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# REMARKS ON RICCI SOLITONS IN TRANS-SASAKIAN MANIFOLDS

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**Abstract:** In this article we mainly study Ricci solitons in trans-Sasakian manifold of type  $(\alpha, \beta)$ . By the calculation of Ricci tensor, we obtain that 3-dimensional compact trans-Sasakian manifold equipping with Ricci solitons  $(g, \xi, \lambda)$  is homothetic to a Sasakian manifold and a trans-Sasadkian manifold admitting a gradient Ricci soliton is an Einstein manifold in case of  $\alpha, \beta$  are constants.

Keywords: Ricci soliton; gradient Ricci soliton; trans-Sasakian manifold; Sasakian manifold; Einstein manifold

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## 1 Introduction

Let  $(M, \phi, \eta, \xi)$  be a (2n + 1)-dimensional almost contact manifold. Then the product  $\overline{M} = M \times \mathbb{R}$  is a almost Hermitian manifold with almost complex structure J and product metric G being Hermitian metric. In [10], Gray and Harvella gave sixteen different structures of the almost Hermitian manifold  $(\overline{M}, J, G)$ . Using the structure in the class  $\mathcal{W}_4$  on  $(\overline{M}, J, G)$ , the trans-Sasakian structure  $(\phi, \eta, \xi, \alpha, \beta)$  on M, was defined (see [15]) that is the generalization of Sasakian and Kenmotsu structure on a contact metric manifold (see [1, 12]), where  $\alpha, \beta$  are smooth functions on M. In general, we denote  $(M, \phi, \eta, \xi, \alpha, \beta)$  by a trans-Sasakian manifold of type  $(\alpha, \beta)$ . Note that trans-Sasakian manifolds of type (0, 0),  $(\alpha, 0)$  and  $(0, \beta)$  are called cosymplectic,  $\alpha$ -Sasakian and  $\beta$ -Kenmotsu manifolds respectively.

Recall that a Ricci soliton is the generalization of Einstein metric and defined on a Riemannian manifold (M, q) by

$$\operatorname{Ric} + \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{L}_V g = \lambda g, \tag{1.1}$$

where V is a smooth vector field,  $\lambda$  a constant on M. It is called gradient Ricci soliton if  $V = \nabla f$  for some smooth function f on M. The Ricci soliton became important not only for studying topology of manifold but in study of string theory. Compact Ricci solitons are the fixed point of Ricci flow

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}g = -2\mathrm{Ric}$$

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projected from the space of metrics onto its quotient modulo diffeomorphisms and scalings, and often arise as blow-up limits for Ricci flow on compact manifolds. The Ricci soliton is said to be shrinking, steady and expanding according as  $\lambda$  is negative, zero and positive respectively. More details about Ricci soliton can refer to [2, 4].

Recently in [3], Calin and Carasmareanu started to study Ricci solitons in f-Koenmotsu manifolds. Later Nagaraja and Premalatha [13] also considered Ricci soliton  $(g, V, \lambda)$  in f-Koenmotsu manifolds and Ricci soliton in 3-dimensional trans-Sasakian manifolds when V is a conformal killing vector field, and gave the conditions for Ricci solitons to be shrinking, steady and expanding. Otherwise, De [9] studied Ricci solitons on normal almost contact metric manifolds.

Concerning the Ricci solitons in contact manifolds, Sharama [16] began to study the Ricci solitons in K-contact manifolds, where the contact structure  $\xi$  is a killing vector field, i.e.,  $\mathcal{L}_{\xi}g = 0$ , which is not in general in a trans-Sasakian manifold. Recently, He and Zhu [11] proved that a Sasakian manifold satisfying the gradient Ricci soliton equation is necessarily Einstein. Also, Cho [5, 6] considered contact Ricci solitons and transversal Ricci solitons in 3-contact manifolds, and proved that a compact contact Ricci soliton is Sasakian-Einstein and a 3-contact manifold admitting a transversal Ricci soliton is either Sasakian or locally isometric to one of the following Lie group with a left invariant metric: SU(2),  $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$ , E(2), respectively.

Motivated by the above work, in this paper, we study the Ricci soliton in a 3-dimensional trans-Sasakian manifold  $(M, \phi, \eta, \xi, \alpha, \beta)$  of type  $(\alpha, \beta)$  in case of  $V = \xi$  in Ricci soliton equation (1.1) and the gradient Ricci solitons in trans-Sasakian manifolds.

# 2 Preliminaries

An almost contact manifold  $(M, \phi, \xi, \eta)$  is a (2n + 1)-dimensional Riemannian manifold M equipped with an almost contact structure  $(\phi, \xi, \eta)$ , where  $\phi$  is a (1, 1)-tensor field,  $\xi$  a unit vector field,  $\eta$  a one-form dual to  $\xi$  satisfying

$$\phi^2 = -I + \eta \otimes \xi, \ \eta \circ \phi = 0, \ \phi \circ \xi = 0.$$
(2.1)

It is well-known that there exists a Riemannian metric g such that

$$g(\phi X, \phi Y) = g(X, Y) - \eta(X)\eta(Y), \qquad (2.2)$$

$$g(\phi X, Y) = -g(X, \phi Y), \ g(X, \xi) = \eta(X),$$
(2.3)

where  $X, Y \in \mathfrak{X}(M)$ . If there are two smooth functions  $\alpha, \beta$  on  $(M, \phi, \xi, \eta)$  such that

$$(\nabla_X \phi)Y = -\alpha(g(X, Y)\xi - \eta(Y)X) + \beta(g(\phi X, Y)\xi - \eta(Y)\phi X), \qquad (2.4)$$

then M is called a trans-Sasakian manifold of type  $(\alpha, \beta)$ , denote by  $(M, \phi, \xi, \eta, \alpha, \beta)$ , where  $\nabla$  is the Levi-Civita connection with respect to metric g. It is clear that a trans-Sasakian manifold of type (1,0) is a Sasakian manifold and a trans-Sasakian manifold of type (0,1) is a Kenmotsu manifold. A trans-Sasakian manifold of type (0,0) is called cosymplectic manifold.

Using (2.4), it follows that for any  $X, Y \in \mathfrak{X}(M)$ 

$$\nabla_X \xi = -\alpha \phi(X) + \beta (X - \eta(X)\xi), \ (\nabla_X \eta) Y = -\alpha g(\phi X, Y) + \beta g(\phi X, \phi Y).$$
(2.5)

Then it is easy to get the divergence  $\operatorname{div}\xi = \operatorname{tr}(X \to \nabla_X \xi) = 2n\beta$  and  $\nabla_\xi \xi = 0$ .

Let Ric be the Ricci tensor on a Riemmaian manifold (M, g), then the Ricci operator  $Q : \mathfrak{X}(M) \to \mathfrak{X}(M)$  is defined by  $Ric(X,Y) = g(QX,Y), X, Y \in \mathfrak{X}(M)$ . It is well known that for any vector field  $X, Y \in \mathfrak{X}(M)$ , the following results were hold [7, Theorem 3.2, Proposition 3.4]:

$$R(X,Y)\xi = (\alpha^2 - \beta^2)(\eta(Y)X - \eta(X)Y) + 2\alpha\beta(\eta(Y)\phi(X) - \eta(X)\phi(Y)) + (Y\alpha)\phi X - (X\alpha)\phi Y + (Y\beta)\phi^2 X - (X\beta)\phi^2 Y,$$
(2.6)

$$2\alpha\beta + \xi\alpha = 0, \tag{2.7}$$

$$\operatorname{Ric}(X,\xi) = (2n(\alpha^2 - \beta^2) - \xi\beta)\eta(X) - (2n-1)X\beta - (\phi X)\alpha.$$
(2.8)

**Lemma 2.1** For any Riemannain manifold (M, g) and a local orthogonal frame  $\{e_j\}$  on  $M, j = 1, \cdots, \dim M$ , the gradient of scalar curvature r satisfies

$$\frac{1}{2}\nabla r = \sum_{j} (\nabla Q)(e_j, e_j),$$

where  $(\nabla Q)(X, Y) = \nabla_X Q(Y) - Q(\nabla_X Y), X, Y \in \mathfrak{X}(M).$ **Proof** For any  $X \in \mathfrak{X}(M)$ ,

$$X(r) = \sum_{j} \nabla_{X} \operatorname{Ric}(e_{j}, e_{j}) = \sum_{j} \nabla_{X} g(Qe_{j}, e_{j})$$
$$= \sum_{j} \left\{ g(\nabla_{X}(Qe_{j}), e_{j}) + g(Qe_{j}, \nabla_{X}e_{j}) \right\}$$
$$= \sum_{j} g((\nabla Q)(e_{j}, X), e_{j}) = 2 \sum_{j} g((\nabla Q)(e_{j}, e_{j}), X)$$

Note that the last equation is held because of the second Bianchi identity.

## 3 Ricci Solitons in 3-Dimensional Trans-Sasakian Mianifolds

In this section we consider Ricci soliton  $(g, \xi, \lambda)$  in 3-dimensional trans-Sasakian manifolds  $(M, \phi, \xi, \eta, \alpha, \beta)$ , i.e., there exists some constant  $\lambda$  satisfies

$$\operatorname{Ric} + \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{L}_{\xi}g = \lambda g. \tag{3.1}$$

The next lemma play important role in proving our results.

**Lemma 3.1** For any (2n + 1)-dimensional manifold with trans-Sasakian structure  $(\phi, \xi, \eta, \alpha, \beta)$ , we have

$$\frac{1}{2}\xi r = 2n\beta^2,$$

where r is the scalar curvature.

**Proof** In term of (3.1) for any vector field X,

$$Q(X) = \lambda X + \beta \phi^2 X. \tag{3.2}$$

We compute the differentiation of (3.2) with respect to any vector field Y,

$$(\nabla_Y Q)X = \nabla_Y (Q(X)) - Q(\nabla_Y X)$$
  
=  $\nabla_Y (\lambda X + \beta \phi^2 X) - \lambda \nabla_Y X - \beta \phi^2 (\nabla_Y X)$   
=  $Y(\beta) \phi^2 X - \alpha \beta g(X, \phi Y) \xi + \beta^2 g(\phi X, \phi Y) \xi$   
 $-\alpha \beta \eta(X) \phi(Y) - \beta^2 \eta(X) \phi^2(Y).$  (3.3)

Since there is a canonical splitting of tangent bundle ker  $\eta \oplus \text{span}\xi$  as the case of a contact structure, we can choose an orthogonal frame  $\{e_1, \dots, e_{2n+1}\}$  such that  $e_{j+n} = \phi e_j$ ,  $e_{2n+1} = \xi$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, n$ . It reduces from Lemma 2.1 and (3.3) that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2}\xi r &= \frac{1}{2}g(\nabla r,\xi) = \sum_{j=1}^{2n+1} g((\nabla Q)(e_j,e_j),\xi) = \sum_{j=1}^{2n+1} g((\nabla_{e_j}Q)e_j,\xi) \\ &= \beta^2 \sum_{j=1}^{2n} g(\phi e_j,\phi e_j) = 2n\beta^2. \end{aligned}$$

For the 3-dimensional trans-Sasakian manifolds, the Ricci tensor Ric may express as follows (see [7]):

$$\operatorname{Ric}(X,Y) = \left(\frac{1}{2}r + \xi\beta - (\alpha^2 - \beta^2))g(X,Y) - \left(\frac{1}{2}r + \xi\beta - 3(\alpha^2 - \beta^2)\right)\eta(X)\eta(Y) - (Y\beta + \phi(Y)\alpha)\eta(X) - (X\beta + \phi(X)\alpha)\eta(Y), \right)$$
(3.4)

where r is the scalar curvature.

Thus

$$\operatorname{Ric}(\phi X, \phi Y) = (\frac{1}{2}r + \xi\beta - (\alpha^2 - \beta^2))g(\phi X, \phi Y), \qquad (3.5)$$

$$\operatorname{Ric}(\xi,\xi) = 2(\alpha^2 - \beta^2) - 2\xi\beta.$$
(3.6)

By the first equation of (2.5), a straightforward calculation implies that

$$(\mathcal{L}_{\xi}g)(X,Y) = g(\nabla_X\xi,Y) + g(X,\nabla_Y\xi) = 2\beta g(\phi X,\phi Y).$$

Therefore

$$(\mathcal{L}_{\xi}g)(\phi X, \phi Y) = 2\beta g(\phi^2 X, \phi^2 Y) = 2\beta g(\phi X, \phi Y).$$
(3.7)

Applying (3.7), (3.5) in Ricci soliton equation (3.1), we have

$$\frac{1}{2}r + \xi\beta - (\alpha^2 - \beta^2) + \beta = \lambda.$$
(3.8)

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Obviously, since  $\phi \xi = 0$ ,

$$(\mathcal{L}_{\xi}g)(\xi,\xi) = 0. \tag{3.9}$$

On the other hand, it implies from equations (3.6), (3.9) and Ricci soliton equation (3.1) that

$$-2\xi\beta + 2(\alpha^2 - \beta^2) = \lambda. \tag{3.10}$$

Then from (3.8) and (3.10) we obtain

$$r + 2\beta = 3\lambda. \tag{3.11}$$

Differentiating (3.11) w.r.t.  $\xi$  and together with Lemma 3.1 when n = 1, we get

$$\xi\beta = -2\beta^2. \tag{3.12}$$

It implies immediately from (3.12) and (3.11) that  $\lambda = 2(\alpha^2 + \beta^2)$ , then we have the following result.

**Proposition 3.2** A Ricci soliton  $(g, \lambda, \xi)$  in a 3-dimensional trans-Sasakian manifold is shrinking.

Moreover, we get from equation (3.12) the following.

**Theorem 3.3** If  $(M, \phi, \xi, \eta, \alpha, \beta)$  is a 3-dimensional compact and connected trans-Sasakian manifold admitting Ricci soliton  $(g, \lambda, \xi)$ , then M is homothetic to a Sasakian manifold.

**Proof** Using (3.12) and div $\xi = 2\beta$ , we get  $\beta = 0$  and  $\alpha$  is a non-zero constant. It deduces that for any  $X, Y \in \mathfrak{X}(M)$ ,

$$\alpha^{-2}(\nabla_X \nabla_Y \xi - \nabla_{\nabla_X Y} \xi) = g(Y,\xi)X - g(X,Y)\xi,$$

and  $(\mathcal{L}_{\xi}g)(X,Y) = 0$ , i.e.,  $\xi$  is a killing vector field. Thus it completes the proof of theorem by [14, Theorem 1.1]. The detail of proof can be seen in [8, Theorem 3.1].

**Corollary 3.4** A 3-dimensional compact and connected trans-Sasakian manifold M of type $(\alpha, \beta)$  admitting Ricci soliton  $(g, \lambda, \xi)$  is an Einstein manifold.

**Proof** From the proof of Theorem 3.3, we know  $\beta = 0$ . Thus the scalar curvature  $r = 3\lambda$  is constant via (3.11). Moreover, Sharama [16] proved that a compact Ricci soliton of constant scalar curvature is Einstein, then we obtain immediately the result.

#### 4 Gradient Ricci Solitons in Trans-Sasakian Manifolds

In this section we consider gradient Ricci solitons in trans-Sasakian manifolds. We assume that  $(M, \phi, \xi, \alpha, \beta)$  is a (2n + 1)-dimensional trans-Sasakian manifold.

First, we note that the following conclusion has been proved by taking Lie derivative of  $\mathcal{L}_V g$  with respect to  $\xi$ .

**Lemma 4.1** [11] For any manifold with a almost contact metric structure  $(\phi, \xi, \eta, g)$ ,

$$\mathcal{L}_{\xi}(\mathcal{L}_{V}g)(Y,\xi) = R(V,\xi,\xi,Y) + g(\nabla_{\xi}\nabla_{\xi}V,Y) + \nabla_{Y}g(\nabla_{\xi}V,\xi)$$

for any vector field Y.

$$R(X,\xi,\xi,Y) = g(R(X,\xi)\xi,Y) = g\left((\alpha^2 - \beta^2)(X - \eta(X)\xi) + (\xi\beta)\phi^2 X,Y\right)$$
  
=  $-(\alpha^2 - \beta^2 - \xi\beta)g(\phi X, \phi Y).$  (4.1)

When  $\alpha, \beta = \text{constant}$ , it implies immediately from (2.8) that

$$\operatorname{Ric}(X,\xi) = 2n(\alpha^2 - \beta^2)\eta(X).$$

Then

$$(\mathcal{L}_{\xi}\operatorname{Ric})(Y,\xi) = \nabla_{\xi}(\operatorname{Ric}(\xi,Y)) - \operatorname{Ric}([\xi,Y],\xi)$$
  
$$= \nabla_{\xi}(2n(\alpha^{2} - \beta^{2})\eta(Y))) - \operatorname{Ric}(\nabla_{\xi}Y - \nabla_{Y}\xi,\xi)$$
  
$$= 2n(\alpha^{2} - \beta^{2})g(\nabla_{\xi}Y,\xi) - \operatorname{Ric}(\nabla_{\xi}Y,\xi)$$
  
$$= 2n(\alpha^{2} - \beta^{2})\eta(\nabla_{\xi}Y) - \operatorname{Ric}(\nabla_{\xi}Y,\xi) = 0, \qquad (4.2)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathcal{L}_{\xi}g)(Y,\xi) &= g(\nabla_{Y}\xi,\xi) = 0, \\ R(V,\xi,\xi,Y) &= -(\alpha^{2} - \beta^{2})g(\phi V,\phi Y) = -(\alpha^{2} - \beta^{2})g(V,Y). \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand,

$$2(\lambda - 2n(\alpha^2 - \beta^2))g(X,\xi) = 2(\lambda g(X,\xi) - \operatorname{Ric}(X,\xi)) = (\mathcal{L}_V g)(X,\xi)$$
$$= g(\nabla_X V,\xi) + g(\nabla_\xi V,X).$$

Replacing X by  $\xi$  in above equation, we get

$$\lambda - 2n(\alpha^2 - \beta^2) = g(\nabla_{\xi} V, \xi).$$

This implies  $\nabla_Y g(\nabla_{\xi} V, \xi) = 0$  since  $\alpha, \beta, \lambda$  are constant. Therefore, from Lemma 4.1, taking the Lie derivative  $\mathcal{L}_{\xi}$  to the Ricci soliton equation (1.1) yields

$$-(\alpha^2 - \beta^2)g(V, Y) + g(\nabla_{\xi}\nabla_{\xi}V, Y) = 0.$$
(4.3)

In case of where  $V = \nabla f$  for some smooth function f, since for any  $X \in \mathfrak{X}(M)$  Ricci soliton equation (1.1) yields  $\nabla_X \nabla f + QX = \lambda X$ ,

$$\nabla_{\xi}\nabla_{\xi}\nabla f = \nabla_{\xi}(\lambda\xi - Q\xi) = -\nabla_{\xi}(2n(\alpha^2 - \beta^2)\xi) = 0.$$

Using (4.3), therefore we have

$$(\alpha^2 + \beta^2)g(V, Y) = 0. (4.4)$$

Next we consider the following cases:

(i) If  $\alpha = 0$  then  $\beta \neq 0$  since  $\alpha^2 \neq \beta^2$ . So we have g(V, Y) = 0 via (4.4), i.e.,  $\nabla f = 0$  for any  $Y \perp \xi$ . It follows that f = constant.

(ii) If  $\alpha \neq 0$  then g(V, Y) = 0 by (4.4), i.e., f = constant.

Summarizing the above discussion, we obtain the following conclusions:

**Theorem 4.2** Any trans-Sasakian manifold  $(M, \phi, \xi, \eta, \alpha, \beta)$  admitting a gradient Ricci soliton is an Einstein manifold provided  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are constants.

**Remark 4.3** In fact, our result can be regarded as the generalization of [11, Theorem 1.1].

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# 关于带有Ricci 孤子的trans-Sasakian 流形的注记

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摘要:本文主要研究带有Ricci 孤子的( $\alpha$ , $\beta$ )型trans-Sasakian流形,证明了带有Ricci 孤子(g, $\xi$ , $\lambda$ ) 的3-维紧致trans-Sasakian流形是一个Sasakian流形.此外,如果 $\alpha$ , $\beta$ 是常数,得到带有梯度Ricci 孤子的trans-Sasakian流形是Einstein流形.

关键词: Ricci 孤子; 梯度Ricci 孤子; trans-Sasakian 流形; Sasakian 流形; Einstein 流形
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