

## ON COMPLETE SHRINKING RICCI-HARMONIC SOLITONS

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**Abstract:** In this paper, we study the geometry of shrinking Ricci-harmonic solitons. By utilizing the method of Manola, Gabriele and Carlo [4] under the Ricci soliton, we prove the result that every compact shrinking Ricci-harmonic soliton is a gradient one, which extends the result in the case of Ricci soliton. Moreover, by utilizing the method of Zhang [14], we prove a more precise volume growth estimate than that of at most Euclidean growth for the complete non-compact gradient shrinking Ricci-harmonic soliton, which extends the result of Zhang [14] in the case of Ricci soliton.

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### 1 Introduction

Let  $(M^n, g)$  be a complete smooth Riemannian manifold, the metric  $g$  is called a Ricci-harmonic soliton if there exists a vector field  $X$  and a constant  $\lambda$ , such that

$$\begin{cases} R_{ij} - \alpha \nabla_i \phi \nabla_j \phi + \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{L}_X g = \lambda g_{ij}, \\ \tau_g \phi = \nabla_X \phi, \end{cases} \quad (1.1)$$

where  $\phi : (M^n, g) \rightarrow (N^m, h)$  is a map between the Riemannian manifolds  $(M^n, g)$  and  $(N^m, h)$ ,  $Rc$  is the Ricci curvature of  $(M, g)$ ,  $\tau_g \phi = \text{trace} \nabla d\phi$  and  $\alpha$  is a nonnegative constant.

We call the Ricci-harmonic soliton (1.1) a shrinking, steady, expanding Ricci-harmonic soliton if  $\lambda > 0$ ,  $\lambda = 0$ , or  $\lambda < 0$ . If  $X$  is a gradient of some function  $f$ , then  $\mathcal{L}_X g = \nabla^2 f$ , we call the Ricci-harmonic soliton a gradient Ricci-harmonic soliton with potential function  $f$ .

Similar to the Ricci soliton, the Ricci-harmonic soliton is a self-similar solution to the Ricci-harmonic flow,

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} g = -2Rc + 2\alpha(t) \nabla \phi \otimes \nabla \phi, \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \phi = \tau_g \phi, \end{cases} \quad (1.2)$$

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Perelman [9] proved the result that every compact Ricci soliton is a gradient one. Manola, Gabriele and Carlo [4] gave another proof by Perelman's work [10] and previous others, see Hamilton [6] (dimension 2) and Ivey [7] (dimension 3). Aquino, Barros and Ribeiro [1] showed that the potential function in the compact Ricci soliton equals to the Hodge-de Rham potential. Müller [8] proved the result that a shrinking Ricci-harmonic breather is a gradient soliton. Yang and Shen [13] obtained a monotone volume formula for a general geometric flow by utilizing Perelman's method under the Ricci flow.

Cao and Zhou [2] proved that a complete noncompact gradient shrinking Ricci soliton has at most Euclidean volume growth by estimating the bounds for the potential function. Zhang [14] proved a more precise estimate,  $Vol(B(o, r)) \leq C(R + 1)^{n-2\delta}$ , when the scalar curvature is bounded below by a positive constant  $\delta$ . Yang and Shen [12] found that the complete noncompact gradient shrinking Ricci-harmonic soliton still has at most Euclidean volume growth by proving  $R - \alpha|\nabla\phi|^2$  is nonnegative and estimating the bounds of the potential function  $f$ .

In Section 2, we prove the result that every compact shrinking Ricci-harmonic soliton is a gradient one. The method is inspired by Manola, Gabriele and Carlo's work [4] and different from that in [8]. In Section 3, we extend Zhang's work [14] to the case of complete noncompact Ricci-harmonic soliton.

Our main theorems in this paper are below.

**Theorem 1.1** Every compact shrinking Ricci-harmonic soliton is a gradient one.

**Theorem 1.2** Let  $(M^n, g)$  be the complete noncompact shrinking gradient Ricci-harmonic soliton structure (3.1), if there exists a nonnegative constant  $\delta$  such that  $R - \alpha|\nabla\phi|^2 \geq \delta$ , then there is a constant  $C < +\infty$  depending only on  $g$  and  $x_0$  such that

$$Vol(B_{x_0}(r)) \leq C(r + 1)^{n-2\delta} \quad (1.3)$$

for all  $r > r_0$ , where  $B_{x_0}(r)$  is a geodesic ball with radius  $r$  and  $r_0$  is a positive constant.

**Remark 1.1** The condition  $R - \alpha|\nabla\phi|^2 \geq \delta$  added in Theorem 1.3 is reasonable for Yang and Shen [12] proved  $R - \alpha|\nabla\phi|^2 \geq 0$ .

## 2 The Compact Case

**Lemma 2.1** (Log Sobolev inequality, see [3]) Let  $(M^n, g)$  be a compact Riemannian manifold. For any  $a > 0$ , there exists a constant  $C(a, g)$  such that if  $\varphi > 0$  satisfies  $\int_M \varphi^2 dVol = 1$ , then

$$\int_M \varphi^2 \log \varphi dVol \leq a \int_M |\nabla\varphi|^2 dVol + C(a, g). \quad (2.1)$$

**Lemma 2.2** Let  $(M^n, g)$  be a compact Riemannian manifold,  $F : M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a smooth function and  $\lambda$  be a positive constant, then there exists a smooth function  $f : M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  satisfies the equation

$$F + 2\Delta f - |\nabla f|^2 + 2\lambda f = \text{Const.} \quad (2.2)$$

**Proof** Define a functional  $W$

$$W(g, f) = \int_M (F + 2\Delta f - |\nabla f|^2 + 2\lambda f)e^{-f} dVol$$

and

$$\mu(g) = \inf\{W(g, f) : f \in C^\infty(M) \text{ with } \int_M e^{-f} dVol = 1\}.$$

Let  $\omega = e^{-\frac{f}{2}}$ , we have

$$\int_M \omega^2 dVol = 1$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} W(g, f) &= \int_M (F + |\nabla f|^2 + 2\lambda f)e^{-f} dVol \\ &= \int_M [(F - 4\lambda \log \omega)\omega^2 + 4|\nabla \omega|^2] dVol \\ &:= H(g, \omega). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $F$  is bounded below on  $M$  and from Log Sobolev inequality (Lemma 2.1), there exist a constant  $C < +\infty$  such that

$$\int_M \omega^2 \log \omega dVol \leq \frac{1}{\lambda} \int_M |\nabla \omega|^2 + C.$$

Then the positive minimizer  $\omega_1$  realizing  $\mu(g)$  is the lowest positive eigenvalue of the nonlinear operator

$$\Theta(\omega) := -4\Delta\omega + (F - 4\lambda \log \omega)\omega = \mu(g)\omega.$$

Choose  $\omega$  such that  $H(g, \omega) \leq C_1$ , then  $\int_M \omega^2 dVol = 1$ , and there exists a positive constant  $C_2$  with

$$C_1 \geq H(g, \omega) \geq 2 \int_M |\nabla \omega|^2 dVol - C_2.$$

Hence any minimizing sequence for  $H(g, \cdot)$  is bounded in  $W^{1,2}(M)$ . We get a minimizer  $\omega_1 \in W^{1,2}(M)$  and  $\omega_1$  is a weak solution to

$$-4\Delta\omega + (F - 4\lambda \log \omega)\omega = \mu(g)\omega.$$

By elliptic regularity theory (see Gilbarg and Trudinger [5]), we have  $\omega_1 \in C^\infty$ . It's easy to verify that  $\omega_1 > 0$ . Then there exists a smooth function  $f_1 = -2 \log \omega_1$  realizing  $\mu(g)$ , i.e.,

$$F + 2\Delta f_1 - |\nabla f_1|^2 + 2\lambda f_1 = \mu(g)$$

for  $\lambda > 0$ .

**Proof of Theorem 1.1** Considering the compact shrinking Ricci-harmonic soliton

$$\begin{cases} R_{ij} - \alpha \nabla_i \phi \nabla_j \phi + \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{L}_X g = \lambda g_{ij}, \\ \tau_g \phi = \nabla_X \phi. \end{cases} \quad (2.3)$$

From Lemma 2.2, there exists a smooth function  $f : M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  satisfying

$$R - \alpha|\nabla\phi|^2 + 2\Delta f - |\nabla f|^2 + 2\lambda f = \text{Const.},$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \nabla_j[2(R_{ij} - \alpha\nabla_i\phi\nabla_j\phi + \nabla_i\nabla_jf - \lambda g_{ij})e^{-f}] \\ &= (\nabla_iR - 2\alpha\nabla_j\nabla_i\phi\nabla_j\phi - 2\alpha\nabla_i\phi\tau_{jg}\phi + 2\Delta\nabla_if)e^{-f} \\ & \quad - 2\nabla_jf(R_{ij} - \alpha\nabla_i\phi\nabla_j\phi + \nabla_i\nabla_jf - \lambda g_{ij})e^{-f} \\ &= (\nabla_iR - \alpha\nabla_i|\nabla\phi|^2 - 2\alpha\nabla_i\phi\nabla_j\phi X^j + 2\nabla_i\Delta f + 2R_{ij}\nabla_jf)e^{-f} \\ & \quad - (2R_{ij}\nabla_jf - 2\alpha\nabla_i\phi\nabla_j\phi\nabla_jf + \nabla_i|\nabla f|^2 - 2\lambda\nabla_if)e^{-f} \\ &= \nabla_i(R - \alpha|\nabla\phi|^2 + 2\Delta f - |\nabla f|^2 + 2\lambda f)e^{-f} + 2\alpha\nabla_i\phi\nabla_j\phi(\nabla_jf - X^j)e^{-f} \\ &= 2\alpha\nabla_i\phi\nabla_j\phi(\nabla_jf - X^j)e^{-f}. \end{aligned}$$

As  $\nabla_iX^j + \nabla_jX^i = -2R_{ij} + 2\alpha\nabla_i\phi\nabla_j\phi + 2\lambda g_{ij}$  and  $\alpha \geq 0$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \nabla_i[(\nabla_jf - X^j)(R_{ij} - \alpha\nabla_i\phi\nabla_j\phi + \nabla_i\nabla_jf - \lambda g_{ij})e^{-f}] \\ &= (\nabla_i\nabla_jf - \nabla_iX^j)(R_{ij} - \alpha\nabla_i\phi\nabla_j\phi + \nabla_i\nabla_jf - \lambda g_{ij})e^{-f} + 2\alpha|\nabla_{\nabla f - X}\phi|^2e^{-f} \\ &= \frac{1}{2}(2\nabla_i\nabla_jf - \nabla_iX^j - \nabla_jX^i)(R_{ij} - \alpha\nabla_i\phi\nabla_j\phi + \nabla_i\nabla_jf - \lambda g_{ij})e^{-f} + 2\alpha|\nabla_{\nabla f - X}\phi|^2e^{-f} \\ &= |R_{ij} - \alpha\nabla_i\phi\nabla_j\phi + \nabla_i\nabla_jf - \lambda g_{ij}|^2e^{-f} + 2\alpha|\nabla_{\nabla f - X}\phi|^2e^{-f} \\ &\geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Denote  $|R_{ij} - \alpha\nabla_i\nabla_j\phi + \nabla_i\nabla_jf - \lambda g_{ij}|^2e^{-f} + 2\alpha|\nabla_{\nabla f - X}\phi|^2e^{-f}$  by  $Q$ , we conclude that

$$0 \leq Q = \text{div}[(\nabla_jf - X^j)(R_{ij} - \alpha\nabla_i\nabla_j\phi + \nabla_i\nabla_jf - \lambda g_{ij})e^{-f}]. \tag{2.4}$$

Integrating  $Q$ , we have  $Q \equiv 0$  by Stokes's theorem and the compactness of  $M^n$ . This implies compact shrinking Ricci-harmonic soliton (2.3) is a gradient Ricci-harmonic soliton with  $X = \nabla f$ .

Similar to the proof of Theorem 1.1, we have the direct corollary.

**Corollary 2.1** Every compact steady Ricci-harmonic soliton is a gradient one.

**Proposition 2.1** For the compact shrinking Ricci-harmonic soliton (2.3), the potential function  $f$  equals a Hodge-de Rham potential up to a constant.

**Proof** By the Hodge-de Rham decomposition theorem, there exists a divergence-free vector field  $Y$  and a function  $b$  on  $M^n$ , such that

$$X = Y + \nabla b, \tag{2.5}$$

we deduce  $\text{div}X = \Delta b$ . By Theorem 1.1, we can find a potential function  $f$  to  $(M, g, X)$  satisfying  $X = \nabla f$ , then  $\text{div}X = \Delta f$ .

We conclude that  $f = b + \text{Const.}$  for  $\Delta(f - b) = 0$  and  $M$  is compact.

**Remark 2.1** Proposition 2.1 provides another way to find the potential function  $f$  to the generic compact shrinking Ricci-harmonic soliton structure  $(M^n, g, X)$ . Normalizing  $f$ , we can replace  $f$  by the Hodge-de Rham potential to vector field  $X$ .

### 3 The Complete Noncompact Case

In this section, we consider the complete noncompact gradient shrinking Ricci-harmonic soliton

$$\begin{cases} R_{ij} - \alpha \nabla_i \phi \nabla_j \phi + \nabla_i \nabla_j f = \frac{1}{2} g_{ij}, \\ \tau_g \phi = \langle \nabla \phi, \nabla f \rangle. \end{cases} \tag{3.1}$$

**Lemma 3.1** Let  $(M^n, g)$  be the complete noncompact gradient shrinking Ricci-harmonic soliton structure (3.1), we have the following four equalities

$$R - \alpha |\nabla \phi|^2 + \Delta f = \frac{n}{2}, \tag{3.2}$$

$$R - \alpha |\nabla \phi|^2 + |\nabla f|^2 - f = 0. \tag{3.3}$$

**Proof** Taking trace of the first equation of (3.1), (3.2) is obtained.

Taking covariant derivatives and using the commutation formula for the covariant derivatives, we have

$$\nabla_i R_{jk} - \nabla_j R_{ik} - \alpha (\nabla_j \phi \nabla_i \nabla_k \phi - \nabla_i \phi \nabla_j \nabla_k \phi) + R_{ijkl} \nabla_l f = 0.$$

Taking the trace on  $j$  and  $k$ , we have

$$\nabla_i R - \nabla_j R_{ij} - \alpha \nabla_j \phi \nabla_i \nabla_j \phi + \alpha \nabla_i \phi \tau_g \phi - R_{il} \nabla_l f = 0.$$

Using the fact that

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_i R - 2 \nabla_j R_{ij} &= 0, \\ \nabla_i \nabla_j \phi \nabla_j \phi &= \frac{1}{2} \nabla_i (\nabla_j \phi \nabla_j \phi) = \frac{1}{2} \nabla_i |\nabla \phi|^2 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\alpha \nabla_i \phi \tau_g \phi - R_{il} \nabla_l f = \nabla_i \nabla_j f \nabla_j f - \frac{1}{2} g_{ij} \nabla_j f = \frac{1}{2} \nabla_i (|\nabla f|^2 - f),$$

we obtain  $\frac{1}{2} \nabla (R - \alpha |\nabla \phi|^2 + |\nabla f|^2 - f) = 0$ , hence  $R - \alpha |\nabla \phi|^2 + |\nabla f|^2 - f = \text{Const.}$ . Normalizing  $f$  by adding a constant, (3.3) follows.

**Lemma 3.2** Let  $(M^n, g)$  be the complete noncompact shrinking Ricci-harmonic soliton structure (3.1) and  $\mathbf{V}(r) := \int_{\{f < r\}} dV$  and  $\mathbf{V}_R(r) := \int_{\{f < r\}} R - \alpha |\nabla \phi|^2 dV$ , we have

$$n \mathbf{V}(r) - 2r \mathbf{V}'(r) = 2 \mathbf{V}_R(r) - 2 \mathbf{V}'_R(r). \tag{3.4}$$

**Proof** Integrating by parts and using eq. (3.2),

$$\frac{n}{2} \mathbf{V}(r) - \mathbf{V}_R(r) = \int_{\{f < r\}} \Delta f dV = \int_{\{f=r\}} \nabla f \cdot \frac{\nabla f}{|\nabla f|} dA = \int_{\{f=r\}} |\nabla f| dA, \tag{3.5}$$

which implies

$$\frac{n}{2}\mathbf{V}(r) \geq \mathbf{V}_R(r). \tag{3.6}$$

By co-Area formula (see [11]), we have

$$\mathbf{V}'(r) = \int_{\{f=r\}} \frac{1}{|\nabla f|} dA \tag{3.7}$$

and

$$\mathbf{V}'_R(r) = \int_{\{f=r\}} \frac{R - \alpha|\nabla f|^2}{|\nabla f|} dA. \tag{3.8}$$

Using (3.3) and combining (3.5), (3.7) and (3.8), we obtain

$$\frac{n}{2}\mathbf{V}(r) - \mathbf{V}_R(r) = r\mathbf{V}'(r) - \mathbf{V}'_R(r).$$

**Proof of Theorem 1.2** Calculating directly,

$$\frac{d}{dr}(\log(r^{-\frac{n-2\delta}{2}}\mathbf{V}(r))) = \frac{r\mathbf{V}'(r) - \frac{n-2\delta}{2}\mathbf{V}(r)}{r\mathbf{V}(r)} \leq \frac{\mathbf{V}'_R(r)}{r\mathbf{V}(r)}, \tag{3.9}$$

where the last inequality comes from (3.4) and  $\mathbf{V}_R(r) \geq \delta\mathbf{V}(r)$ .

Fixed  $r_0 > 0$ , for any  $r_1 > r_0$ , integrating (3.9) by parts on  $[r_0, r_1]$  yields

$$\begin{aligned} \log \frac{r_1^{-\frac{n-2\delta}{2}}\mathbf{V}(r_1)}{r_0^{-\frac{n-2\delta}{2}}\mathbf{V}(r_0)} &\leq \int_{r_0}^{r_1} \frac{1}{r\mathbf{V}(r)} d\mathbf{V}_R(r) \\ &\leq \frac{\mathbf{V}_R(r)}{r\mathbf{V}(r)} \Big|_{r_0}^{r_1} + \int_{r_0}^{r_1} \frac{\mathbf{V}_R(r)}{r^2\mathbf{V}(r)} dr + \int_{r_0}^{r_1} \frac{\mathbf{V}_R(r)\mathbf{V}'(r)}{r\mathbf{V}^2(r)} dr \\ &\leq \frac{n}{2r_0} + \frac{n}{2} \left( \frac{\log(\mathbf{V}(r_1))}{r_1} - \frac{\log(\mathbf{V}(r_0))}{r_0} \right) + \frac{n}{2} \int_{r_0}^{r_1} \frac{\log(\mathbf{V}(r))}{r^2} dr. \end{aligned} \tag{3.10}$$

When  $r_0$  is large enough, by the proof of Theorem 1.1 in Yang and Shen [11], we have

$$\mathbf{V}(r) \leq C_1 r^n \tag{3.11}$$

for some positive constant  $C_1$  and for  $r \geq r_0$ . Plugging inequality (3.11) into (3.10), we have

$$\log \frac{r_1^{-\frac{n-2\delta}{2}}\mathbf{V}(r_1)}{r_0^{-\frac{n-2\delta}{2}}\mathbf{V}(r_0)} < +\infty \tag{3.12}$$

for any  $r_1 > r_0$ . Moreover, there is a positive constant  $C_2$  such that

$$\mathbf{V}(r_1) \leq C_2 r_1^{\frac{n-2\delta}{2}}. \tag{3.13}$$

For  $f(x) \leq \frac{1}{4}(d(x_0, x) + 2\sqrt{f(x_0)})^2$  (see Proposition 4.1 in [12]),  $B_{x_0}(r) \subset \{f \leq \frac{1}{4}(r + C_2)^2\}$ . We have

$$Vol(B_{x_0}(r)) \leq \mathbf{V}\left(\frac{1}{4}(d(x_0, x) + 2\sqrt{f(x_0)})^2\right) \leq C(r + 1)^{n-2\delta} \tag{3.14}$$

for some positive constant  $C$  depends only on  $g$  and  $x_0$ .

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## 关于完备收缩的Ricci-harmonic孤子的研究

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**摘要:** 本文研究了收缩的Ricci-harmonic孤子的几何性质的问题. 利用文献[4]在Ricci孤子下的方法, 获得了每个紧致Ricci-harmonic孤子是一个梯度孤子的结论, 推广了Perelman等人在Ricci孤子下的结果. 此外, 利用文献[14]在Ricci孤子下的方法, 获得了完备非紧梯度收缩的Ricci-harmonic孤子具有比至多欧氏增长更加精确的体积增长估计的结果, 推广了文献[14]在Ricci孤子下的结果.

**关键词:** 收缩的Ricci-harmonic孤子; 梯度; 体积增长

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