ERRATUM TO: PLURIHARMONIC MAPS INTO KÄHLER SYMMETRIC SPACES AND SYM'S FORMULA

J.-H. ESCHENBURG AND P. QUAST

Let M be a simply connected Riemann surface and S^2 the round 2-sphere. A key observation in our paper [4] is a generalization of the following simple fact:

Lemma 0.1. A smooth map $h: M \to S^2$ is harmonic iff the \mathbb{R}^3 -valued one-form $\gamma = (h \times h_u)dx - (h \times h_x)dy$ is closed.

In Theorem 2.2 of our paper [4] we assign this observation to O. Bonnet [2], which is wrong. As explained by F. Hélein [5], it can be viewed as Noether's theorem for the variational problem for harmonic maps into the sphere, and it was used before in [6, 3, 7] in order to study the corresponding evolution equation. It probably does not go back to the times of Bonnet. However, Bonnet [2] showed that all surfaces of constant mean curvature (those with harmonic Gauss map h) arise up to scaling as $f = g \pm h$ where g is a surface of constant Gaussian curvature. But such surface g is obtained by integrating the above one-form γ , (i.e. $dg = \gamma$), see Equation (27) in our paper [4]. Therefore we called γ Bonnet form and g Bonnet-Sym-Bobenko map since Sym [8] and Bobenko [1] have constructed g in a different way. This might be misleading, and we want to point out that there is no doubt about the priority of Sym and Bobenko regarding the construction of g.

References

- A. Bobenko: Constant mean curvature surfaces and integrable equations, Russian Math. Surveys 46 (1991), 1 - 45.
- [2] P.O. Bonnet: Notes sur une propriété de maximum relative à la sphère, Nouvelles Annales de mathématiques XII (1853), 433 - 438
- [3] Y.M. Chen: The weak solution to the evolution problem of harmonic maps, Math. Z. 201 (1989), 69 - 74
- [4] J.-H. Eschenburg, P. Quast: Pluriharmonic maps into Kähler symmetric spaces and Sym's formula Math. Z. (this volume)
- [5] F. Hélein: Harmonic Maps, Conservation Laws and Moving Frames, 2nd ed., Cambridge University Press, Cambridge 2002
- [6] J. Keller, J. Rubinstein, P. Sternberg: Reaction-diffusion processe and evolution to harmonic maps, SIAM J. Appl. Math. 49, No. 6 (1989), 1722 - 1733
- [7] J. Shatah: Weak solutions and developments of singularities of the SU(2) σ -model, Comm. Pure Appl. Math. 41 (1988), 459 - 469
- [8] A. Sym: Soliton surfaces and their applications (Soliton geometry from spectral problems), in: Geometric Aspects of the Einstein Equations and Integrable Systems, *Lect. Notes Phys.* 239, 154 - 231, Springer-Verlag, Berlin 1986

E-mail address, (Eschenburg): eschenburg@math.uni-augsburg.de

E-mail address, (Quast): peter.quast@math.uni-augsburg.de

INSTITUT FÜR MATHEMATIK, UNIVERSITÄT AUGSBURG, D-86135 AUGSBURG, GERMANY

Date: June 19, 2009.