

# SOME THEOREMS ON HOLONOMY GROUPS OF RIEMANNIAN MANIFOLDS

BY

SHIGEO SASAKI AND MORIKUNI GOTO

For Riemannian manifolds there are four kinds of holonomy groups: the (nonrestricted) holonomy group  $H$ , the restricted holonomy group  $H^0$ , the (nonrestricted) homogeneous holonomy group  $h$ , and the restricted homogeneous holonomy group  $h^0$ . It is known that all of these are Lie groups of transformations and  $H^0$  and  $h^0$  are the connected components of the identity of  $H$  and  $h$  respectively.

1. **Relations among invariant linear subspaces of  $h^0$  and  $h$ .** If the restricted homogeneous holonomy group  $h^0$  is reducible (in the real number field) it is completely reducible, for  $h$  is a subgroup of the orthogonal group. If the holonomy group  $h^0$  is reducible, we can take a repère in the tangent space  $E_n(O)$  at the base point  $O$  of the holonomy group so that all elements of the group  $h^0$  can be represented by matrices of the following type:

$$T = \begin{pmatrix} T_1 & & & 0 \\ & T_2 & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ 0 & & & T_m \end{pmatrix}.$$

We assume that the group of matrices  $T_\lambda$  is irreducible for each  $\lambda$  ( $\lambda = 1, \dots, m$ ). Let us denote the linear vector space on which  $T_\lambda$  operates by  $E_{(\lambda)}$ ,  $E_{(\lambda)}$ 's are called irreducible invariant linear subspaces. If  $T_m$  is of dimension 1,  $T_m$  is equal to 1.

In the same way we can consider the reducibility of the group  $h$ . It may happen that, for example,  $E_{(1)}$  is not invariant under  $h$  although it is invariant under  $h^0$ . In such a case there exists a closed curve  $C_\alpha$  of class  $D'$  passing through the base point 0 of our holonomy groups such that the congruent transformation  $T(C_\alpha)$  associated with it takes  $E_{(1)}$  into another linear subspace  $E_{(1)\alpha}$ :

$$T(C_\alpha)E_{(1)} = E_{(1)\alpha}.$$

We shall denote the element of the fundamental group  $\pi_1$  to which  $C_\alpha$  belongs by  $\alpha$ .

If we take another closed curve  $C'_\alpha$  passing through 0, the product curve  $C'_\alpha C_\alpha^{-1} = C_0$  is homotopic to zero. Hence we get

$$T(C_0) = T(C_\alpha^{-1})T(C'_\alpha).$$

As  $T(C_\alpha^{-1}) = T(C_\alpha)^{-1}$ , we see

$$T(C'_\alpha) = T(C_\alpha)T(C_0),$$

---

Received by the editors April 6, 1954 and, in revised form, November 15, 1954.

and accordingly we get

$$T(C'_\alpha)E_{(1)} = T(C_\alpha)T(C_0)E_{(1)} = T(C_\alpha)E_{(1)} = E_{(1)\alpha}.$$

Therefore the transformation  $T$  associated to any closed curve passing through  $O$  and belonging to  $\alpha$  takes  $E_{(1)}$  to the same  $E_{(1)\alpha}$ .

In the next place, we can show that the linear subspace  $E_{(1)\alpha}$  is invariant under the group  $h^0$ . To prove this, let us take an arbitrary closed curve  $C_0$  of class  $D'$  passing through  $O$  and homotopic to zero. Then the product curve  $C_\alpha C_0$  is homotopic to  $C_\alpha$ , whence by virtue of the above result we get

$$T(C_0)T(C_\alpha)E_{(1)} = E_{(1)\alpha},$$

whence

$$T(C_0)E_{(1)\alpha} = E_{(1)\alpha},$$

which is to be proved.

In the same way it may happen that transformations associated to closed curves passing through  $O$  and belonging to an element  $\beta$  of  $\pi_1$  take  $E_{(1)}$  to a linear subspace  $E_{(1)\beta}$  different from  $E_{(1)}$  and  $E_{(1)\alpha}$ . It is easily seen that transformations associated to closed curves passing through  $O$  and belonging to the element  $\alpha^{-1}\beta$  take  $E_{(1)\alpha}$  to  $E_{(1)\beta}$ .

We shall assume that  $\dim(E_{(1)}) \geq 2$ . Then  $E_{(1)\alpha}$  must coincide with one of  $E_{(2)}, \dots, E_{(m)}$ .

To show this let us take a vector  $v$  of  $E_{(1)\alpha}$ , then it can be written in the following form:

$$v = v_1 + v_2 + \dots + v_m,$$

where  $v_\lambda \in E_{(\lambda)}$ . First we assume that  $v_1 \neq 0$ . According to Borel-Lichnerowicz's theorem<sup>(1)</sup> we know that the restricted group  $h^0$  is a direct product of component groups of matrices:  $h^0 = h_{(1)}^0 \times h_{(2)}^0 \times \dots \times h_{(m)}^0$ . Hence  $h^0$  contains the group  $h_{(1)}^0 \times 1 \times \dots \times 1$  as its subgroup. If we denote a transformation of this group by  $T$ , we get

$$T(v) - v = T(v_1) - v_1,$$

the last vector belongs to  $E_{(1)} \cap E_{(1)\alpha}$ . As  $h_{(1)}^0$  is irreducible there exists a  $T$  such that  $T(v_1) - v_1$  is not the null vector. This contradicts the fact that  $E_{(1)} \neq E_{(1)\alpha}$  and  $E_{(1)}$  is irreducible. Accordingly  $v_1$  must be equal to zero.

By the same argument, we can see that if  $\dim(E_{(\lambda)}) \geq 2$  ( $\lambda$  fixed), then either  $v_\lambda \neq 0$  (other  $v_\mu = 0$ ,  $\mu \neq \lambda$ ) and  $E_{(1)\alpha}$  coincides with  $E_{(\lambda)}$  or  $v_\lambda = 0$ . As  $E_{(1)\alpha}$  does

<sup>(1)</sup> A. Borel and A. Lichnerowicz, *Groupes d'holonomie des variétés riemanniennes*, C. R. Acad. Sci. Paris vol. 234 (1952) pp. 1835-1837.

not contain invariant vectors, this proves that  $E_{(1)\alpha}$  coincides with one of  $E_{(2)}, \dots, E_{(m)}$ . Q.E.D.

We shall change the notation if it is necessary and can assume that  $E_{(1)\alpha}$  coincides with  $E_{(2)}$ .

In the same way, if  $E_{(1)\beta}$  is different from  $E_{(1)}$  and  $E_{(2)}$  it coincides with one of  $E_{(3)}, \dots, E_{(m)}$ . We can assume that  $E_{(1)\beta}$  coincides with  $E_{(3)}$ .

Repeating this process we can see that there exists a minimal set of linear subspaces  $E_{(1)}, \dots, E_{(k)}$  such that they are transformed to each other by the holonomy group  $h$  and no other linear subspaces are obtained from them by  $h$ . Then the direct sum of these spaces constitutes an irreducible invariant subspace of  $h$ .

Consequently, we get the following theorem:

**THEOREM 1.** *Suppose that the restricted homogeneous holonomy group  $h^0$  is reducible and let  $E_{(1)}, \dots, E_{(m)}$  be irreducible invariant subspaces. If  $E_{(1)}$  is not invariant under  $h$  and  $\dim E_{(1)} \geq 2$ , we consider the irreducible invariant subspace under  $h$  which contains  $E_{(1)}$  and denote it by  $E_{(1)}^*$ . Then we can select, from  $E_{(1)}, \dots, E_{(m)}$ ,  $l_1$  ( $l_1 = \dim E_{(1)}^* / \dim E_{(1)}$ ) linear subspaces all of the same dimension such that they span  $E_{(1)}^*$  and each of them can be transformed from any other of them by some transformations of  $h$ .*

We change the notation if it is necessary and can assume that these  $l_1$  linear subspaces are  $E_{(1)}, \dots, E_{(l_1)}$ . If  $\dim E_{(l_1+1)} \geq 2$  and  $E_{(l_1+1)}$  is not invariant under  $h$ , then we can consider the irreducible invariant subspace under  $h$  which contains  $E_{(l_1+1)}$ . We denote it by  $E_{(2)}^*$  and assume that  $E_{(2)}^*$  consists of  $E_{(l_1+1)}, \dots, E_{(l_1+l_2)}$ , and so on.

If there are one-dimensional subspaces among  $E_{(1)}, \dots, E_{(m)}$ , we collect them altogether at the last part of the sequence of subspaces. Suppose that  $E^{(1)}$  is one of the subspaces  $E_{(1)}, \dots, E_{(m)}$  and such that  $\dim E^{(1)} = 1$ . If  $E^{(1)}$  is not invariant under  $h$ , then as before there exist vectors  $E^{(1)\alpha}, E^{(1)\beta}, \dots$  invariant under  $h^0$  and not equal to  $E^{(1)}$  and derived from  $E^{(1)}$  by some transformations of  $h$ . However, contrary to the former case, we cannot say that  $E^{(1)}, E^{(1)\alpha}, E^{(1)\beta}, \dots$  are orthogonal to each other. We shall investigate in the next section the structure of the transformations of  $h$  operating on the irreducible invariant subspace  $E^{(1)*}$  containing  $E^{(1)}$ .

**2. The manifold  $R^*$  and its holonomy group  $H$ .** Suppose that the holonomy group  $h$  of a complete Riemannian manifold  $M_n$  is reducible to  $r$ - and  $(n-r)$ -dimensional parts. Then there exist an  $r$  dimensional parallel plane field and an  $(n-r)$  dimensional parallel plane field orthogonal to each other. Let  $K$  be an arbitrary curve in  $M_n$ . We denote its initial point by  $P$  and its terminal point by  $Q$ . We take orthogonal repères  $[e_1, \dots, e_n]_P$  and  $[e_1, \dots, e_n]_Q$  so that their first  $r$  vectors  $[e_1, \dots, e_r]_P$  and  $[e_1, \dots, e_r]_Q$  are contained in the  $r$ -dimensional planes of the first field at  $P$  and  $Q$  respectively and the remaining  $(n-r)$  vectors  $[e_{r+1}, \dots, e_n]_P$  and  $[e_{r+1}, \dots, e_n]_Q$

are contained in the  $(n-r)$ -dimensional planes of the other field at  $P$  and  $Q$  respectively. By developing the curve  $K$  in the tangent space  $E_n(P)$  with respect to the Euclidean connection of the space, we find a unique image of the point  $Q$  and a unique image  $[e_1^*, \dots, e_n^*]$  of the repère  $[e_1, \dots, e_n]_Q$ . Then the transformation which takes  $[e_1, \dots, e_n]_P$  to  $[e_1^*, \dots, e_n^*]$  can be expressed by a matrix  $T(M_n, K)$  of the type

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & 0 & \alpha \\ 0 & B & \beta \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $A$  and  $B$  are  $(r, r)$  and  $(n-r, n-r)$  orthogonal matrices respectively and  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are  $(r, 1)$  and  $(n-r, 1)$  matrices respectively. Let us denote by  $t(M_n, K)$  the matrix  $(A, \alpha)$ . The set of all transformations of the type  $(A, \alpha)$  constitutes a group.

Let  $K = \text{arc } PQ$  be a sufficiently short curve of class  $D'$  so that it is contained in a so-called "reduced coordinate neighborhood" such that

$$\begin{aligned} ds^2 &= g_{ab}(x^c) dx^a dx^b + g_{pq}(x^r) dx^p dx^q, \\ a, b, c &= 1, 2, \dots, r, \\ p, q, r &= r+1, \dots, n. \end{aligned}$$

We denote  $r$ -dimensional totally geodesic submanifolds belonging to the family  $x^p = \text{const.}$  by  $R$  and  $s$ - ( $=n-r$ ) dimensional totally geodesic submanifolds belonging to the family  $x^a = \text{const.}$  by  $S$ , and the  $R$ - and  $S$ -submanifolds which pass through a point  $P$  by  $R_P$  and  $S_P$ .

We can project  $K$  on  $R_P$  by using the reduced coordinate neighborhood. We denote the projection by  $\pi$  and denote the image of  $K$  by  $K' = \pi(K)$ . The repère  $[e_1, \dots, e_r]_Q$  impresses a repère  $[e'_1, \dots, e'_r]_Q$  at the image  $Q' = \pi(Q)$  on  $R_P$ . By developing the curve  $K'$  in the tangent space  $E_r(P)$  of  $R_P$  with respect to the induced Euclidean connection of the space, we find a unique image  $[e'_1, \dots, e'_r]$  of the repère  $[e'_1, \dots, e'_r]_Q$ . Let us denote the transformation which takes  $[e_1, \dots, e_r]_P$  to  $[e'_1, \dots, e'_r]$  by  $T(R_P, K')$ . Then

LEMMA 1.  $t(M_n, K) = T(R_P, K')$ .

If we write down the equations of definition of the Euclidean connection using a reduced coordinate neighborhood which contains  $K$  we can easily see the truth of our assertion, for in this case the equations of definition of the connection separate into two parts corresponding to  $R$ - and  $S$ -submanifolds.

Let  $R_a$  and  $R_b$  be two  $R$ -submanifolds and assume that  $P \in R_a$  and  $Q \in R_b$  lie on the same  $S$ -submanifold. By a  $R$ -neighborhood of  $P$  we mean a neighborhood of  $P$  in  $R_P$ . Then there exists an isometry  $\chi$  between some  $R$ -neighborhoods  $V(P)$  on  $R_a$  and  $V(Q)$  on  $R_b$  such that corresponding points on  $R_a$  and  $R_b$  lie on the same  $S$ -submanifolds.

To prove this we connect  $P$  and  $Q$  by a geodesic  $[PQ]$  in the  $S$ -manifold in which  $P$  and  $Q$  are. Divide  $[PQ]$  so fine that if we denote the dividing

points by  $P = z_0, z_1, \dots, z_k = Q$ , the reduced neighborhood  $U(z_i)$  of  $z_i$  contains  $z_{i+1}$ . Then it is clear that there arises a sequence of isometries between suitable  $R$ -neighborhoods  $V(z_i) \subset U(z_i) \cap R_{s_i}$  ( $i = 0, 1, \dots, k$ ).

In the next place, let  $L$  be a curve on  $R_a$  passing through  $P$ . Then we can prolong the isometry  $\chi$  of  $V(P)$  and  $V(Q)$  along  $L$  on  $R_a$  and its image on  $R_b$ , a point on  $R_a$  and its image on  $R_b$  lying always on the same  $S$ -submanifold.

To prove this we first take a point  $P_1$  on the connected component of  $P_0 \equiv P$  on  $V(P) \cap L$  and draw its image curve and denote the image of  $P_1$  by  $Q_1$ . Draw the geodesic segment  $[P_1 Q_1]$  near  $[PQ]$  and starting from  $[P_1 Q_1]$  we can construct an isometry between some  $R$ -neighborhoods  $V(P_1)$  on  $R_a$  and  $V(Q_1)$  on  $R_b$ . It is evident that on  $V(P) \cap V(P_1)$  and  $V(Q) \cap V(Q_1)$  both isometries are identical and hence we can prolong the isometry  $V(P) \rightleftharpoons V(Q)$  to the isometry  $V(P) \cup V(P_1) \rightleftharpoons V(Q) \cup V(Q_1)$ . Repeating this reasoning we can easily see that our assertion is true because we can choose a sequence of new neighborhoods so that the diameters of the new neighborhoods which arise successively by analogous construction have a positive lower bound. We denote the prolonged isometry also by  $\chi$ .

Let us denote the image of  $L$  on  $R_b$  by  $M$ . We impress the repère  $[e_1, \dots, e_r]_P$  at the initial point  $P$  of  $L$  spanning the  $r$ -dimensional tangent plane of  $R_a$  at  $P$  to the initial point  $Q$  of  $M$  and likewise impress the repère  $[e_1, \dots, e_r]_{P'}$  at the terminal point  $P'$  of  $L$  spanning the  $r$ -dimensional tangent plane of  $R_a$  at  $P'$  to the terminal point  $Q'$  of  $M$ . Then

LEMMA 2.  $T(R_a, L) = T(R_b, M)$ .

Now let us consider a closed curve  $C$  passing through the base point  $O$  of the holonomy group. We divide the curve  $C$  by  $m$  points  $O \equiv P_0, P_1, \dots, P_{m-1}, P_m \equiv O$  so fine that the subarc  $P_\lambda P_{\lambda+1}$  is contained in a reduced coordinate neighborhood  $U(P_\lambda)$  for every  $\lambda$  ( $\lambda = 0, 1, \dots, m-1$ ). We take at  $P_0 = P_m$  and  $P_1, \dots, P_{m-1}$  repères so that their first  $r$  vectors  $[e_1, \dots, e_r]$  span  $r$ -dimensional tangent planes at them. And we consider the development of  $C$  in the tangent space  $E_n(P_0)$ . Then, we get the following relation.

LEMMA 3.  $t(M_n, C) = T(R_{P_0}, C')$ , where  $C'$  is the continuous projection of  $C$  by  $\pi$  such that  $\pi(P_0) = P_0$ .

**Proof.** First we get by virtue of Lemma 1

$$t(M_n, C) = T(R_{P_{m-1}}, \text{arc } P_{m-1} P'_m) t(M_n, \text{arc } P_0 P_{m-1} \text{ of } C),$$

where  $\text{arc } P_{m-1} P'_m$  is the image of the arc  $P_{m-1} P_m$  by the projection  $\pi$ . The right-hand side of the last equation is, by virtue of Lemmas 1 and 2, equal to the following transformation:

$$T(R_{P_{m-2}}, \text{arc } P_{m-2} P''_m) t(M_n, \text{arc } P_0 P_{m-2} \text{ of } C),$$

where the arc  $P_{m-2} P''_m$  is the image of  $(\text{arc } P_{m-2} P_{m-1} \text{ of } C) + \text{arc } P_{m-2} P'_{m-1}$  by

the projection  $\pi$  and isometry  $\chi$  on  $R_{P_{n-1}}$ . Iterating this process we can see that Lemma 3 is true.

We are now going to assume a hypothesis<sup>(2)</sup>.

**HYPOTHESIS W.** There exists in  $M_n$  a point  $O$  such that each point of the submanifold  $R_0$  has an  $R$ -neighborhood which meets at most once with any  $S$ -submanifold.

When this hypothesis is satisfied, we take such a point  $O$  as the base point of holonomy groups. Then, for any  $S$ -submanifold, the intersection  $S \cap R_0$  is a discrete set of points. We say that any two points of this set are congruent to each other. Then a sufficiently small  $R$ -neighborhood of a point on  $R_0$  is isometric with corresponding  $R$ -neighborhoods of its congruent points. Hence if we identify congruent points on  $R_0$ , there arises a manifold  $R^*$  such that  $R_0$  is a covering manifold of  $R^*$ . As  $M_n$  is assumed to be complete,  $R_0$  and  $R^*$  are also complete. The terminal point  $O'$  of the curve  $C'$  does not in general coincide with the point  $O$ , except in the case when  $C$  is homotopic to zero. However, by the construction,  $O'$  is congruent to  $O$ . Hence the image  $C^*$  of  $C'$  on  $R^*$  is a closed curve passing through  $O^*$  (image of  $O$ ) on  $R^*$ . As  $R_0$  and  $R^*$  correspond locally isometrically we can easily see that

$$T(R_0, C') = T(R^*, C^*) \in H(R^*),$$

where  $H(R^*)$  means the holonomy group of  $R^*$ .

Conversely, let us consider a closed curve of class  $D'$  passing through the base point  $O^*$  and the transformation  $T(C^*)$  of the holonomy group  $H(R^*)$  associated with  $C^*$ . As  $R_0$  is a covering manifold of  $R^*$  we can construct the curve  $C'$  which issues from the point  $O$  over  $O^*$  and lies over  $C^*$ . The terminal point  $O'$  of  $C'$  is a point which is congruent to  $O$ . We can easily see that

$$T(C^*) = T(R_0, C'),$$

provided that the repères  $[e_1, \dots, e_r]_O$  and  $[e_1, \dots, e_r]_{O'}$  at the initial and terminal points of  $C'$  are those which lie over the repère at the point  $O^*$ .

Now, as  $O$  and  $O'$  lie on the same submanifold  $S_0$  we can connect  $O'$  with  $O$  by a curve  $C''$  of class  $D'$  on  $S_0$ . If we consider the product curve  $C'C''$  as a curve in  $M_n$ , the continuous projection of  $C'C''$  into  $R_0$  is easily seen to be  $C'$ . The repère  $[e_1, \dots, e_r]_{O'}$  we mentioned above is also the image of  $[e_1, \dots, e_r]_O$  by the projection. Hence we can see that

$$T(R_0, C') = t(M_n, C'C'').$$

Consequently, we get the following

**THEOREM 2.** *Let  $M_n$  be a complete Riemannian manifold whose holonomy group  $h$  decomposes in  $r$ -dimensional and  $(n-r)$ -dimensional parts and satisfies the hypothesis W. We take a point  $O$  satisfying the hypothesis W and construct*

<sup>(2)</sup> A. G. Walker, *The fibering of Riemannian manifolds*, Proc. London Math. Soc. (3) vol. 3 (1953) pp. 1-19.

the submanifold  $R_0$  and the manifold  $R^*$  which arises by identification of congruent points of  $R_0$ . Then the group which consists of all transformations  $t(M_n, C)$  is the same as the holonomy group  $H(R^*)$  of the manifold  $R^*$ , the base point  $O^*$  and the repère at  $O^*$  on  $R^*$  being naturally impressed from  $M_n$ .

Suppose that the restricted holonomy group  $h^0$  of  $M_n$  decomposes and fixes  $r$  vectors (we do not assume that there are no other invariant vectors), and that these  $r$  vectors span an  $r$ -dimensional plane invariant under the holonomy group  $h$ . Then there exist a parallel field of  $r$ -dimensional planes in  $M_n$  and  $(n-r)$ -parameter family of  $r$ -dimensional totally geodesic submanifolds  $R$ . Each of these submanifolds  $R$  is an Euclidean space form, in other words, a complete manifold with locally flat Riemannian metric. Hence the manifold  $R^*$  is also a Euclidean space form. However, as is known, "the universal covering manifold of any Euclidean space form of  $n$  dimensions is the  $n$ -dimensional Euclidean space  $E_n$  and the holonomy group  $H$  of it coincides with the group of covering transformations on  $E_n$ ". Hence,  $H(R^*)$  is nothing but a discrete group of congruent transformations without fixed points of  $E_n$ . Accordingly we get, by virtue of Theorem 2, the following

**THEOREM 3.** *Suppose that the holonomy group  $h^0$  of a complete Riemannian manifold  $M_n$  decomposes and fixes  $r$  vectors and that these  $r$  vectors span an  $r$ -dimensional plane invariant under the holonomy group  $h$ . If it moreover satisfies the hypothesis W, the  $r$ -dimensional part corresponding to the invariant  $r$ -dimensional plane of the holonomy group  $H(M_n)$  is a discrete group of congruent transformations without fixed points of  $E_n$ .*

**REMARK.** We can easily see from the fact " . . . " cited above that a (non-restricted) homogeneous holonomy group  $h$  is not always closed in the orthogonal group  $O(n)$ . For example, consider the cyclic group generated by the following transformation of  $E_n$

$$\begin{aligned}x'_1 &= \cos \alpha x_1 - \sin \alpha x_2, \\x'_2 &= \sin \alpha x_1 + \cos \alpha x_2, \\x'_3 &= x_3 + 1.\end{aligned}\quad \alpha/\pi \text{ irrational,}$$

The factor space of  $E_n$  by this group has obviously the desired property.

### 3. A theorem on the group $H^0$ .

**THEOREM 4<sup>(3)</sup>.** *Let  $M_n$  be an irreducible Riemannian manifold. Then the holonomy group  $H^0$*

- (i) *either contains all translations of Euclidean space  $E_n$*
- (ii) *or it fixes a point in  $E_n$  (in other words, it is a subgroup of the rotation group  $O^+(n)$  with a center at the fixed point).*

---

<sup>(3)</sup> We owe this theorem to A. Borel. But for the sake of completeness we shall write our proof here.

**Proof.** We shall indicate an element of  $H^0$  considered as a topological group by  $g$  and the motion associated with  $g$  by

$$(1) \quad T(g): x'_i = a_{ij}(g)x_j + a_i(g).$$

Then all the transformations  $T(g)$  constitute  $H^0$ . Of course, the matrices

$$A(g) = (a_{ij}(g))$$

are nothing but the coefficient matrices of transformations of  $h^0$  and this set is irreducible by our assumption.

Now let us consider the representation  $\Gamma: g \rightarrow A(g)$  and denote the kernel of  $\Gamma$  by  $K$ . Then  $K$  is the totality of elements of  $H^0$  such that  $A(g) = E$ , hence  $K$  is the subgroup of  $H^0$  consisting of all translations of  $H^0$ . We shall classify two cases; the first is the case where  $K$  is nondiscrete and the second is the case where  $K$  is discrete.

(i) *The case where  $K$  is a nondiscrete group.* As  $K$  is a closed subgroup of  $H^0$ ,  $K$  is a Lie group. Hence  $K$  contains at least a one parameter group  $K_1$  of translations as its subgroup. Let us denote it by

$$(2) \quad \Lambda_t: x'_i = x_i + \lambda_{it}$$

where  $\lambda_i$  are constant such that at least one of them is not equal to zero. Now denoting an arbitrary element of  $H^0$  by  $T(g)$  we can easily verify that  $T(g)\Lambda_t T(g)^{-1}$  is a translation and its equation is given by

$$(3) \quad x'_i = x_i + a_{ih}(g)\lambda_{ht}.$$

As the set of matrices  $(a_{ij}(g))$  is irreducible, we see immediately that  $K$  contains  $n$  linearly independent translations. Hence  $K$  contains all translations of  $E_n$ .

(ii) *The case where  $K$  is a discrete group.* As  $K$  is the kernel of the representation  $\Gamma$ ,  $K$  is a normal subgroup of  $H^0$ . Hence, by virtue of the theorem<sup>(4)</sup> to the effect that every discrete normal subgroup of a connected topological group is a central normal subgroup of this group,  $K$  is contained in the center of  $H^0$ . Accordingly, if we assume that  $T(g)$  and  $\Lambda: x'_i = x_i + \lambda_i$  are transformations belonging to  $H^0$  and  $K$  respectively, then  $T(g)\Lambda T(g)^{-1}$  must coincide with  $\Lambda$ . Hence, we can see that the equation

$$\lambda_i = a_{ik}(g)\lambda_k$$

must hold for every  $g \in H^0$  and fixed  $\lambda_i$ . If there is one  $\lambda$  which is not equal to zero among  $\lambda_i$ , the last equation shows that there exists at least an invariant direction under  $h^0$  which contradicts the fact that  $h^0$  is irreducible by our assumption. Accordingly, every  $\lambda_i$  must vanish and hence  $K$  consists only of the identity. Consequently, we can conclude that the representation  $\Gamma$  is faithful, in other words there exists an isomorphism  $H^0 \cong h^0$ .

<sup>(4)</sup> Pontrjagin, *Topological groups*, p. 77.



By virtue of a theorem of Borel-Lichnerowicz<sup>(6)</sup>, the group  $h^0$  is a closed subgroup of the compact orthogonal group  $O^+(n)$  and hence  $h^0$  is compact. As  $H^0 \cong h^0$ ,  $H^0$  is also compact. Accordingly, we can introduce in the group manifold of  $H^0$  the Haar measure. Denoting the total measure of the group manifold by  $\omega$ , we put

$$\frac{1}{\omega} \int a_i(g) dg = c_i.$$

In the last and the following equations we assume that the integrals are extended over the whole group manifold. Then we can easily see that

$$a_{ik}(g)c_k + a_i(g) = \frac{1}{\omega} \int (a_{ik}(g)a_k(h) + a_i(g)) dh.$$

As the integrand of the right-hand side of the last equation is equal to  $a_i(hg)$ , we get

$$a_{ik}(g)c_k + a_i(g) = \frac{1}{\omega} \int a_i(hg) dh.$$

Since the Haar measure over the compact group is two-sided invariant, the right-hand side is equal to

$$\frac{1}{\omega} \int a_i(h) dh = c_i.$$

Consequently,  $c_i$  is the fixed point under the group  $H^0$ . Thus our theorem is completely proved.

#### 4. A theorem on complete Riemannian manifolds.

**THEOREM 5.** *Let  $M_n$  be a complete Riemannian manifold. If the holonomy group  $H^0$  fixes a point, then  $M_n$  is an Euclidean space form.*

**Proof.** We shall prove the theorem under the assumption that  $M_n$  is simply connected. However, if this is done, the general case follows immediately. For, as the holonomy group  $\tilde{H} = \tilde{H}^0$  of the universal covering manifold  $\tilde{M}_n$  of  $M_n$  with naturally induced metric from  $M_n$  coincides with  $H^0$ ,  $\tilde{M}_n$  is an Euclidean space form by hypothesis and hence  $M_n$  itself is everywhere locally Euclidean.

Let us denote the base point of the holonomy group by  $O$  and denote the fixed point in the tangent space  $E_n(O)$  by  $P_0^*$ . Then, we can draw a geodesic segment arc  $OP_0$  in  $M_n$  such that its development in  $E_n(O)$  coincides with the straight line  $OP_0^*$  by virtue of the completeness assumption. We shall consider a normal coordinate system with center  $P_0$  and denote it by  $\bar{x}$  and the

(6) A. Borel and A. Lichnerowicz, loc. cit.

coordinate neighborhood by  $U$ . It is well known that

$$(4) \quad \left\{ \begin{smallmatrix} \bar{i} \\ jk \end{smallmatrix} \right\} \bar{x}^j \bar{x}^k = 0$$

holds good in  $U$ .

Now let us consider a point  $P - \bar{x}^i e_i$  at every tangent space  $E_n(P)$  ( $P \in U$ ) on a geodesic  $\bar{x}^i = a^i s$  through  $P_0$ , where we assume that  $e_i$  is the natural repère at that point. Then, by virtue of (4) we get

$$\frac{d}{ds} (P - \bar{x}^i e_i) = \left( \frac{d\bar{x}^i}{ds} - \frac{d\bar{x}^i}{ds} - \bar{x}^j \left\{ \begin{smallmatrix} \bar{i} \\ jk \end{smallmatrix} \right\} a^k \right) e_i = 0.$$

Hence, the point  $P - \bar{x}^i e_i \in E_n(P)$  at each point  $P$  of the geodesic  $\bar{x}^i = a^i s$  coincides when we develop these tangent spaces along the geodesic. If we consider the case  $\bar{x}^i = 0$  we can see that the point  $P - \bar{x}^i e_i$  coincides with the invariant point  $P_0^*$  of the holonomy group  $H^0$ . Hence  $P - \bar{x}^i e_i$  in  $E_n(P)$  is the point which is transplanted from  $P_0^*$  by the connection of the manifold  $M_n$ , and it does not depend upon the curves which combine  $P_0$  to  $P$ .

Let us now consider another curve  $C$  through  $P$  and consider the derivative of  $P - \bar{x}^i e_i$  with respect to this curve. As  $P - \bar{x}^i e_i$  is a covariant constant point field, we get  $(d/ds)(P - \bar{x}^i e_i) = 0$ , which reduces to

$$\left\{ \begin{smallmatrix} \bar{i} \\ jk \end{smallmatrix} \right\} \bar{x}^j \frac{d\bar{x}^k}{ds} e_i = 0.$$

As the curve  $C$  may have any direction at  $P$ , we get from the last equation the following relation:

$$\left\{ \begin{smallmatrix} \bar{i} \\ jk \end{smallmatrix} \right\} \bar{x}^j = 0.$$

From the last relation we get easily

$$(\partial \bar{g}_{jk} / \partial \bar{x}^i) \bar{x}^i = 0,$$

which shows that  $\bar{g}_{jk}(\bar{x})$ 's are homogeneous functions of degree 0 with respect to  $\bar{x}^i$ . Hence, as  $P_0$  is a regular point of the manifold  $M_n$ , we see that  $\bar{g}_{jk}(\bar{x}) = \bar{g}_{jk}(0)$  in the neighborhood  $U$ . Accordingly, in the domain  $U$  our manifold is locally Euclidean.

In the next place we shall show that any two geodesic rays which issue from  $O$  do not intersect any more. By hypothesis  $M_n$  is simply connected. Hence the point  $P_0^*$  can be transplanted uniquely on every tangent space  $E_n(P)$  ( $P \in M_n$ ) by development irrespective to curves which bind  $P_0$  to  $P$ . It is

(\*) S. Tachibana, *On the normal coordinate of Riemann space, whose holonomy group fixes a point*, Tôhoku Math. J. (2) vol. 1 (1949) pp. 26-30.

evident that the transplanted point does not coincide with  $P$  unless  $P$  coincides with  $P_0$ . Now, let us assume that there exist two geodesic rays which intersect at  $Q (\neq P)$  and denote them by  $g_1$  and  $g_2$ . If we consider the points  $R_1^*, R_2^*$  on  $E_n(Q)$  which lie on the tangents of  $g_1$  and  $g_2$  at  $Q$  such that  $QR_\lambda^* =$  the length of arc  $QP_0$  along  $g_\lambda$  ( $\lambda = 1, 2$ ), then  $R_1^*, R_2^*$  are the transplanted points of  $P_0^*$  along  $g_\lambda$ . This contradicts the fact that  $P_0^*$  is transplanted uniquely irrespective to curves which bind  $P_0$  to  $Q$ . Accordingly, any two geodesic rays which issue from  $P_0$  do not intersect any more. In other words, geodesic rays which issue from  $P_0$  constitute a geodesic field in the large.

Now let us denote by  $K_l$  the inner domain of the geodesic hypersphere of radius  $l$  and with center  $P_0$  and by  $\partial K_l$  its boundary. We take  $l$  so large that every point  $P \in K_l$  has a locally flat neighborhood but some points on  $\partial K_l$  do not have such property. If  $l = \infty$ , then our theorem is proved, so we assume that  $l$  is finite and  $Q \in \partial K_l$  is one of the points which do not have the above stated property.

As the group  $H^0$  fixes the point  $P_0^*$ , there exists a neighborhood  $V$  of  $Q$  such that the line element  $ds^2$  in  $V$  can be written as<sup>(7)</sup>

$$ds^2 = (x^n)^2 g_{ab}(x^c) dx^a dx^b + (dx^n)^2 \quad a, b, c = 1, 2, \dots, n-1.$$

If a point  $R \in V$  has the coordinates  $(x^a, x^n)$ , then  $x^n =$  the length of the geodesic segment  $P_0 R$  and the geodesic hyperspheres  $x^n = \text{const.}$  are umbilical hypersurfaces too. However, when  $x^n < l$  the line element is locally flat by assumption, hence it is also locally flat for  $x^n \geq l$ . Hence the line element is locally flat in  $V$ . This contradicts the fact that  $Q$  has no locally flat neighborhood. Accordingly  $l = \infty$  i.e.  $M_n$  is locally Euclidean everywhere. Q.E.D.

**COROLLARY 1.** *Let  $M_n$  be a complete Riemannian manifold which is irreducible (with respect to the holonomy group  $h^0$ ). Then the holonomy group  $H^0$  contains all translations of the Euclidean space  $E_n$ .*

**COROLLARY 2.** *Let  $M_n$  be a complete Riemannian manifold. Then the holonomy group  $H^0$  is a closed subgroup of the group of motions.*

**COROLLARY 3.** *Let  $M_n$  be a complete and simply connected Riemannian manifold. If its nonhomogeneous holonomy group  $H^0$  fixes an  $r$ -dimensional linear subspace  $E_r$  ( $0 < r < n$ ) of  $E_n$ , then*

$$V_r = V_x \times E_{n-r}.$$

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY,  
PRINCETON, N. J.

<sup>(7)</sup> S. Sasaki, *On the structure of Riemannian spaces whose holonomy groups fix a direction or a point*, Journ. Physico Math. Soc. Japan vol. 16 (1942) pp. 193–200 (in Japanese).