

A half-space theorem for graphs of constant mean curvature $0 < H < \frac{1}{2}$ in $\mathbb{H}^2 \times \mathbb{R}$

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Introduction

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The half space theorem by Hoffman and Meeks states that if a properly immersed minimal surface S in \mathbb{R}^3 lies on one side of some plane P , then S is a plane parallel to P .

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Two properly immersed minimal surfaces in \mathbb{R}^3 that do not intersect must be parallel planes.

Ambient simply connected homogeneous manifolds with dimension 3

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Half spaces theorems with respect to vertical minimal planes in Nil_3 and Sol_3 (2011-Daniel, William, Meeks and Rosenberg)

There is no half space theorem for horizontal slices in $\mathbb{H}^2 \times \mathbb{R}$, since rotational minimal surfaces (catenoids) are contained in a slab, but one has half space theorems for constant mean curvature $\frac{1}{2}$ surfaces in $\mathbb{H}^2 \times \mathbb{R}$ (2008-Hauswirth, Rosenberg and Spruck).

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In Euclidian spaces on dimension higher than 4, there is no half space theorem, since there exist rotational proper minimal hypersurfaces contained in a slab.

Graphs of a function u defined in a domain D whose boundary ∂D is composed of complete arcs $\{A_i\}$ and $\{B_j\}$, such that the curvatures of the arcs with respect to the domain are $\kappa(A_i) = 2H$ and $\kappa(B_j) = -2H$. These graphs will have constant mean curvature and u will assume the value $+\infty$ on each A_i and $-\infty$ on each B_j .

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D -Scherk type domains

u -Scherk type solution

Scherk type graphs

- Minimal

$M \times \mathbb{R}$; M -Hadamard

Existence: Rosenberg, Collin

Half-space theorem: Ana Menezes (2013)

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- CMC $0 < H < \frac{1}{2}$

$H^2 \times \mathbb{R}$; H^2 -Hyperbolic plane

Existence: Folha, Melo

Half-space theorem: —, Mazet (2015)

Theorem (—, Mazet, 2015)

Let $D \subset \mathbb{H}^2$ be a Scherk type domain and u be a Scherk type solution over D . Denote by $\Sigma = \text{Graph}(u)$. If S is a properly immersed CMC $0 < H < \frac{1}{2}$ surface contained in $D \times \mathbb{R}$ and above Σ , then S is a vertical translate of Σ .

CMC Scherk type graphs

Let

H^2 - the hyperbolic plane

$H^2 \times \mathbb{R}$ - given by the product metric

D - simply connected domain in H^2

$\Sigma = \text{Graph}(u)$; $u : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ a function

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$N = \frac{1}{W}(\partial_t - \nabla u)$ - the upward unit normal to Σ

$W = \sqrt{1 + |\nabla u|^2}$

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The graph Σ has mean curvature H if u satisfies the equation

$$\mathcal{L}u := \operatorname{div} \frac{\nabla u}{W} - 2H = 0$$

CMC Scherk type graphs

Let D be a Scherk type domain, under certain hypothesis, Folha and Melo prove the existence of a solution u for the following Dirichlet problem

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}u &= 0, & \text{in } D \\ u &= +\infty, & \text{on } A_i \\ u &= -\infty, & \text{on } B_i.\end{aligned}\tag{1}$$

The details and proof of the theorem can be found in

A. Folha and S. Melo. The Dirichlet problem for constant mean curvature graphs in $H \times \mathbb{R}$ over unbounded domains. Pacific Journal of Mathematics, v. 251, n. 1, p. 37-65, 2011.

The Main Result

Theorem (—, Mazet, 2015)

Let $D \subset \mathbb{H}^2$ be a Scherk type domain and u be a Scherk type solution over D . Denote by $\Sigma = \text{Graph}(u)$. If S is a properly immersed CMC $0 < H < \frac{1}{2}$ surface contained in $D \times \mathbb{R}$ and above Σ , then S is a vertical translate of Σ .

Proof of Theorem

We know that S is a properly immersed CMC surface contained in $D \times \mathbb{R}$ above Σ . Then, let $y \in D$, $B_y \subset D$ and ϵ' as above. We have three cases to analyze

1) Suppose that there exists $p \in D$ such that $g(p) = u(p)$. In this case, by the maximum principle, we conclude that $u = g$ and $S = \Sigma$.

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2) Suppose that $g > u$ and $\inf(g - u) = 0$. In this case, by the Proposition 1 there exists β solution of (6)-(7) defined over $B \setminus B_y$ such that $u \leq \beta \leq g$. Moreover, Proposition 2 assures that $\beta = u + \epsilon I$. This yields a contradiction, since we assume that $\inf(g - u) = 0$.

- 1) Suppose that there exists $p \in D$ such that $g(p) = u(p)$. In this case, by the maximum principle, we conclude that $u = g$ and $S = \Sigma$.
- 2) Suppose that $g > u$ and $\inf(g - u) = 0$. In this case, by the Proposition 1 there exists β solution of (6)-(7) defined over $B \setminus B_y$ such that $u \leq \beta \leq g$. Moreover, Proposition 2 assures that $\beta = u + \epsilon l$. This yields a contradiction, since we assume that $\inf(g - u) = 0$.
- 3) Finally, suppose that $g > u$ and $\inf(g - u) = \alpha > 0$. Then, pushing up Σ by a vertical translations, that is, by considering $u + \alpha$ instead of u , we have now that $g \geq u + \alpha$ and $\inf(g - \alpha - u) = 0$, this case reduces to cases (1) and (2) and we conclude that $\beta = u + \alpha$, where α is a constant.

Lemma

There exists a constant $\epsilon > 0$ such that for all $t \in [0, \epsilon)$ there exists $v \in C^2(B_{1_y} \setminus B_y) \cap C^0(\partial(B_{1_y} \setminus B_y))$ such that v solves 3 and $v = u$ in ∂B_{1_y} and $v = u + t$ over ∂B_y .

Proposition

There is a solution $\beta \in v \in C^2(D \setminus \overline{B}_y) \cap C^0(D \setminus B_y)$ for the Dirichlet problem (6)-(7) such that $\max(u, v) \leq \beta \leq \min(u + \epsilon', g)$.

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Claim 2. *The function β is a solution of (3) in $D \setminus \overline{B}_y$.*

Claim 3. *The function β is continuous up to the boundary ∂B_y and takes the value $u + \epsilon'$ on it.*

Proposition

Let $\beta \in v \in C^1(D \setminus \overline{B}_y)$ solution of the Dirichlet problem (3) such that $u \leq \beta \leq u + \epsilon'$. Then, $\beta = u + \epsilon'$

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Thank you