# A NONEXISTENCE TEST FOR BIHARMONIC GREEN'S FUNCTIONS OF CLAMPED BODIES

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The purpose of this paper is to introduce a convenient test for the nonexistence of the biharmonic Green's function  $\beta_M$  on a Riemannian manifold M, with "boundary data"  $\beta_M = *d\beta_M = 0$ . As an application we exhibit an M whose boundary is harmonically so strong that  $M \notin O_{HD}$  but which nevertheless carries no  $\beta_M$ .

#### 1. The class $O_{\beta}$ .

Let  $\Omega = \{\Omega\}$  be the directed net of regular subregions of a noncompact Riemannian manifold M of dimension  $\mu \ge 2$ . Denote by  $G_{\Omega}(x, y)$  the harmonic Green's function on  $\Omega$  and by  $H(\Omega)$  the class of harmonic functions on  $\Omega$ . The biharmonic Green's function of the clamped body,  $\beta_{\Omega}(x, y)$  on  $\Omega$  is well known to exist and is characterized by the following two conditions:

$$\begin{array}{ll} (\beta.1) \ \beta_{\Omega}(\,\cdot\,,y) \in C^2(\Omega-y) \ \ and \ \ \Delta\beta_{\Omega}(\,\cdot\,,y) - G_{\Omega}(\,\cdot\,,y) \in H(\Omega) \ \ for \ \ every \ \ y \ \ in \ \ \Omega; \\ (\beta.2) \ \beta_{\Omega}(\,\cdot\,,y) \in C^1(\bar{\Omega}-y) \ \ and \ \ \beta_{\Omega}(\,\cdot\,,y) = *d\beta_{\Omega}(\,\cdot\,,y) = 0 \ \ on \ \partial\Omega. \end{array}$$

We know that  $\beta_{\Omega} - \beta_{\Omega} \in C(\Omega \times \Omega)$  for  $\Omega \subset \Omega'$  (e.g. Nakai-Sario [4]) and thus we can define  $\beta_{\Omega'}(y,y) - \beta_{\Omega}(y,y)$  as  $\lim_{x \to y} (\beta_{\Omega'}(x,y) - \beta_{\Omega}(x,y))$ . If there exists a function  $\beta_M(x,y)$  on  $M \times M$  with values in  $(-\infty,\infty]$ , finite on  $M \times M$  off the diagonal and such that

(1) 
$$\lim_{\Omega \to M} (\beta_M(x, y) - \beta_\Omega(x, y)) = 0$$

on  $M \times M$ , then we call  $\beta_M(x, y)$  the (generalized) biharmonic Green's function of the clamped body on M, with "boundary data"  $\beta_M = *d\beta_M = 0$ . Here we understand (1) for (y, y) as the existence of a finite  $\lim_{\Omega \to M} (\beta_{\Omega}(y, y) - \beta_{\Omega}(y, y))$  for one and hence for every  $\Omega \in \Omega$ . We denote by  $O_{\beta}$  the class of noncompact

This work was sponsored by the U.S. Army Research Office, Grant DA-ARO-31-124-73-G39, University of California, Los Angeles.

Received January 21, 1976.

Riemannian manifolds M on which there exists no  $\beta_M$ . We observe that  $M \notin O_B$  is equivalent to

 $(\beta.3)$   $\lim_{\Omega \to M} (\beta_{\Omega'}(x, y) - \beta_{\Omega}(x, y))$  exists and is finite on  $\Omega \times \Omega$  for one and hence for every  $\Omega \in \Omega$ .

## 2. The class $O_{SH_2}$ .

We consider the class  $H_2(M) = H(M) \cap L_2(M, dV)$  where dV is the volume element of M. The class  $H_2(M)$  is known to be a locally bounded Hilbert space and the norm convergence implies the uniform convergence on each compact subset of M (e.g. Nakai-Sario [4]). It is easy to show that  $H(\Omega) \cap C(\bar{\Omega})$  is dense in  $H_2(\Omega)$  for  $\Omega \in \Omega$ . We denote by  $O_{H_2}$  the class of Riemannian manifolds M with  $H_2(M) = \{0\}$  and by  $O_{SH_2}$  the class of Riemannian manifolds M such that there exists a subregion  $N \neq \emptyset$  of M with  $M - \bar{N} \neq \emptyset$  and  $N \in O_{H_2}$ , that is,  $H_2(N) = \{0\}$ . We have the strict inclusion relation

$$O_{SH_2} < O_{H_2}.$$

The mere inclusion is trivial and the strictness is seen as follows, by means of the Euclidean space  $E^{\mu}$  of dimension  $\mu \ge 2$ . First we prove

$$E^{\mu}\in O_{H_2}$$
.

Take any  $h \in H_2(E^{\mu})$ . Let  $(r, \theta) = (r, \theta^1, \dots, \theta^{\mu-1})$  be the polar coordinates, and  $d\theta$  the surface element on  $\Theta: |x| = 1$ . Then

$$g(x) = g(|x|) = \int_{\Theta} h(|x|, \theta)^2 d\theta \ge 0$$

is subharmonic on  $E^{\mu}$  and, by the maximum principle, g(r) is an increasing function on  $[0,\infty)$ . If  $g(r) \not\equiv 0$ , then there exist constants c>0 and  $\sigma>0$  such that  $g(r) \ge c$  on  $[\sigma,\infty)$ . Thus

$$\infty = c \int_{\sigma}^{\infty} r^{\mu-1} dr \le \int_{\sigma}^{\infty} g(r) r^{\mu-1} dr$$

$$= \int_{\sigma}^{\infty} \int_{\Theta} h(r, \theta)^{2} r^{\mu-1} dr d\theta$$

$$= \int_{|x| > \sigma} h(x)^{2} dx^{1} \dots dx^{\mu} < \infty,$$

a contradiction. Therefore,  $g \equiv 0$  and a fortiori  $h \equiv 0$  on every  $|x| = \varrho > 0$ , that is,  $h \equiv 0$ , and we conclude that  $H_2(E^{\mu}) = \{0\}$ .

Next we show that

$$E^{\mu} \notin O_{SH_2}$$
.

Suppose there exists a subregion  $N \neq \emptyset$  of  $E^{\mu}$  with  $E^{\mu} - \bar{N} \neq \emptyset$  and  $H_2(N) = \{0\}$ . Let  $x_0 \in E^{\mu} - \bar{N}$  and  $\{|x - x_0| < \varrho\} \subset E^{\mu} - \bar{N}$ . By a parallel translation, if necessary, we obtain  $N \subset N_{\varrho} = \{|x| > \varrho\}$ . Since  $H_2(N_{\varrho}) \subset H_2(N) = \{0\}$ , we have  $H_2(N_{\varrho}) = \{0\}$ , but this is impossible because

$$h(x) = r^{-(n+\mu-2)}S_n(\theta) \in H_2(N_o) \quad ((r,\theta)=x, n>2),$$

with  $S_n(\theta)$  any nonzero spherical harmonic of degree n.

The main purpose of the present paper is to prove:

THEOREM 1. The following inclusion relation is valid:

$$O_{SH_2} \subset O_{\beta} .$$

This will give a convenient test for  $M \in O_{\beta}$ . We only have to find a subregion  $N \neq \emptyset$  of M with  $M - \bar{N} \neq \emptyset$  and  $H_2(N) = \{0\}$  to conclude that  $M \in O_{\beta}$ . Note that this is not a characterization of  $O_{\beta}$ , i.e. (3) is not an equality in general. In fact,

$$\beta_{\Omega_{\varrho}}(x,0) = \begin{cases} |x|^{2} \log \frac{|x|}{\varrho} - \frac{1}{2}(|x|^{2} - \varrho^{2}), & (\mu = 2); \\ -|x| + \varrho + \frac{1}{2}\varrho^{-1}(|x|^{2} - \varrho^{2}), & (\mu = 3); \\ -\log \frac{|x|}{\varrho} + \frac{1}{2}\varrho^{-1}(|x|^{2} - \varrho^{2}), & (\mu = 4); \\ |x|^{-\mu + 4} - \varrho^{-\mu + 4} + \frac{1}{2}(\mu - 4)\varrho^{-\mu + 2}(|x|^{2} - \varrho^{2}), & (\mu \ge 5), \end{cases}$$

on  $\Omega_{\varrho} = \{|x| < \varrho\} \ (0 < \varrho < \infty)$ , hence

$$E^{\mu} \in O_{\beta} \qquad (\mu = 2, 3, 4) .$$

By this and  $E^{\mu} \notin O_{SH_2}$  we see that the equality does not hold in (3) for the dimensions  $\mu = 2, 3$ , and 4.

The proof of Theorem 1 will be given in section 7 after we have established, in sections 3-6, three *complete characterizations* of  $O_{\beta}$ , instead of merely an inclusion as in (3). The significance of (3) lies in its applicability to concrete cases to show the nonexistence of  $\beta$ .

## 3. The $\beta$ -density $H_{\Omega}(\cdot, v)$ .

As a consequence of  $(\beta.1)$  and  $(\beta.2)$ ,  $\beta_{\Omega}(\cdot, y)$  is a Green potential with the density  $H_{\Omega}(\cdot, y) = \Delta \beta_{\Omega}(\cdot, y)$ , which we call the  $\beta$ -density on  $\Omega$ :

(4) 
$$\beta_{\Omega}(\cdot,y) = \int_{\Omega} G_{\Omega}(\cdot,\xi) H_{\Omega}(\xi,y) dV_{\xi}.$$

Since  $H_{\Omega}(\cdot, y) \in C(\bar{\Omega} - y)$ , a property of the Green kernel (e.g. Miranda [1]) gives

$$*d\beta_{\Omega}(\cdot,y) = \int_{\Omega} *dG_{\Omega}(\cdot,\xi) H_{\Omega}(\xi,y) dV_{\xi}$$

on  $\partial \Omega$ . Again by  $(\beta.2)$ ,

$$\int_{\Omega} *d_x G_{\Omega}(x,\xi) H_{\Omega}(\xi,y) dV_{\xi} = 0$$

for every  $x \in \partial \Omega$ . On multiplying both sides by an arbitrary  $h \in H(\Omega) \cap C(\overline{\Omega})$  and integrating over  $\partial \Omega$ , we obtain by Fubini's theorem

$$\int_{\Omega} \left( \int_{\partial \Omega} h(x) * d_x G_{\Omega}(x,\xi) \right) H_{\Omega}(\xi,y) dV_{\xi} = 0.$$

By the reproducing property of  $G_{\Omega}$ , we conclude that

(5) 
$$\int_{\Omega} h(\xi) H_{\Omega}(\xi, y) dV_{\xi} = 0$$

for every  $h \in H(\Omega) \cap C(\overline{\Omega})$ , and since  $H(\Omega) \cap C(\overline{\Omega})$  is dense in  $H_2(\Omega)$ , for every  $h \in H_2(\Omega)$ . We have obtained for the  $\beta$ -density the following orthogonality property which plays an important role in the study of  $O_{\beta}$ :

(6) 
$$H_{\Omega}(\cdot,y)\perp H_{2}(\Omega).$$

## 4. The $\beta$ -span $S_{\beta}$ .

We denote by  $(\cdot, \cdot)$  and  $\|\cdot\|$  the inner product and the norm in  $L_2(M, dV)$ . We consider  $\beta_{\Omega}(x, y)$  and  $H_{\Omega}(x, y)$  as defined on all of  $M \times M$  by giving values zero outside of their original domains of definition. First observe that, by (6) and  $H_{\Omega}(\cdot, y) - G_{\Omega}(\cdot, y) \in H_2(\Omega)$ ,

(7) 
$$\beta_{\Omega}(x,y) = \int_{\Omega} H_{\Omega}(\xi,x) H_{\Omega}(\xi,y) dV_{\xi}.$$

Similarly by (6) and  $H_{\Omega}(\cdot, y) - H_{\Omega}(\cdot, y) \in H_2(\Omega)$ , we have for  $\Omega \subset \Omega'$ ,

$$(8) \ \beta_{\Omega}(x,y) - \beta_{\Omega}(x,y) = \int_{\Omega} \big( H_{\Omega}(\xi,x) - H_{\Omega}(\xi,x) \big) \big( H_{\Omega}(\xi,y) - H_{\Omega}(\xi,y) \big) dV_{\xi}.$$

In particular,

(9) 
$$\beta_{O}(v, v) - \beta_{O}(v, v) = \|H_{O}(\cdot, v) - H_{O}(\cdot, v)\|^{2}.$$

Again by (6),

(10) 
$$||H_{\Omega'}(\cdot, y) - H_{\Omega'}(\cdot, y)||^2$$

$$= ||H_{\Omega'}(\cdot, y) - H_{\Omega}(\cdot, y)||^2 - ||H_{\Omega'}(\cdot, y) - H_{\Omega}(\cdot, y)||^2$$

for  $\Omega \subset \Omega' \subset \Omega''$ . From (9) and (10) it follows that  $\{\beta_{\Omega'}(y,y) - \beta_{\Omega}(y,y)\}$   $\{\Omega' \supset \Omega, \Omega' \in \Omega\}$  is an increasing net. Therefore, we can define for  $y \in M$  and  $\Omega \in \Omega$  with  $y \in \Omega$ .

(11) 
$$S_{\beta}(y) = S_{\beta}(y; M) = S_{\beta}(y; \Omega, M)$$

$$= \lim_{\Omega \to M} (\beta_{\Omega}(y, y) - \beta_{\Omega}(y, y))$$

$$= \lim_{\Omega \to M} ||H_{\Omega}(\cdot, y) - H_{\Omega}(\cdot, y)||^{2} \in (0, \infty],$$

which we will call the  $\beta$ -span of M at  $y \in M$  with respect to  $\Omega$ . The property  $S_{\beta}(y) < \infty$  is clearly independent of the choice of  $\Omega$  and is thus a property of (M, y). We maintain:

THEOREM 2. The manifold M does not belong to  $O_{\beta}$  if and only if the  $\beta$ -span  $S_{\beta}(y)$  of M is finite at every point  $y \in M$ .

If  $M \notin O_{\beta}$ , or  $(\beta.3)$  is valid, then we trivially have  $S_{\beta}(y) < \infty$  for every  $y \in M$ . Conversely, assume that  $S_{\beta}(y) < \infty$  for every  $y \in M$ . Then, by (8) and (9), the Schwarz inequality implies that

$$(12) |\beta_{\Omega'}(x,y) - \beta_{\Omega'}(x,y)| \le ||H_{\Omega''}(\cdot,x) - H_{\Omega'}(\cdot,x)|| \cdot ||H_{\Omega''}(\cdot,y) - H_{\Omega'}(\cdot,y)||$$

on  $\Omega' \times \Omega'$  for  $\Omega' \subset \Omega''$ . By (10), (11),  $S_{\beta}(x) < \infty$ , and  $S_{\beta}(y) < \infty$ , we see that the right-hand side of (12) converges to zero on  $\Omega \times \Omega$  as  $\Omega' \to M$  for any  $\Omega \subset \Omega'$   $\subset \Omega''$ , and, since  $\Omega$  is arbitrary,

$$\lim_{\Omega' \subset \Omega'', \Omega' \to M} (\beta_{\Omega''}(x, y) - \beta_{\Omega'}(x, y)) = 0$$

on  $M \times M$ .

$$\lim_{\Omega' \to M} |\beta_{\Omega'}(x, y) - \beta_{\Omega}(x, y)| \leq S_{\beta}(x)^{\frac{1}{2}} S_{\beta}(y)^{\frac{1}{2}} ,$$

and

$$S_{\beta}(y) = \lim_{\Omega' \to M} (\beta_{\Omega''}(y, y) - \beta_{\Omega}(y, y)) < \infty.$$

Thus  $(\beta.3)$  is fulfilled for every  $\Omega \in \Omega$  and, therefore,  $M \notin O_{\alpha}$ .

### 5. The $\beta$ -density $H_M(\cdot, y)$ .

Assume  $M \notin O_{\beta}$ . By Theorem 2 and relations (10) and (11), we conclude that  $\{H_{\Omega'}(\cdot,y)-H_{\Omega}(\cdot,y)\}\ (\Omega'\supset\Omega,\ \Omega'\in\Omega)$  is a Cauchy net in  $L_2(M,dV)$  and has a limit  $H_{M\Omega}(\cdot,y)\in L_2(M,dV)$ . Set

$$H_M(\cdot, v) = H_{MO}(\cdot, v) + H_O(\cdot, v)$$

Then since

$$H_{M}(\cdot, y) - H_{O}(\cdot, y) = H_{MO}(\cdot, y) - (H_{O}(\cdot, y) - H_{O}(\cdot, y)),$$

the net  $\{H_M(\cdot,y)-H_{\Omega'}(\cdot,y)\}$  is convergent to zero in  $L_2(M,dV)$ . Fix an arbitrary  $\Omega_0 \in \Omega$  with  $y \notin \Omega_0$ . Then  $\{H_{\Omega'}(\cdot,y)\}$  is a Cauchy net in  $H_2(\Omega_0)$ ,  $H_M(\cdot,y)$  is its limit, and a fortiori  $H_M(\cdot,y) \in H_2(\Omega_0)$ . Therefore,

(13) 
$$H_M(\cdot, y) \in H(M-y) .$$

Fix an arbitrary  $\Omega \in \Omega$  with  $y \in \Omega$ . Observe that  $\{H_{\Omega'}(\cdot, y) - G_{\Omega}(\cdot, y)\}$   $(\Omega' \supset \Omega, \Omega' \in \Omega)$  is also a Cauchy net in  $H_2(\Omega)$ , convergent to  $H_M(\cdot, y) - G_{\Omega}(\cdot, y)$ , which is again in  $H_2(\Omega)$ . Thus we have

(14) 
$$H_{M}(\cdot, y) - G_{\Omega}(\cdot, y) \in H(\Omega)$$

for one and hence for every  $\Omega \in \Omega$  with  $y \in \Omega$ . It is also clear that

$$(15) H_M(\cdot, y) \in H_2(M - \Omega)$$

for any  $\Omega \in \Omega$  with  $y \in \Omega$ . Besides properties (13)–(15) of  $H_M(\cdot, y)$ , the following orthogonality relation is of fundamental importance:

(16) 
$$H_{\mathbf{M}}(\cdot, y) \perp H_{\mathbf{2}}(\mathbf{M}),$$

or, equivalently,

(17) 
$$\int_{M} h(\xi) H_{M}(\xi, y) dV_{\xi} = 0$$

for every  $h \in H_2(M)$ . Here the integral on the right is well defined because of (14) and (15). For the proof, observe that the inequality

$$|(h,H_M(\,\cdot\,,y)-H_\Omega(\,\cdot\,,y))| \leq \|h\|\cdot\|H_M(\,\cdot\,,y)-H_\Omega(\,\cdot\,,y)\|$$

implies

$$\int_{M} h(\xi) H_{M}(\xi, y) dV_{\xi} = \lim_{\Omega \to M} \int_{\Omega} h(\xi) H_{\Omega}(\xi, y) dV_{\xi}.$$

Since  $h \in H_2(M) \subset H_2(\Omega)$ , (5) yields (17).

We shall call a function  $H_M(\cdot, y)$  on M-y with properties (13)–(16) the  $\beta$ -density on M for  $y \in M$ . It is unique. In fact, if  $K(\cdot, y)$  satisfies (13)–(16), then  $h=H_M(\cdot,y)-K(\cdot,y)\in H_2(M)$ , and by (16) for  $H_M(\cdot,y)$  and  $K(\cdot,y)$  we obtain  $(h,h)=\|h\|^2=0$ , that is,  $h\equiv 0$  on M.

We claim:

THEOREM 3. The manifold M does not belong to  $O_{\beta}$  if and only if the  $\beta$ -density  $H_{M}(\cdot, y)$  exists on M for every  $y \in M$ .

We only have to show that the existence of the  $\beta$ -density  $H_M(\cdot, y)$  on M for every  $y \in M$  implies  $M \notin O_{\beta}$ . Let  $\Omega \subset \Omega'$ . Since  $H_M(\cdot, y) - H_{\Omega'}(\cdot, y) \in H_2(\Omega')$   $\subset H_2(\Omega)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \big( \big( H_M(\cdot, y) - H_{\Omega}(\cdot, y) \big) - \big( H_{\Omega}(\cdot, y) - H_{\Omega}(\cdot, y) \big), \ H_{\Omega}(\cdot, y) - H_{\Omega}(\cdot, y) \big) \\ &= \big( H_M(\cdot, y) - H_{\Omega}(\cdot, y), \ H_{\Omega}(\cdot, y) \big) \\ &- \big( H_M(\cdot, y) - H_{\Omega}(\cdot, y), H_{\Omega}(\cdot, y) \big) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

and a fortiori

$$(H_{\mathcal{M}}(\cdot,y)-H_{\mathcal{Q}}(\cdot,y),H_{\mathcal{Q}}(\cdot,y)-H_{\mathcal{Q}}(\cdot,y)) = \|H_{\mathcal{Q}}(\cdot,y)-H_{\mathcal{Q}}(\cdot,y)\|^2.$$

By the Schwarz inequality,

$$||H_{O'}(\cdot, y) - H_{O}(\cdot, y)|| \le ||H_{M}(\cdot, y) - H_{O}(\cdot, y)||$$
.

In view of (11) it follows that  $S_n(y) < \infty$  for every  $y \in M$ , that is,  $M \notin O_n$ .

COROLLARY. The  $\beta$ -span  $S_{\beta}(y)$  is finite if and only if the  $\beta$ -density  $H_{M}(\cdot, y)$  exists on M at y, and in this case,

(18) 
$$S_{\theta}(y; \Omega, M) = \|H_{M}(\cdot, y) - H_{\Omega}(\cdot, y)\|^{2}.$$

# 6. An extremal property of $H_M(\cdot, y)$ .

Assume the existence of  $\beta_M$ . Then by (1), (8), and  $\lim_{\Omega \to M} \|H_M(\cdot, y) - H_{\Omega}(\cdot, y)\| = 0$ , we have

$$\beta_{M}(x,y) - \beta_{\Omega}(x,y) = (H_{M}(\cdot,x) - H_{\Omega}(\cdot,x), H_{M}(\cdot,y) - H_{\Omega}(\cdot,y))$$

on  $\Omega \times \Omega$ . By (6) and (7),

(19) 
$$\beta_M(x,y) = \int_M H_M(\xi,x) H_M(\xi,y) \, dV_{\xi}$$

on  $\Omega \times \Omega$  for every  $\Omega \in \Omega$ , and a fortiori on  $M \times M$ . Instead of (1) we can take (19) as the definition of  $\beta_M$  (cf. Nakai-Sario [4]) starting from  $\beta$ -densities  $H_M(\cdot, y)$  for all  $y \in M$ .

In this connection, we consider the family F(M, y) of functions  $K(\cdot, y)$  on M-y satisfying (13)–(15), with K replacing  $H_M$ . If  $H_M(\cdot, y)$  exists, then it is in the class F(M, y) and thus

$$(20) F(M, y) \neq \emptyset.$$

Since  $H_M(\cdot, y) - K(\cdot, y) \in H_2(M)$ , we have

$$(H_{M}(\cdot, y) - K(\cdot, y), H_{M}(\cdot, y) - H_{\Omega}(\cdot, y)) = 0$$

for every  $\Omega \in \Omega$ . By the Schwarz inequality applied to

$$\|H_M(\cdot,y)-H_\Omega(\cdot,y)\|^2=\big(K(\cdot,y)-H_\Omega(\cdot,y),H_M(\cdot,y)-H_\Omega(\cdot,y)\big)$$

we obtain the following extremal property of  $H_M(\cdot, y)$ :

(21) 
$$||H_{M}(\cdot, y) - H_{\Omega}(\cdot, y)|| = \lim_{K \in F(M, y)} ||K(\cdot, y) - H_{\Omega}(\cdot, y)||$$

for any  $\Omega \in \Omega$  with  $y \in \Omega$ .

This property actually characterizes  $H_M(\cdot, y)$  in the class F(M, y) if (20) is valid. In fact, suppose  $F(M, y) \neq 0$ . Fix an arbitrary  $\Omega \in \Omega$ . Then the family

$$X_{\Omega} = \{K(\cdot, y) - H_{\Omega}(\cdot, y) ; K(\cdot, y) \in F(M, y)\}$$

is clearly a nonempty convex set in  $L_2(M, dV)$ . It is also closed. To see this, let  $\{K_n(\cdot, y) - H_{\Omega}(\cdot, y)\}$  (n = 1, 2, ...) be a sequence in  $X_{\Omega}$  converging to a  $\overline{K} \in L^2(M, dV)$ . Set  $K = \overline{K} + H_{\Omega}(\cdot, y)$ . Then  $\{K_n - K\}$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $L^2(M, dV)$ , and therefore,  $\{K_n\}$  is Cauchy in  $H_2(\Omega)$  for every  $\Omega \in \Omega$  with  $y \notin \Omega$ , and  $\{K_n - G_{\Omega}(\cdot, y)\}$  is Cauchy in  $H_2(\Omega)$  for every  $\Omega \in \Omega$  with  $y \in \Omega$ . Thus K enjoys properties (13)–(15), i.e.,

$$K - H_{\Omega}(\cdot, y) = \lim_{n \to \infty} (K_n(\cdot, y) - H_{\Omega}(\cdot, y)) \in X_{\Omega},$$

and  $X_{\Omega}$  is closed.

Since any nonempty closed convex subset of a Hilbert space contains a unique element of minimum norm, there exists a unique element  $K_0 - H_{\Omega}(\cdot, y) \in X_{\Omega}$  such that

$$||K_0 - H_{\Omega}(\cdot, y)|| = \min_{K \in F(M, y)} ||K(\cdot, y) - H_{\Omega}(\cdot, y)||.$$

Let h be any element in  $H_2(\Omega)$ , and t>0. In view of  $K_0+th\in F(M,y)$ , we have

$$||K_0 - H_O(\cdot, v) + th||^2 \ge ||K_0 - H_O(\cdot, v)||^2$$

or

$$2t(K_0 - H_0(\cdot, v), h) + t^2 ||h||^2 \ge 0$$
.

Since this is true for every t > 0,

$$(K_0 - H_0(\cdot, v), h) = 0$$

for every  $h \in H_2(M)$ . From this and (5) we deduce the validity of (16) or (17) with  $K_0$  replacing  $H_M(\cdot, y)$ . Thus  $K_0$  satisfies (13)–(16), i.e.,  $K_0$  is the  $\beta$ -density  $H_M(\cdot, y)$  on M for y. We have shown:

The  $\beta$ -density  $H_M(\cdot, y)$  on M for  $y \in M$  exists if and only if  $F(y, M) \neq \emptyset$ .

We restate this in the following form:

THEOREM 4. The manifold M does not belong to  $O_{\beta}$  if and only if there exists a harmonic function  $K(\cdot, y)$  on M-y which has the harmonic fundamental singularity at y and is square integrable on M off any neighborhood of y.

#### 7. Proof of Theorem 1.

Inclusion (3) can now be established using Theorem 3 or 4. For example, let  $M \in O_{SH_2}$ . Then there exists a subregion  $N \neq \emptyset$  of M with  $M - \bar{N} \neq \emptyset$  and  $H_2(N) = \{0\}$ . If  $M \notin O_\beta$ , choose a point  $y \in M - \bar{N}$ . By Theorem 3, the  $\beta$ -density  $H_M(\cdot, y)$  exists on M for y, and by taking  $\Omega \in \Omega$  with  $y \in \Omega$  and  $\bar{\Omega} \subset M - \bar{N}$ , we infer by (15) that  $H_M(\cdot, y) \mid N \in H_2(N) = \{0\}$ . Thus  $H_M(\cdot, y) \equiv 0$  on N. By the unique continuation property of harmonic functions,  $H_{\Omega}(\cdot, y) \equiv 0$  on M - y, which contradicts (14). Therefore,  $M \in O_\beta$ , and we have proved Theorem 1.

#### 8. An application.

As an illustration of the use of our test (3), we exhibit a manifold M which shows that

$$(22) O_{\beta} - O_{HD} \neq \emptyset.$$

Let  $E_{\lambda}^2$  be the plane with the metric

$$ds = \sqrt{\lambda(x)} |dx|, \quad \lambda(x) = \exp(|x|^2).$$

Choose  $M = \{|x| > 1\}$  in  $E_{\lambda}^2$ . Since HD(M, ds) = HD(M, |dx|), we clearly have  $(M, ds) \notin O_{HD}$ . Let  $N_{\varrho} = \{|x| > \varrho\}$   $(1 < \varrho < \infty)$ . We assert that  $H_2(N_{\varrho}, ds) = \{0\}$ . It suffices to show that if h is harmonic on  $|x| > \varrho$  and

$$A = \int_{N_a} h(r,\theta)^2 \lambda(r) r \, dr \, d\theta < \infty ,$$

then  $h \equiv 0$ . The expansion

$$h(r,\theta) = a \log r + \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} r^n (a_n \cos n\theta + b_n \sin n\theta)$$

on  $N_o$  gives

$$L(r) = \int_0^{2\pi} h(r,\theta)^2 d\theta$$
  
=  $2\pi (a_0 + a \log r)^2 + \pi \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (a_n^2 + b_n^2) r^{2n}$ ,

and we have

$$A = \int_{\varrho}^{\infty} L(r)\lambda(r)r \, dr$$

$$= 2\pi \int_{\varrho}^{\infty} (a_0 + a\log r)^2 e^{r^2} r \, dr + \pi \sum_{n = -\infty, n \neq 0}^{\infty} (a_n^2 + b_n^2) \int_{\varrho}^{\infty} r^{2n+1} e^{r^2} \, dr \, .$$

From  $A < \infty$  we infer that  $a = a_n = b_n = 0$  for  $n = 0, \pm 1, \ldots$ , that is,  $h \equiv 0$  on  $N_q$ . Therefore,

$$(M, ds) \in O_{SH_2}$$

and (3) yields  $(M, ds) \in O_{\theta}$ .

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