $\forall p \in \mathcal{U}$ ,  $S(p) = (S_1(p), S_2(p), ..., S_r(p))$ form a basis of the fiber  $E_p$  over p.

Let  $S = (S_1, S_2, \ldots, S_r)$  be a frame field,  $\nabla$  a connection on  $\xi$  and  $X \in \mathfrak{X}(M)$  a tangent vector field on M. Then  $\nabla_X S_j$  is another section of  $\xi$  and it can be expressed in the frame field S as follows:

$$\nabla_X S_j = \sum_{i=1}^r \omega_{ij}(X) S_i \tag{2}$$

where  $\omega_{ij} \in \mathcal{A}^1(M)$  are differential 1-forms<sup>2</sup> on M and  $\omega_{ij}(X)$  are smooth functions on M.

 $<sup>{}^{2}\</sup>mathcal{A}^{k}(M)$  denote the set of differential k-form on M (we choose this notation instead of the standard notation  $\Omega^{k}(M)$  to not mix with the curvature form.

**Definition 1.1.4.** The  $r \times r$  matrix  $\omega = (\omega_{ij})$  is called the connection 1-form of  $\nabla$ .

The connection  $\nabla$  is completely determined by the matrix  $\omega = (\omega_{ij})$ . Conversely, a matrix of differential 1-forms on M determines a connection (in a non-invariant way depending on the choice of the moving frame).

Let  $X, Y \in \mathfrak{X}(M)$  two tangent vector fields. Then  $\mathcal{R}(X, Y)S_j$  are sections of  $\xi$ , and can be expressed on the frame field S as follows:

$$\mathcal{R}(X,Y)S_j = \sum_{i=1}^r \Omega_{ij}(X,Y)S_i \tag{3}$$

where  $\Omega_{ij} \in \mathcal{A}^2(M)$  are differential 2-forms on M and  $\Omega_{ij}(X, Y)$  are smooth functions on M.

**Definition 1.1.5.** The  $r \times rmatrix \Omega = (\Omega_{ij})$  whoose entries are differential 2-forms, is called the curvature 2-form of the connection  $\nabla$ .

We state the following theorem<sup>3</sup> that gives the relation between the connection 1-form  $\omega$  and the curvature 2-form  $\Omega$ .

#### Theorem 1.2.

$$d\omega + \omega \wedge \omega = \Omega \quad (matrix form) \tag{4}$$

or

$$d\omega_{ij} + \sum_{k=1}^{m} \omega_{ik} \wedge \omega_{kj} = \Omega_{ij} \quad (on \ components) \tag{5}$$

## 1.2 The Induced Connection

Let  $\xi = (E, \pi, M)$  and  $\xi' = (E', \pi', M)$  be two vector bundles on M. Consider a map  $f : M \longrightarrow M$  and denote  $\tilde{f} : E \longrightarrow E'$  the associated bundle map i.e.  $(f, \tilde{f})$  satisfies the following commutative diagramme:



 $<sup>^{3}\</sup>mathrm{In}$  the tangent bundle case, this theorem gives Cartan's second equation, as we will see later.

If  $\nabla'$  is a connection on E', the vector bundle morphism induces a pull-back connection on E

$$\nabla = \tilde{f}^* \nabla' \tag{6}$$

such that for any  $S' \in \Gamma(E')$  and  $X \in \mathfrak{X}(M), \nabla_X(\tilde{f}^*S') = (\tilde{f}^*\nabla')_X(\tilde{f}^*S') = \tilde{f}^*(\nabla_{f_*X}S')$  where  $f_{*,p} : T_pM \longrightarrow T_{f(p)}M$  is the linear tangent map.

We can also induce a connection on  $\xi$  by another way. The connection  $\nabla'$  is completely determined by the matrix of differential 1-forms  $\omega' = (\omega'_{ij})$ , and we define  $\nabla$  by the matrix  $\omega$  whose entries  $\omega_{ij}$  are the pull-back of  $\omega'_{ij}$  by  $\tilde{f}$ , i.e.  $\omega = \tilde{f}^* \omega'$ .

The pull back commute with the exterior differentiation and with the exterior product<sup>4</sup>, so, the curvature 2-form  $\Omega$  of  $\nabla$  is the pull back of the curvature 2-form of  $\nabla'$ , i.e.  $\Omega = \tilde{f}^* \Omega'$ .

#### **1.3** Metric Connection

Let  $\xi = (E, \pi, M)$  be a vector bundle. We denote by  $\nabla$  a connection on  $\xi$  determined by a matrix of 1-forms  $\omega$ . Let  $\Omega$  be the associated curvature 2-form and g a Riemannian metric on  $\xi$  (i.e. a positively-defined scalar product on each fiber).

**Definition 1.3.1.**  $\nabla$  is a connection on  $\xi$  compatible with the metric g (or a metric connection) if  $\nabla$  satisfies to the following property (Leibniz's identity):

$$\nabla_X \Big( g(S_1, S_2) \Big) = g(\nabla_X S_1, S_2) + g(S_1 \nabla_X S_2)$$
  
$$\forall S_1, S_2 \in \Gamma(E), \text{ and } \forall X \in \mathfrak{X}(M)$$
(7)

**Proposition 1.3.1.** Let  $S = (S_1, S_2, \ldots, S_n)$  be an orthonormal frame field with respect to g, i.e.  $g_p(S_i, S_j) = \delta_{ij}$  for all  $p \in \mathcal{U}$ ,  $i, j = 1, \ldots, r$ , then the matrix of 1-forms  $\omega$  associated to S and the curvature matrix of 2-form are both skew-symmetric.

 $<sup>^{4}</sup>d(f^{*}\alpha) = f^{*}(d\alpha) \text{ and } f^{*}(\alpha \wedge \beta) = f^{*}(\alpha) \wedge f^{*}(\beta) \text{ for all } \alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{A}(M).$ 

## 1.4 Tangent Bundle Case

#### 1.4.1 Torsion of a Connexion on a Tangent Bundle

Let us consider now, a local frame field  $S = (S_1, \ldots, S_m)$  over  $\mathcal{U} \subset M$  where  $S_i \in \mathfrak{X}(\mathcal{U})$  are local tangent vectors fields (i.e. local sections of the tangent bundle such that for all  $p \in \mathcal{U}, (S_1(p), \ldots, S_m(p))$  forms a basis of the tangent vector space of M).

**Definition 1.4.1.** If S is a local orthonormal frame field, the associated coframe field  $\eta = (\eta_1, \ldots, \eta_m)$  is a local frame field of 1-forms, such that for all  $p \in \mathcal{U}, \eta_i(p)(S_j) = \delta_{ij}$ .

We define then a differential 2-form  $\Theta$  as follows:

$$d\eta + \omega \wedge \eta = \Theta \tag{8}$$

**Definition 1.4.2.**  $\Theta$  is called the torsion 2-form of  $\nabla$ .

**Proposition 1.4.1.** On a tangent bundle, the four forms  $\eta, \omega, \Theta$  and  $\Omega$  are connected by the following equations

$$d\Theta + \omega \wedge \Theta = \Omega \wedge \eta \tag{9}$$

and

$$d\Omega = \Omega \wedge \omega - \omega \wedge \Omega \tag{10}$$

The equation (10) is the expression of the Bianchi identity via the connection 1-form and the curvature 2-form. Equation (10) is also valid on a arbitrary vector bundle.

#### 1.4.2 Cartan's Structure Equations

Let (M, g) be an *m*-dimensional Riemannian manifold. Let  $\eta = (\eta_1, \eta_2, \ldots, \eta_m)$ an orthonormed coframe field on M ( $\eta_j \in \mathcal{A}^1(M)$ ). According to equations (8), (5) and the proposition 1.3.1, we establish the Cartan structure equations:

$$\begin{cases} d\eta_i + \sum_{j=1}^m \omega_{ij} \wedge \eta_j = 0 \quad \text{(torsion-free)} \\ d\omega_{ij} + \sum_{k=1}^m \omega_{ik} \wedge \omega_{kj} = \Omega_{ij} \end{cases}$$
(11)

where the matrix  $(\omega_{ij})$  is the Lévi-Civita connection 1-form (free torsion connection which is compatible with the riemannian metric g). Because  $\eta$  is an orthonormed coframe field,  $(\omega_{ij})$  is skew-symmetric (proposition 1.3.1.).  $(\Omega_{ij})$  is the curvature 2-form matrix of the riemannian connection  $(\Omega_{ij} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{l, l=1}^{m} \mathcal{R}_{ijkl} \eta_k \wedge \eta_l)$ .

## 1.5 The Cartan Lemma

We end this section with a technical lemma, which is easy to establish and at the same time rich applications . This lemma will not only be useful for isometric embedding problem, but also for many calculus in differential geometry.

**Lemma 1.5.1.** Let M be an m-dimensional manifold.  $\omega_1, \omega_2, \ldots, \omega_r$  a set of linearly independent differential 1-forms  $(r \leq n)$  and  $\theta_1, \theta_2, \ldots, \theta_r$  differential 1-forms such that

$$\sum_{i=1}^{r} \theta_i \wedge \omega_i = 0 \tag{12}$$

then there exists  $r^2$  functions  $h_{ij}$  in  $\mathcal{C}^1(M)$  such that

$$\theta_i = \sum_{j=1}^r h_{ij}\omega_j \quad \text{with } h_{ij} = h_{ji}.$$
(13)

# 2 Exterior Differential Systems and Ideals

## 2.1 Exterior Differential Systems

Denote  $\mathcal{A}(M)$  the space of smooth differential forms<sup>5</sup> on M.

**Definition 2.1.1.** An exterior differential system is a finite set of differential forms  $I = \{\omega_1, \omega_2, \ldots, \omega_k\} \subset \mathcal{A}(M)$  for which there is a set of equations  $\{\omega_i = 0 | \omega_i \in I\}.$ 

such that one can write the exterior differential system as follow:

$$\begin{cases} \omega_1 = 0\\ \omega_2 = 0\\ \vdots\\ \omega_k = 0 \end{cases}$$

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>This is a graded algebra under the wedge product.

**Definition 2.1.2.** An exterior differential system  $I \subset \mathcal{A}(M)$  is said to be *Pffafian if I contains only differential 1-forms, i.e.*  $I \subset \mathcal{A}^1(M)$ .

## 2.2 Exterior Ideals

**Definition 2.2.1.** Let  $\mathcal{I} \subset \mathcal{A}(M)$  a set of differentiable forms.  $\mathcal{I}$  is an exterior ideal if:

- 1. The exterior product of any differential form of  $\mathcal{I}$  by a differential form of  $\mathcal{A}(M)$  belong to  $\mathcal{I}$ .
- 2. The sum of any two differential forms of the same degree belonging to  $\mathcal{I}$ , belong also to  $\mathcal{I}$ .

**Definition 2.2.2.** Let  $I \subset \mathcal{A}(M)$  an exterior differential system. The exterior ideal generated by I is the smallest exterior ideal containing I.

## 2.3 Exterior Differential Ideals

**Definition 2.3.1.** Let  $\mathcal{I} \subset \mathcal{A}(M)$  a set of differential forms.  $\mathcal{I}$  is an exterior differential ideal if  $\mathcal{I}$  is an exterior ideal closed under the exterior differentiation, i.e.  $\forall \omega \in \mathcal{I}, d\omega \in \mathcal{I}$  (we can also write  $d\mathcal{I} \subset \mathcal{I}$ ).

**Definition 2.3.2.** Let  $I \subset \mathcal{A}(M)$  an exterior differential system. The exterior differential ideal generated by I is the smallest exterior differential ideal containing I.

## 2.4 Closed Exterior Differential Systems

**Definition 2.4.1.** An exterior differential system  $I \subset \mathcal{A}(M)$  is said closed if the exterior differentiation of any form of I, belong to the exterior ideal generated by I.

**Proposition 2.4.1.** An exterior differential system I is closed if and only if the exterior differential ideal generated by I is equal to the exterior ideal generated by I. In particular,  $I \cup dI$  is closed.

## 2.5 Solutions of an Exterior Differential System

**Definition 2.5.1.** Let  $I \subset \mathcal{A}(M)$  be an exterior differential system and N a sub-manifold of M. N is an integral manifold of I if  $i^*\omega = 0, \forall \omega \in I$ , where i is an embedding  $i : N \longrightarrow M$ .

# 3 Introduction to Cartan-Kähler Theory

We consider in this section, an *m*-dimensional real manifold M and  $\mathcal{I} \subset \mathcal{A}(M)$ an exterior differential ideal on M.

## **3.1** Integral Elements

**Definition 3.1.1.** Let  $z \in M$  and  $E \subset T_z M$  a linear subspace of  $T_z M$ . E is an integral element of  $\mathcal{I}$  if  $\varphi_E = 0$  for all  $\varphi \in \mathcal{I}$ . We denote by  $\mathcal{V}_p(\mathcal{I})$  the set of p-dimensional integral elements of  $\mathcal{I}$ .

**Definition 3.1.2.** N is an integral manifold of  $\mathcal{I}$  if and only if each tangent space of N is an integral element of  $\mathcal{I}$ .

**Proposition 3.1.1.** If E is a p-dimensional integral element of  $\mathcal{I}$ , then every subspace of E are also integral elements of  $\mathcal{I}$ .

We denote by  $\mathcal{I}_p = \mathcal{I} \cap \mathcal{A}^p(M)$  the set of differential *p*-forms of  $\mathcal{I}$ .

**Proposition 3.1.2.**  $\mathcal{V}_p(\mathcal{I}) = \{E \in G_p(TM) | \varphi_E = 0 \text{ for all } \varphi \in \mathcal{I}_p\}$ 

**Definition 3.1.3.** Let E an integral element of  $\mathcal{I}$ . Let  $\{e_1, e_2, \ldots, e_p\}$  a basis of  $E \subset T_z M$ . The polar space of E, denoted by H(E), is the vector space defined as follow:

$$H(E) = \{ v \in T_z M | \varphi(v, e_1, e_2, \dots, e_p) = 0 \text{ for all } \varphi \in \mathcal{I}_{p+1} \}.$$
(14)

Notice that  $E \subset H(E)$ . This implies that a differential form is alternate. The polar space plays an important role in exterior differential system theory as we shall see in the following proposition.

**Proposition 3.1.3.** Let  $E \in \mathcal{V}_p(\mathcal{I})$  be an p-dimensional integral element of  $\mathcal{I}$ . A (p+1)-dimensional vector space  $E^+ \subset T_z M$  which contains E is an integral element of  $\mathcal{I}$  if and only if  $E^+ \subset H(E)$ .

In order to check if a given *p*-dimensional integral element of an exterior differential ideal  $\mathcal{I}$  is contained in a (p+1)-dimensional integral element of  $\mathcal{I}$ , we introduce the following function  $r: \mathcal{V}_p(\mathcal{I}) \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}, r(E) = dim H(E) - (p+1)$  is a relative integer,  $\forall E \in \mathcal{V}_p(\mathcal{I})$ .

Notice that  $r(E) \ge 1$ . If r(E) = -1, then E is contained in any (p+1)-dimensional integral element of  $\mathcal{I}$ .

#### 3.1.1 Kähler-Ordinary and Kähler-Regular Integral Elements

Let  $\Delta$  a differential *n*-form on a *m*-dimensional manifold *M*. Let<sup>6</sup>  $G_n(TM, \Delta) = \{E \in G_n(TM) | \Delta_E \neq 0\}$ . We denote by  $\mathcal{V}_n(\mathcal{I}, \Delta) = \mathcal{V}_n(\mathcal{I}) \cap G_n(TM, \Delta)$  the set of integral elements of  $\mathcal{I}$  on which  $\Delta_E \neq 0$ .

**Definition 3.1.4.** An integral element  $E \in \mathcal{V}_n(\mathcal{I})$  is called Kähler-ordinary if there exists a differential n-form  $\Delta$  such that  $\Delta_E \neq 0$ . Moreover, if the function r is locally constant in some neighborhood of E, then E is said Kähler-regular.

#### 3.1.2 Integral Flags, Ordinary and Regular Integral Elements

**Definition 3.1.5.** An integral flag of  $\mathcal{I}$  on  $z \in M$  of length n is a sequence of integral elements  $E_k$  of  $\mathcal{I}$ :  $(0)_z \subset E_1 \subset E_2 \subset \cdots \subset E_n \subset T_z M$ .

**Definition 3.1.6.** Let I be an exterior differential system on M. An integral element  $E \in \mathcal{V}(I)$  is said ordinary if its base point  $z \in M$  is an ordinary zero of  $I_0 = I \cap \mathcal{A}^0(M)$  and if there exists an integral flag  $(0)_z \subset E_1 \subset E_2 \subset \cdots \subset E_n = E \subset T_z M$  where the  $E_k$ ,  $k = 1, \ldots, (n-1)$  are Kähler-regular integral elements. Moreover, if E is Kähler-regular, then E is said regular.

#### 3.2 Cartan's Test

#### Theorem 3.1. (Cartan's test)

Let  $\mathcal{I} \subset \mathcal{A}^*(M)$  be an exterior ideal which does not contain 0-forms (functions on M). Let  $(0)_z \subset E_1 \subset E_2 \subset \cdots \subset E_n \subset T_z M$  be an integral flag of  $\mathcal{I}$ . For any k < n, we denote by  $c_k$  the codimension of the polar space  $H(E_k)$  in  $T_z M$ . Then  $\mathcal{V}_n(\mathcal{I}) \subset G_n(TM)$  is at least of  $c_0 + c_1 + \cdots + c_{n-1}$  codimension at  $E_n$ . Moreover,  $E_n$  is an ordinary integral flag if and only if  $E_n$  has a neighborhood Uin  $G_n(TM)$  such that  $\mathcal{V}_n(\mathcal{I}) \cap U$  is a manifold of  $c_0 + c_1 + \cdots + c_{n-1}$  codimension in U.

*Proof.* See [1], page 74.

**Proposition 3.2.1.** Let  $\mathcal{I} \cap \mathcal{A}^*(M)$  an exterior ideal which do not contains 0-forms. Let  $E \in \mathcal{V}_n(\mathcal{I})$  be an integral element of  $\mathcal{I}$  at the point  $z \in M$ . Let  $\omega_1, \omega_2, \ldots, \omega_n, \pi_1, \pi_2, \ldots, \pi_s$  (where  $s = \dim M - n$ ) be a coframe in a open neighborhood of  $z \in M$  such that  $E = \{v \in T_z M / \pi_a(v) = 0 \text{ for all } a = 1, \ldots s\}$ . For all  $p \leq n$ , we define  $E_p = \{v \in E | \omega_k(v) = 0 \text{ for all } k > p\}$ . Let  $\{\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \ldots, \varphi_r\}$  be the set of differential forms which generate the exterior

 $<sup>{}^{6}</sup>G_{n}(TM)$  is the Grassmanian of TM, i.e. the set of *n*-dimensional subspace of TM.

ideal  $\mathcal{I}$ , where  $\varphi_{\rho}$  is of  $(d_{\rho} + 1)$  degree. For all  $\rho$ , there exists an expansion

$$\varphi_{\rho} = \sum_{|J|=d_{\rho}} \pi_{\rho}^{J} \wedge \omega_{J} + \tilde{\varphi}_{\rho}$$
(15)

where the 1-forms  $\pi_{\rho}^{J}$  are linear combinations of the forms  $\pi$  and the terms  $\tilde{\varphi}_{\rho}$  are, either of degree 2 or more on  $\pi$ , or vanish at z. moreover, we have

$$H(E_p) = \{ v \in T_z M | \pi_\rho^J(v) = 0 \text{ for all } \rho \text{ and } \sup J \le p \}$$
(16)

In particular, for the integral flag  $(0)_z \subset E_1 \subset E_2 \subset \cdots \subset E_n \cap T_z M$  de  $\mathcal{I}$ ,  $c_p$  correspond to the number of linear independent forms  $\{\pi_{\rho}^J|_z \text{ such that } \sup J \leq p\}$ .

*Proof.* See [1], page 80.

## 3.3 Cartan-Kähler's Theorem

The following theorem is a generalization of the well-known Frobenius's theorem.

#### Theorem 3.2. (Cartan-Kähler)

Let  $\mathcal{I} \subset \mathcal{A}^*(M)$  be a real analytic exterior differential ideal. Let  $P \subset M$  a p-dimensional connected real analytic Kähler-Regular integral manifold of  $\mathcal{I}$ . Suppose that  $r = r(P) \ge 0$ . Let  $R \subset M$  be a real analytic submanifold of M of codimension r which contains P and such that  $T_xR$  and  $H(T_xP)$  are transversals in  $T_xM$  for all  $x \in P \subset M$ .

There exists a (p + 1)-dimensional connected real analytic integral manifold X of  $\mathcal{I}$ , such that  $P \subset X \subset R$ . X is unique in the sense that another integral manifold of  $\mathcal{I}$  having the stated properties, coincides with X on a open neighborhood of P.

*Proof.* See [1], page 82.

The analicity condition of the exterior differential ideal is crucial because of the requirements in the Cauchy-Kowalewski theorem used in the proof of the Cartan-Kähler theorem.

Cartan-Kähler's theorem has an important corollary. Actually, this corollary is often more used than the theorem and it is sometimes called *the Cartan-Kähler theorem*.

#### Corollary 3.3.1. (Cartan-Kähler)

Let  $\mathcal{I}$  be an analytic exterior differential ideal on a manifold M. If  $E \subset T_z M$  is an ordinary integral element of  $\mathcal{I}$ , there exists an integral manifold of  $\mathcal{I}$  passing through z and having E as a tangent space at the point z.

# 4 Local Isometric Embedding Problem

We shall state and prove the Burstin-Cartan-Janet-Schlaefli's theorem concerning local isometric embedding of a real analytic Riemannian manifold. The names of the mathematicians are given in alphabetic order. Schlaefli in his paper in 1871 [8] conjectured that an *m*-dimensional Riemannian manifold can always be, locally, embedded in an  $N = \frac{1}{2}m(m+1)$  dimensional Euclidean space. In 1926, Janet [6] proved the result for the dimension 2 by resolving a differential system and explain how we get the result in the general case. In 1927, Élie Cartan [3] gave the complete proof of the result. His method is based on his theory of involutive Pfaffian system. Later in 1931, Burstin [2] generalized Janet's method and obtained the result in the general case.

The proof that we shall give is inspired by Cartan'paper [3], the Bryant, Chern, Gardner, Goldscmidt et Griffiths's book [1] and the Griffiths et Jensen's book [4].

#### 4.1 The Burstin-Cartan-Janet-Schlaefli theorem

**Theorem 4.1.** (Burstin 1931-Cartan 1927-Janet 1926-Schlaefli 1871) Every m-dimensional real analytic Riemannian manifold can be locally embedded isometrically in an  $\frac{m(m+1)}{2}$ -dimensional Euclidean space.

## 4.2 Proof of Burstin-Cartan-Janet-Schlaefli's theorem

#### Steps of the proof of theorem 4.1.

- 1. We shall write down the Cartan structure equations for an m-dimensional real analytic Riemannian manifold M.
- 2. We shall define a subbundle  $\mathcal{F}_m(\mathbb{E}^N)$  of the bundle  $\mathcal{F}(\mathbb{E}^N)$  of the Euclidean space  $\mathbb{E}^N$ , then shall write down the Cartan structure equations for the subbundle  $\mathcal{F}_m(\mathbb{E}^N)$ .
- 3. Given an exterior differential system  $I_0$  on  $M \times \mathcal{F}_m(\mathbb{E}^N)$ , which is not close, we shall prove Claim 4.2.2, which proves that the existence of a

local isometric embedding of M is the existence of an m-dimensional integral manifold of  $I_0$ .

- 4. We will extend this differential system to obtain a closed one. In the process of extension, we will get new equations (the Gauss equation (equ. 29)). We will also show that a closed exterior differential system  $\tilde{I}$  with fewer 1-forms than I, will generate the same differential ideal that the one generated by I if the Gauss's equation is satisfied.
- 5. We establish the lemma 4.2.1., that ensure that the Gauss equations is a surjective submersion. We shall obtain a submanifold with a known dimension.
- 6. Given the closed exterior differential ideal,, we shall prove the existence of an ordinary integral element by using claim 3.2.1 and the Cartan test. Finally, the Cartan-Kahler theorem ensure then the existence of an integral manifold and lead us to conclude..

## Step 1:

Let (M, g) be an *m*-dimensional real analytic Riemannian manifold, where g is a Riemannian metric, i.e. a covariant symmetric positive defined 2-tensor, such that at a given point p of M,  $g_p$  in a orthonormed basis reduce to the identity matrix. However in a open neighborhood of p, the matrix of g can not always be the identity but it can always be reduced to diagonal matrix:

$$g = g_{11}dx^1 \otimes dx^1 + g_{22}dx^2 \otimes dx^2 + \dots + g_{mm}dx^m \otimes dx^m$$
(17)

where the terms  $g_{ii}$  are positive functions such that  $g_{ii} = 1$  at p. We denote than  $\eta_i = \sqrt{g_{ii}} dx^i$ . g can be written as follows:

$$g = \eta_1 \otimes \eta_1 + \eta_2 \otimes \eta_2 + \dots + \eta_m \otimes \eta_m \tag{18}$$

 $\eta = (\eta_1, \eta_2, \dots, \eta_m)$  is than a orthonormal coframe in the neighborhood of  $p \in M$ . We can establish the Cartan's structure equations:

Cartan's structure equations on M:

$$\begin{cases} d\eta_i + \sum_{\substack{j=1\\m}}^m \eta_{ij} \wedge \eta_j = 0 \quad (\text{ torsion-free }) \\ d\eta_{ij} + \sum_{k=1}^m \eta_{ik} \wedge \eta_{kj} = \Omega_{ij} \end{cases}$$
(19)

where  $(\eta_{ij})$  is the matrix of 1-form of the Lévi-Civita's connection on M (a torsion-free connection compatible with the metric g).  $\Omega_{ij}$  is the curvature 2-form of the connection.

## **Step 2:**

Let  $\mathbb{E}^N$  be an *N*-dimensional Euclidean space (for the moment, N > m) endowed with the usual scalar product  $\varepsilon_N$ . Let us consider  $\mathcal{F}(\mathbb{E}^N)$  a positivelyoriented orthonormal frame bundle on  $\mathbb{E}^N$ . In what follows, we will not work on the entire bundle  $\mathcal{F}(\mathbb{E}^N)$ , but on a quotient. An element in  $\mathcal{F}_m(\mathbb{E}^N)$  has the form  $(x; e_1, e_2, \ldots, e_m)$ , where  $x \in \mathbb{E}^N$  and  $(e_1, e_2, \ldots, e_m)$  is a positivelyoriented orthonormal set of vectors in  $\mathbb{E}^N$ . We can consider  $\mathcal{F}_m(\mathbb{E}^N)$  as follows: among all the positively-oriented orthonormal frames of  $\mathcal{F}(\mathbb{E}^N)$ , we take the frames such that the first *m* elements form a positively-oriented orthonormal set of vectors, then we take the *m* first vectors of theses frames. So,  $\mathcal{F}_m(\mathbb{E}^N)$ is diffeomorphic to  $\mathbb{E}^N \times \frac{SO(N)}{SO(N-m)}$ .

## Proposition 4.2.1.

$$dim\mathcal{F}_m(\mathbb{E}^N) = N(m+1) - \frac{m(m+1)}{2}$$
(20)

We define on  $\mathcal{F}(\mathbb{E}^N)$  a set of 1-forms as follows<sup>7</sup>:

$$\omega_{\mu} = e_{\mu}dx \quad \text{and} \quad \omega_{\mu\nu} = e_{\mu}de_{\nu} = -e_{\nu}de_{\mu} = -\omega_{\nu\mu} \tag{21}$$

So  $(\omega_1, \omega_2, \ldots, \omega_m, \omega_{m+1}, \ldots, \omega_N)$  form an orthonormal coframe of  $\mathcal{F}(\mathbb{E}^N)$ . Than the Cartan structure equations on  $\mathcal{F}_m(\mathbb{E}^N)$  are:

$$\begin{cases} d\omega_{\mu} + \sum_{\nu=1}^{N} \omega_{\mu\nu} \wedge \omega_{\nu} = 0 & \text{(torsion-free)} \\ d\omega_{\mu\nu} + \sum_{\lambda=1}^{N} \omega_{\mu\lambda} \wedge \omega_{\lambda\nu} = 0 & \text{(flat curvature)} \end{cases}$$
(22)

Notice that  $(\omega_{\mu\nu})$  is the  $N \times N$  skew-symmetric matrix connection form of the Lévi-Civita connection on  $\mathbb{E}^N$ .

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>The indices i, j and k vary from 1 to m, the indexes a, b and c vary from m+1 to N and the indexes  $\mu, \nu$  and  $\lambda$  vary from 1 to N.

## **Step 3:**

Let consider the product manifold  $M \times \mathcal{F}_m(\mathbb{E}^N)$ . Let  $\mathcal{I}_0$  be the exterior ideal on  $M \times \mathcal{F}_m(\mathbb{E}^N)$  generated by the Paffafian system  $I_0 = \{(\omega_i - \eta_i), \omega_a\}.$ 

**Proposition 4.2.2.** Every m-dimensional integral manifold of  $\mathcal{I}_0$  on which the form  $\Delta = \omega_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \omega_m$  does not vanish is locally the graph of a function  $f: M \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}_m(\mathbb{E}^N)$  having the property that  $u = x \circ f: M \longrightarrow \mathbb{E}^N$  is a local isometric embedding <sup>8</sup>.



#### Step 4:

According to proposition 4.2.2., the existence of an integral manifold of  $\mathcal{I}_0$  for wich  $\Delta$  is non zero, is a neccessary condition for the existence of a local isometric embedding. However, the theorems and the results that we discussed deal with closed exterior differential system . Therefore it is natural to add to the Pffafian system  $I_0$  the exterior differentiation of each 1-form. We obtain so a closed exterior differential system:  $I_0 \cup dI_0$ . When we compute the exterior differentiation of  $(\omega_i - \eta_i)$ , we remark new differential forms and an interesting result,

$$d(\omega_i - \eta_i) = -\sum_{j=1}^m (\omega_{ij} - \eta_{ij}) \wedge \omega_i = 0$$
(23)

By Cartan's lemma,  $\omega_{ij} - \eta_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^{m} h_{ijk}\omega_k$ , with  $h_{ijk} = h_{ikj} = -h_{jik}$ . With

the symmetry and the skew-symmetry of the functions  $h_{ijk}$ , we conclude that  $h_{ijk}$  are zero and so,  $\omega_{ij} - \eta_{ij} = 0$ . This result has a geometric intrepretation:  $\omega_{ij} - \eta_{ij} = 0$  implies that  $f^*(\omega_{ij}) = \eta_{ij}$  where f is the function of proposition. 4.2.2, which means that the pull-back of Lévi-Civita connection by an isometric embedding is the Lévi-Civita connection on M.

So, we extend the exterior differential  $I_0$  and we obtain an exterior differential system on  $M \times \mathcal{F}_m(\mathbb{E}^N)$   $I_1 = \{(\omega_i - \omega_i)\}$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup>Conversely, each local isometric embedding  $u: M \longrightarrow \mathbb{E}^N$  come uniquely from this construction.

 $\eta_i)_{i=1,\dots,m}, (\omega_a)_{a=m+1,\dots,N}, (\omega_{ij} - \eta_{ij})_{1 \leq i < j \leq m}\}.$  In order to have a closed one, we add the exterior differentiation of each form and we get  $I = I_1 \cup dI_1.$  We denote  $\mathcal{I}$  the exterior differential ideal generated by  $I = \{(\omega_i - \eta_i), \omega_a, (\omega_{ij} - \eta_{ij}), d(\omega_i - \eta_i), d\omega_a, d(\omega_{ij} - \eta_{ij})\}.$ 

Instead of looking for integral manifold of  $\mathcal{I}_0$ , we will look for the existence of an integral manifold of  $\mathcal{I}$ .

From the structure equations stated earlier, we obtain the following system:

$$\begin{cases} d(\omega_i - \eta_i) \equiv 0 \mod I_1 \\ d\omega_a \equiv -\sum_{i=1}^m \omega_{ai} \wedge \omega_i \mod I_1 \\ d(\omega_{ij} - \eta_{ij}) \equiv \sum_{a=m+1}^N \omega_{ai} \wedge \omega_{aj} - \Omega_{ij} \mod I_1 \end{cases}$$
(24)

On X, the integral manifold of X,  $\omega_a = 0$ , so  $d\omega_a = 0$  too. We conclude that  $\sum_{i=1}^{m} \omega_{ai} \wedge \omega_i = 0$ . The Cartan lemma (lemma 1.5.1., page 300) ensures the

existence of  $m^2$  functions  $h_{aij}$  such that  $\omega_{ai} = \sum_{j=1}^m h_{aij}\omega_j$  where  $h_{aij} = h_{aji}$ . We can write then:  $\omega_{ai} - \sum_{j=1}^m h_{aij}\omega_j = 0$  on X.

However, nothing lead us to think that this equality will be true outside  $\mathbb{X}$ . We define then the differential 1-form  $\pi_{ai}$  on  $M \times \mathcal{F}_m(\mathbb{E}^N)$  as follows

$$\pi_{ai} = \omega_{ai} - \sum_{j=1}^{m} h_{aij} \omega_j \tag{25}$$

Consider now, the last equation of the system (24)

$$d(\omega_{ij} - \eta_{ij}) \equiv \sum_{a=m+1}^{N} \omega_{ai} \wedge \omega_{aj} - \Omega_{ij} \quad mod \ I$$
(26)

On X,  $\omega_{ij} - \eta_{ij} = 0$ , so  $d(\omega_{ij} - \eta_{ij}) = 0$ . restricted to X, (26) becomes

$$\sum_{a=m+1}^{N} \omega_{ai} \wedge \omega_{aj} = \Omega_{ij}.$$
(27)

Using (25), we can write (27) as follows

On X: 
$$\Omega_{ij} = \sum_{k,l=1}^{m} \Big( \sum_{a=m+1}^{N} (h_{aik}h_{ajl} - h_{ail}h_{ajk}) \Big) \omega_k \otimes \omega_l$$
 (28)

from 
$$\Omega_{ij} = \sum_{k,l=1}^{m} \mathcal{R}_{ijkl} \eta_k \otimes \eta_l = \sum_{k,l=1}^{m} \mathcal{R}_{ijkl} \omega_k \otimes \omega_l$$
, we conclude that  
$$\sum_{a=m+1}^{N} (h_{aik} h_{ajl} - h_{ail} h_{ajk}) = \mathcal{R}_{ijkl}$$
(29)

Equation (29) is called the Gauss equation.

We see that the exterior differential system  $\tilde{I} = \{(\omega_i - \eta_i), \omega_a, (\omega_{ij} - \eta_{ij}), \pi_{ai}\}$ when the Gauss's equation is satisfied, generates the exterior differential ideal  $\mathcal{I}$ . Actually, the 1-forms  $(\omega_i - \eta_i)$  and  $\omega_a$  belong to I and to  $\tilde{I}$ . The 1-forms  $(\omega_{ij} - \eta_{ij}) = 0$ . This implies that  $d(\omega_i - \eta_i) = 0$ . The 1-forms  $\pi_{ai} = 0$ , so  $d\omega_a = 0$ . From the Gauss equation,  $d(\omega_{ij} - \eta_{ij}) = 0$ . Looking for integral elements of I is equivalent to looking for integral elements of  $\tilde{I}$  for which the Gauss equation is satisfied. We shall proceed this in the following steps. Moreover,  $\tilde{I}$  contains less differential 1-form than the exterior differential system I.

#### Step 5:

The functions  $h_{aij}$  are symmetric in their two last indeces. If we consider an (N - m)-dimensional euclidean space  $\mathcal{W}$ , then the matrix  $(h_{aij})$  can be viewed as a symmetric element of  $\mathbb{R}^m(i, j = 1, ..., m)$  taking value in  $\mathcal{W}$ , i.e.  $(h_{aij}) \in \mathcal{W} \otimes S^2(\mathbb{R}^m)$ . Notice that  $\dim \mathcal{W} \otimes S^2(\mathbb{R}^m) = (N - m)\frac{m(m+1)}{2}$ .

**Proposition 4.2.3.** Let  $\mathcal{K}_m$  the set of Riemannian curvature tensors  $\mathcal{R}$  such that:

- 1.  $\mathcal{R}_{ijkl} = \mathcal{R}_{klij}$ .
- 2.  $\mathcal{R}_{ijkl} = -\mathcal{R}_{jikl}$ .
- 3.  $\mathcal{R}_{ijkl} + \mathcal{R}_{kijl} + \mathcal{R}_{jkil} = 0.$

where the indeces i, j, k and l vary from 1 to m. Then

$$dim\mathcal{K}_m = \frac{m^2(m^2 - 1)}{12}$$
(30)

**Lemma 4.2.1.** Suppose that  $r = N - m \ge \frac{m(m-1)}{2}$ . Let  $\mathcal{H} \subset \mathcal{W} \otimes S^2(\mathbb{R}^m)$ an open set containing the elements  $h = (h_{ij})$  such that the vectors  $\{h_{ij}|1 \le i \le j \le m-1\}$  are linearly independents as elements of  $\mathcal{W}$ . The map  $\gamma : \mathcal{H} \longrightarrow \mathcal{K}_m$  that for  $h \in \mathcal{H}$  associate  $\gamma(h) \in \mathcal{K}_m$  such that  $(\gamma(h))_{ijkl} = \sum_{a=m+1}^{N} h_{aik}h_{ajl} - h_{ail}h_{ajk}$ , is a surjective submersion.

Step 6: The existence of an *m*-dimensional ordinary integral element Let  $\mathcal{I}$  the exterior ideal of  $M \times \mathcal{F}_m(\mathbb{E}^N)$  generated by  $s = N(m+1) - \frac{m(m+1)}{2}$  1-forms:  $\{\underbrace{(\omega_i - \eta_i)_{i=1,...,m}}_{m}, \underbrace{(\omega_a)_{a=m+1,...N}}_{N-m}, \underbrace{(\omega_{ij} - \eta_{ij})_{1 \leq i < j \leq m}}_{\underline{m(m-1)}}, \underbrace{(\pi_{ai})_{i=1,...,m,a=m+1,...N}}_{(N-m)m}\}$ 

Let  $\mathcal{Z} = \{(x, \Upsilon, h) \in M \times \mathcal{F}_m(\mathbb{E}^N) \times \mathcal{H} | \gamma(h) = \mathcal{R}(x)\}$ .  $\mathcal{Z}$  is a submanifold (the fiber of  $\mathcal{R}$  by a submersion. The surjectivity of  $\gamma$  ensure that  $\mathcal{Z} \neq \emptyset$ ). So,

$$dim\mathcal{Z} = dimM + dim\mathcal{F}_m(\mathbb{E}^N) + \dim\mathcal{H} - \dim\mathcal{K}_m$$
$$= \underbrace{m}_{dimM} + \underbrace{N(m+1) - \frac{m(m+1)}{2}}_{dim\mathcal{F}_m(\mathbb{E}^N)} + \underbrace{(N-m)\frac{m(m+1)}{2}}_{dim\mathcal{H}} - \underbrace{\frac{m^2(m^2-1)}{12}}_{dim\mathcal{K}_m}$$
(31)

We define the map  $\Phi : \mathcal{Z} \longrightarrow \mathcal{V}_m(\mathcal{I}, \Delta)$  that associate to  $(x, \Upsilon, h)$  the m-plane at  $(x, \Upsilon)$  annihilated by the 1-forms that generate  $\mathcal{I}$  (the exterior differential system  $\tilde{I}$ ). The map  $\Phi$  is an embedding and so  $\Phi(\mathcal{Z})$  is a submanifold of  $\mathcal{V}_m(\mathcal{I}, \Delta)$ . We will show that  $\Phi(\mathcal{Z})$  contains only ordinary integral elements. In the proof, we will use the proposition.3.2.1.

Let  $(x, \Upsilon, h) \in \mathcal{Z}$  be a point. Let denote  $E = \Phi(x, \Upsilon, h)$  the integral element defined as follows:  $E = \{v \in T_{(x,\Upsilon)}(M \times \mathcal{F}_m(\mathbb{E}^N)) | (\omega_i - \eta_i)(v) = \omega_a(v) = (\omega_{ij} - \eta_{ij})(v) = \pi_{ai}(v) = 0\}.$ 

E is an *m*-dimensional integral element. As a matter of fact, s is the number of differential forms that generate the ideal  $\mathcal{I}$  and

$$\dim\left(M\times\mathcal{F}_m(\mathbb{E}^N)\right) - m = N(m+1) - \frac{m(m+1)}{2} = s.$$

We will apply word by word the proposition 3.2.1. Let  $\mathcal{I}$  the exterior ideal of  $M \times \mathcal{F}_m(\mathbb{E}^N)$  defined above<sup>9</sup>. This ideal does not contain 0-forms.  $E \in \mathcal{V}_m(\mathcal{I})$  at  $(x, \Upsilon) \in M \times \mathcal{F}_m(\mathbb{E}^N)$ . Let  $\omega_i, (\omega_i - \eta_i), \omega_a, (\omega_{ij} - \eta_{ij}), \pi_{ai}$  be a coframe<sup>10</sup> of  $M \times \mathcal{F}_m(\mathbb{E}^N)$  in the neighborhood of  $(x, \Upsilon)$  such that<sup>11</sup>  $E = \{v \in T_{x,\Upsilon}(M \times \mathcal{F}_m(\mathbb{E}^N)) | (\omega_i - \eta_i)(v) = \omega_a(v) = (\omega_{ij} - \eta_{ij})(v) = \pi_{ai}(v) = 0\}.$ 

For  $p \leq m$ , we define the *p*-dimensional integral element<sup>12</sup>  $E_p = \{x \in E | \omega_k(v) = 0 \text{ pour tout } k > p\}$ .<sup>13</sup>. We obtain so, an integral flag  $(0)_{(x,\Upsilon)} = E_0 \subset E_1 \subset E_2 \subset \cdots \subset E_m \subset T_{(x,\Upsilon)} (M \times \mathcal{F}_m(\mathbb{E}^N))$ . We remind that  $I = \{\underbrace{(\omega_i - \eta_i), \omega_a, (\omega_{ij} - \eta_{ij})}_{\text{differential 1-forms}}, \underbrace{d(\omega_i - \eta_i), d\omega_a, d(\omega_{ij} - \eta_{ij})}_{\text{differential 2-forms}}\}$ .

By computing  $d(\omega_i - \eta_j)$ ,  $d\omega_a$  and  $d(\omega_{ij} - \eta_{ij})$ , we shall find the differential forms that are linear combinations of the forms which generate  $\mathcal{I}$ .<sup>14</sup>

After simple calculations, we find that

$$d\omega_a \equiv -\sum_{i=1}^m \pi_{ai} \wedge \omega_i \tag{32}$$

and

$$d(\omega_{ij} - \eta_{ij}) = \underbrace{\sum_{a=m+1}^{N} \pi_{ai} \wedge \pi_{aj}}_{\bullet} + \sum_{k=1}^{m} \left( \sum_{a=m+1}^{N} h_{ajk} \pi_{ai} - h_{aik} \pi_{aj} \right) \wedge \omega_k \quad (33)$$

the term ( $\blacklozenge$ ) is quadratic in  $\pi_{ai}$  and vanishes on X.<sup>15</sup>

 ${}^{9}M \times \mathcal{F}_m(\mathbb{E}^N)$  play the role of the manifold "M" in the proposition. 3.2.1.

<sup>10</sup>There is  $m + s = dim\left(M \times \mathcal{F}_m(\mathbb{E}^N)\right)$  1-forms.

<sup>11</sup>the  $(\omega_i)_{i=1,...,m}$  play the role of " $\omega_1, \omega_2, ..., \omega_n$ ". the  $(\omega_i - \eta_i), \omega_a, (\omega_{ij} - \eta_{ij}), \pi_{ai}$  play the role of " $\pi_s$ " in the proposition 3.2.1.

 $^{13}E_p \in \mathcal{V}_p(\mathcal{I}, \Delta)$  Because it is annihilated by s + m - p differential 1-forms.

<sup>14</sup>the forms that play the role of  $\pi_{\rho}^{J}$  in the proposition 3.2.1.

<sup>15</sup>( $\blacklozenge$ ) play the role of  $\tilde{\varphi}_{\rho}$  in the proposition 3.2.1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup>the exterior differential system I play the role of  $\{\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \ldots, \varphi_r\}$ " in the proposition 3.2.1.

The differential 1-forms	The indexes	Number of linear
		independent 1-forms
$\omega_i - \eta_i$	$1 \leq i \leq m$	m
$\omega_a$	$m+1 \leq a \leq N$	N-m
$\omega_{ij}-\eta_{ij}$	$1 \leq i < j \leq m$	$\frac{m(m-1)}{2}$
$\pi_{ai}$	$1 \le i \le p,$	(N-m)p
	$m+1 \leq a \leq N$	
$\sum_{a=m+1}^{N} (h_{aik}\pi_{aj} - h_{ajk}\pi_{ai})$	$1 \le k \le p,$	$p\frac{(m-p)(m-p-1)}{2} +$
	$1 \leq i \leq j \leq m$	$\frac{p(p+1)}{2}(m-p)$

According to proposition 3.2.1.,  $c_p$  represente the number of linear independent differential 1-forms.

Finally, by the sum of the number of linear independent 1-forms of the above table,  $c_p$  is the codimension of  $H(E_p)$  in  $G_m(T(M \times \mathcal{F}_m \mathbb{E}^N))$  defined earlier, and is equal to:

$$c_p = N + \frac{m(m-1)}{2} + (N-m)p + \frac{mp(m-p)}{2}$$
(34)

so,

$$\sum_{p=0}^{m-1} c_p = \frac{Nm(m+1)}{2} + \frac{m^2(m^2 - 1)}{12}.$$
(35)

To apply the proposition 3.2.1 and show that E is an *m*-dimensional ordinary integral element, we need just to compute the codimension of  $\Phi(\mathcal{Z})$  in  $G_m(\mathcal{I}, \Delta)$ .

Let  $\mathfrak{U}$  an open set of  $\mathcal{F}_m(\mathbb{E}^N)$ . So,  $dim(M \times \mathfrak{U}) = N(m-1) - \frac{m(m+1)}{2} + m$ . We remid that if E is an *n*-dimensional euclidean space, then the space of all p-planes of  $E(G_p(E))$ , with p < n, is of p(n-p) dimension. Let  $(x, \Upsilon) \in M \times \mathfrak{U}$ ,

$$\begin{split} \dim G_m \Big( T(M \times \mathfrak{U}) \Big) &= \dim G_m \Big( T_{(x,\Upsilon)}(M \times \mathfrak{U}) \Big) + \dim(M \times \mathfrak{U}) \\ &= m \Big( \underbrace{N(m+1) - \frac{m(m+1)}{2} + m}_{\dim T_{(x,\Upsilon)}(M \times \mathfrak{U}) = \dim(M \times \mathfrak{U})} - \underbrace{N(m+1) - \frac{m(m+1)}{2} + m}_{\dim(M \times \mathfrak{U})} \\ &= m \Big( N(m+1) - \frac{m(m+1)}{2} \Big) + N(m+1) - \frac{m(m+1)}{2} + m \end{split}$$

Since that  $\Phi$  is an embedding,  $dim\Phi(\mathcal{Z}) = dim\mathcal{Z}$ , so

$$dim G_m \Big( T(M \times \mathfrak{U}) \Big) - dim \Phi(\mathcal{Z}) =$$

$$\underbrace{Nm(m+1) - \frac{m^2(m+1)}{2} + N(m+1) - \frac{m(m+1)}{2} + m}_{dim G_m} \Big( T(M \times \mathfrak{U}) \Big)$$

$$\underbrace{-m - N(m+1) + \frac{m(m+1)}{2} - \frac{Nm(m+1)}{2} + \frac{m^2(m+1)}{2} + \frac{m^2(m^2 - 1)}{12}}_{dim \Phi(\mathcal{Z})}$$

$$= \frac{Nm(m+1)}{2} + \frac{m^2(m^2 - 1)}{12}$$

We conclude that the codimension of  $\Phi(\mathcal{Z})$  in  $G_m(T(M \times \mathfrak{U}))$  is equal to  $c_0 + c_1 + \cdots + c_{m-1}$ . By the Cartan's test,  $E \in \mathcal{V}_m(\mathcal{I}, \Omega)$  is an ordinary integral element of  $\mathcal{I}$ . The Cartan-Kähler theorem (Corollary 3.3.1.) ensure the existence of an integral manifold  $\mathbb{X}$  passing through  $(x, \Upsilon)$  and having E as a tangent space at  $(x, \Upsilon)$ .

 $E \in \mathcal{V}_m(\mathcal{I}, \Omega)$ , In particular,  $E \in \mathcal{V}_m(\mathcal{I}_0, \Omega)$ . By the proposition 4.2.2., there exists an isometric embedding of (M, g) in  $(\mathbb{E}^N, \varepsilon_N)$ .

# 5 Local Conformal Embedding Problem

**Definition 5.0.1.** Let (M, g) and (N, h) be two real analytic Riemannian manifolds of dimension m and n respectively. Let f be a map from M to N. Then f is a conformal embedding from (M, g) to (N, h) if:

1. f is a local diffeomorphism;

2.  $f^*h = Sg$ , where  $S: M \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  is a strictly positive function on M.

**Theorem 5.1.** (Jacobowitch-Moore [5]) If  $dimN = n \ge \frac{1}{2}m(m+1) - 1$ , then each point  $p \in M$  admit a neighborhood on M which can be conformally embedded in N.

Jacobowitch and Moore gave two differents proofs of this result; one is based on Janet's method and the second on Cartan's method which is close to the proof of Burstin-Cartan-Janet-Schlaefli theorem that we gave.

Roughly speaking, we consider  $\mathcal{F}(M) \times \mathcal{F}(N) \times \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^+_*$  and we look for integral manifolds of  $I_0 = \{\omega_i - S\eta_i, \omega_a\}$  (the forms are defined as on the previous section). Similarly, we can extend the exterior differential system to obtain a closed one. We lead the deatils of the proof for the reader who should take care of S when he apply the exterior differentiation cause it's a function. When the new exterior differential system is involutive, we look for ordinary integral element and so conclude. (see [5]).

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