Abstract

Gradient almost para-Ricci-like solitons on para-Sasaki-like Riemannian $\Pi$-manifolds are studied. It is proved that these objects have constant soliton coefficients. For the soliton under study is shown that the corresponding scalar curvatures of the considered both metrics are equal and constant and its Ricci tensor is a constant multiple of the vertical component. Explicit example of a 3-dimensional para-Sasaki-like Riemannian $\Pi$-manifold is provided in support of the proved assertions.

Key words: gradient almost para-Ricci-like soliton, para-Sasaki-like, Riemannian $\Pi$-Manifolds, $\eta$-Einstein manifold

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1. Introduction. The concept of Ricci solitons is introduced by Hamilton in \cite{1}, i.e. a special solution of the Ricci flow equation. A pseudo-Riemannian manifold $(M, g)$ admits a Ricci soliton when its Ricci tensor $\rho$ has the form \cite{1}

$$\rho = -\frac{1}{2} \mathcal{L}_v g - \lambda g,$$

where $\mathcal{L}$ denotes the Lie derivative, $v$ is a vector field and $\lambda$ is a constant. After its introduction a detailed study on Riemannian Ricci solitons is made in \cite{2}. The start of the investigation of Ricci solitons in contact Riemannian geometry is given with \cite{3}.
In [4], a generalization of the Ricci soliton, called $\eta$-Ricci soliton, is introduced in the geometry of almost contact metric manifolds by:

$$\rho = -\frac{1}{2}L_v g - \lambda g - \nu \eta \otimes \eta,$$

where $\nu$ is also a constant. This work is followed by different studies on almost contact metric manifolds with various types of additional structures (e.g. [5, 6]).

In the following years this concept and its generalizations became objects of interest in different fields: in paracontact geometry [7, 8]; in pseudo-Riemannian geometry [9–11]; in mathematical physics [12, 13].

We study the geometry of almost paracontact almost paracomplex Riemannian manifolds, called here briefly Riemannian $\Pi$-manifolds. Their induced almost product structure on the paracontact distribution is traceless and the restriction on the paracontact distribution of the almost paracontact structure is an almost paracomplex structure. The start of the investigation of the Riemannian $\Pi$-manifolds is given in [14], where they are called almost paracontact Riemannian manifolds of type $(n, n)$. Due to the presence of two associated metrics $g$ and $\tilde{g}$ on these manifolds, in [15], we started the investigation of the so-called para-Ricci-like solitons, which is a natural generalization of the $\eta$-Ricci soliton.

In the present work we introduce and study gradient almost para-Ricci-like solitons on para-Sasaki-like Riemannian $\Pi$-manifolds.

The paper is structured as follows. In Section 1, we present some introductory words about the problem under study. In the next Section 2, we present to the readers’ attention the main results of the paper. In Section 3, we recall preliminary background facts about the considered geometry. Section 4 is devoted to the proof of the main results. We prove that the corresponding scalar curvatures of both considered metrics are equal and constant. Moreover, the Ricci tensor is a constant multiple of the vertical component. In the final Section 5, we support the assertions by an explicit 3-dimensional example.

2. Main results.

**Theorem 2.1.** Let $(\mathcal{M}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$ be a $(2n + 1)$-dimensional para-Sasaki-like Riemannian $\Pi$-manifold. If it admits a gradient almost para-Ricci-like soliton with functions $(\lambda, \mu, \nu)$ and a potential function $f$, then $(\mathcal{M}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$ has constant scalar curvatures regarding $g$ and $\tilde{g}$

$$\tau = \tilde{\tau} = -2n$$

and its Ricci tensor has the form

$$\rho = -2n \eta \otimes \eta.$$
differentiable manifold, equipped with a Riemannian metric $g$ and a Riemannian $\Pi$-structure $(\phi, \xi, \eta)$ consisting of a $(1, 1)$-tensor field $\phi$, a Reeb vector field $\xi$ and its dual 1-form $\eta$. The following basic identities and their immediately derived properties are valid:

$$\phi\xi = 0, \quad \phi^2 = I - \eta \otimes \xi, \quad \eta \circ \phi = 0, \quad \eta(\xi) = 1,$$

$$\text{tr} \phi = 0, \quad g(\phi x, \phi y) = g(x, y) - \eta(x)\eta(y),$$

$$g(\phi x, y) = g(x, \phi y), \quad g(x, \xi) = \eta(x), \quad \eta(\nabla x \xi) = 0,$$

where $I$ and $\nabla$ denote the identity transformation on $T M$ and the Levi-Civita connection of $g$, respectively \cite{16,17}. Here and further, $x, y, z, w$ stand for arbitrary vector fields from $\mathfrak X(M)$ or vectors in $T M$ at a fixed point of $M$.

Through $\tilde{g}(x, y) = g(x, \phi y) + \eta(x)\eta(y)$ is defined the associated metric $\tilde{g}$ of $g$ on $(M, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$, which is an indefinite metric of signature $(n + 1, n)$ and compatible with the manifold in the same way as $g$.

In \cite{18}, a subclass called para-Sasaki-like Riemannian $\Pi$-manifolds of the considered manifolds is introduced and studied. It is determined as follows

$$(\nabla_x \phi) y = -g(x, y)\xi - \eta(y)x + 2\eta(x)\eta(y)\xi$$

and the following identities are valid:

$$\nabla_x \xi = \phi x, \quad (\nabla_x \eta)(y) = g(x, \phi y),$$

$$R(x, y)\xi = -\eta(y)x + \eta(x)y, \quad R(\xi, y)\xi = \phi^2 y,$$

$$\rho(x, \xi) = -2n\eta(x), \quad \rho(\xi, \xi) = -2n,$$

where $R$ and $\rho$ denote the curvature tensor and the Ricci tensor, respectively. Let us remark that further $\tau$ and $\tilde{\tau}$ stand for the scalar curvatures on $(M, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$ regarding $g$ and $\tilde{g}$, respectively.

In \cite{19}, it is proved that for a $(2n+1)$-dimensional para-Sasaki-like Riemannian $\Pi$-manifold $(M, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$ the following properties of the Ricci operator $Q$ are valid

$$(\nabla_x Q)\xi = -Q\phi x + 2n \phi x,$$

$$(\nabla_\xi Q)y = -2Q\phi y.$$

According to \cite{15}, a manifold $(M, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$ is said to be para-Einstein-like with constants $(a, b, c)$ if $\rho$ satisfies:

$$\rho = ag + b\tilde{g} + c\eta \otimes \eta.$$

For $b = 0$ or $b = c = 0$, the manifold is called an $\eta$-Einstein manifold or an Einstein manifold, respectively. If $a$, $b$, $c$ are functions on $M$, then $(M, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$
is called an almost para-Einstein-like, an almost $\eta$-Einstein manifold or an almost Einstein manifold in the respective cases.

Let us recall the following

**Proposition 3.1** ([20]). Let $(\mathcal{M}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$ be a $(2n + 1)$-dimensional para-Sasaki-like Riemannian $\Pi$-manifold. If $(\mathcal{M}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$ is almost para-Einstein-like with functions $(a, b, c)$, then the scalar curvatures $\tau$ and $\tilde{\tau}$ are constants

$$\tau = \text{const}, \quad \tilde{\tau} = -2n$$

and $(\mathcal{M}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$ is $\eta$-Einstein with constants

$$(a, b, c) = \left(\frac{\tau}{2n} + 1, 0, -2n - 1 - \frac{\tau}{2n}\right).$$

**3.2. Para-Ricci-like soliton on Riemannian $\Pi$-manifold.** A para-Ricci-like soliton with potential $v$ and constants $(\lambda, \mu, \nu)$ is determined by the following identity for its Ricci tensor $\rho$:

$$\rho = -\frac{1}{2} \mathcal{L}_v g - \lambda g - \mu \tilde{g} - \nu \eta \otimes \eta,$$

where $\mathcal{L}$ stands for the Lie derivative. In [15], the soliton potential is considered to be the Reeb vector field, i.e. $v = \xi$. In [20] and [19], this notion is generalized and two cases are investigated for the soliton’s potential – when it is pointwise collinear with $\xi$, i.e. $v = k\xi$ for a differentiable function $k$ on $\mathcal{M}$, and when it is an arbitrary vector field $v$, respectively.

If $\mu = 0$ or $\mu = \nu = 0$, then (4) defines a $\eta$-Ricci soliton or a Ricci soliton on $(\mathcal{M}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$, respectively. In the case when $\lambda$, $\mu$, $\nu$ are functions on $\mathcal{M}$, the respective soliton is called almost para-Ricci-like soliton, almost $\eta$-Ricci soliton, or almost Ricci soliton.

Now, we consider a para-Ricci-like soliton with potential which is a gradient of a differentiable function.

**Definition 3.1.** A Riemannian $\Pi$-manifold $(\mathcal{M}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$ admits a gradient almost para-Ricci-like soliton with potential vector field $v$ which is a gradient of a differentiable function $f$, i.e. $v = \nabla f$, and functions $(\lambda, \mu, \nu)$ on $\mathcal{M}$ if its Ricci tensor $\rho$ satisfies the following:

$$\rho = -\text{Hess} f - \lambda g - \mu \tilde{g} - \nu \eta \otimes \eta,$$

where $\text{Hess}$ stands for the Hessian operator with respect to $g$, i.e.

$$(\text{Hess} f)(x, y) = (\nabla_x df)(y) = g(\nabla_x \nabla f, y).$$

Further, we omit the trivial case of the gradient para-Ricci-like soliton when $f$ is constant.

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4. Proof of the main results. Using (5) and (6), we get the following
\(\nabla_x v = -Q x - \lambda x - \mu \phi x - (\mu + \nu) \eta(x) \xi.\) (7)

Taking into account (7), we calculate that
\[
R(x, y)v = - (\nabla_x Q) y + (\nabla_y Q)x + \{d\lambda(y) + \mu \eta(y)\} x - \{d\lambda(x) + \mu \eta(x)\} y
+ \{d\mu(y) + (\mu + \nu) \eta(y)\} \phi x - \{d\mu(x) + (\mu + \nu) \eta(x)\} \phi y
+ d(\mu + \nu)(y) \eta(x) \xi - d(\mu + \nu)(x) \eta(y) \xi,
\]
which for \(x = \xi\) takes the following form
\[
R(\xi, y)v = - (\nabla_\xi Q) y + (\nabla_y Q) \xi + \{d\lambda(\xi) + \mu\} \phi^2 y - \{d\mu(\xi) + \mu + \nu\} \phi y
+ d(\lambda + \mu + \nu)(y) \xi - d(\lambda + \mu + \nu)(\xi) \eta(y) \xi.
\]

Applying (2) and (3) in the latter equality, we obtain
\[
R(\xi, y)v = Q \phi y + \{d\lambda(\xi) + \mu\} \phi^2 y - \{d\mu(\xi) + \mu + \nu - 2n\} \phi y
+ d(\lambda + \mu + \nu + f)(y) \xi - d(\lambda + \mu + \nu + f)(\xi) \eta(y) \xi.
\]

On the other hand, if we substitute \(z = v\) in the equality for \(R(\xi, y)z\) in (1), we get the following expression
\[
R(\xi, y)v = -df(y)\xi + df(\xi)y.
\]

Therefore, (9) and (10) deduce that
\[
Q \phi y = - \{d(\lambda - f)(\xi) + \mu\} \phi^2 y + \{d\mu(\xi) + \mu + \nu - 2n\} \phi y
- d(\lambda + \mu + \nu + f)(y) \xi - d(\lambda + \mu + \nu + f)(\xi) \eta(y) \xi.
\]

Taking into account the property \(Q \circ \phi = \phi \circ Q\) for a para-Sasaki-like manifold, equality (11) implies the following
\[
d(\lambda + \mu + \nu + f)(y) = d(\lambda + \mu + \nu + f)(\xi) \eta(y).
\]

Therefore, (11) and (9) take the following form
\[
Q \phi y = - \{d(\lambda - f)(\xi) + \mu\} \phi^2 y + \{d\mu(\xi) + \mu + \nu - 2n\} \phi y,
R(\xi, y)v = Q \phi y + \{d\lambda(\xi) + \mu\} \phi^2 y - \{d\mu(\xi) + \mu + \nu - 2n\} \phi y
- \{df(y) - df(\xi) \eta(y)\} \xi.
\]

Then, we have
\[
R(\xi, y, v, z) = \rho(y, \phi z) + \{d\lambda(\xi) + \mu\} g(\phi y, \phi z)
- \{d\mu(\xi) + \mu + \nu - 2n\} g(y, \phi z)
- \{df(y) - df(\xi) \eta(y)\} \eta(z).
\]
From another point of view, the form of $R(x, y)\xi$ from (1) and equality (8) imply the following

$$R(x, y, \xi, v) = -df(x)\eta(y) + df(y)\eta(x),$$

$$R(x, y, v, \xi) = -\eta((\nabla_x Q)y - (\nabla_y Q)x) + d(\lambda + \mu + \nu)(y)\eta(x) - d(\lambda + \mu + \nu)(x)\eta(y).$$

Combining the latter two equalities, we get that

$$\eta((\nabla_x Q)y - (\nabla_y Q)x) = -d(\lambda + \mu + \nu + f)(x)\eta(y) + d(\lambda + \mu + \nu)(y)\eta(x),$$

which, taking into account (12), is simplified to

$$\eta((\nabla_x Q)y - (\nabla_y Q)x) = 0.$$

On the other hand, the expression of $R(\xi, y)z$ from (1) gives

$$R(\xi, y, z, v) = -df(\xi)g(\phi y, \phi z) + \{df(y) - df(\xi)\eta(y)\}\eta(z).$$

The latter result, (13) and $\rho(x, \xi)$ from (1) imply

$$\rho(y, z) = \{d\mu(\xi) + \mu + \nu - 2n\}g(\phi y, \phi z) - \{d(\lambda - f)(\xi) + \mu\}g(y, \phi z) - 2n\eta(y)\eta(z),$$

which can be rewritten in the following form

$$\rho = \{d\mu(\xi) + \mu + \nu - 2n\}g - \{d(\lambda - f)(\xi) + \mu\}\tilde{g} - \{\nu - d(\lambda - \mu - f)(\xi)\}\eta \otimes \eta.$$

Therefore, $(M, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$ is almost para-Einstein-like with coefficient functions

$$a = d\mu(\xi) + \mu + \nu - 2n, \quad b = -d(\lambda - f)(\xi) - \mu,$$

$$c = d(\lambda - \mu - f)(\xi) - \nu.$$

Then, using Proposition 3.1 and (14), we have that

$$a = \frac{\tau}{2n} + 1, \quad b = 0, \quad c = -2n - 1 - \frac{\tau}{2n},$$

$$\tau = -2n\{d\mu(\xi) + \mu + \nu - 2n - 1\}, \quad \tilde{\tau} = -2n.$$

Taking into account (16), we get $d\tilde{\tau} = 0$ and using $d\tilde{\tau}(y) = 2(\tau + 2n)\eta(y)$, we obtain

$$\tau = -2n.$$

Therefore, substituting the latter result in (15), we get

$$(a, b, c) = (0, 0, -2n),$$

which completes the proof.
5. Example. Let us consider the following example given in [19]. Let \( M \) be a set of points in \( \mathbb{R}^3 \) with coordinates \((x_1, x_2, x_3)\), which is equipped with a Riemannian \( \Pi \)-structure \((\phi, \xi, \eta, g)\) as follows
\[
\begin{align*}
g(\partial_1, \partial_1) &= g(\partial_2, \partial_2) = \cosh 2x_3, & g(\partial_1, \partial_2) &= \sinh 2x_3, \\
g(\partial_1, \partial_3) &= g(\partial_2, \partial_3) = 0, & g(\partial_3, \partial_3) &= 1,
\end{align*}
\]
where by \( \partial_1, \partial_2, \partial_3 \) we denote \( \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1}, \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2}, \frac{\partial}{\partial x_3} \), respectively. Then, the triad
\[
\{e_1, e_2, e_3\} = \{\cosh x^3 \partial_1 - \sinh x^3 \partial_2, -\sinh x^3 \partial_1 + \cosh x^3 \partial_2, \partial_3\}
\]
forms an orthonormal \( \phi \)-basis of \( T_pM, p \in M \). Therefore, we have
\[
g(e_i, e_i) = 1, \quad g(e_i, e_j) = 0, \quad i, j \in \{1, 2, 3\}, \quad i \neq j,
\]
\[
\phi e_1 = e_2, \quad \phi e_2 = e_1, \quad \xi = \partial_3.
\]
Then, the constructed manifold \((M, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)\) is a 3-dimensional para-Sasaki-like Riemannian II-manifold [19]. Moreover, in the cited paper for \((M, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)\) is obtained that
\[
\tau = \tilde{\tau} = -2, \quad \rho = -2\eta \otimes \eta.
\]
Now, let \( f \) be a differentiable function on \( M \), determined by
\[
f = \frac{1}{2}p\{(x^1)^2 + (x^2)^2\} - x^2 + qx^3,
\]
where \( p \) and \( q \) are arbitrary constants. Then, the gradient of \( f \) with respect to \( g \) has the following form
\[
\operatorname{grad} f = \{p x^1 \cosh x^3 + (p x^2 - 1) \sinh x^3\}e_1 + \{p x^1 \sinh x^3 + (p x^2 - 1) \cosh x^3\}e_2 + qe_3.
\]
Taking into account (17), we calculate the components of \( \mathcal{L}_{\operatorname{grad} f} g \) as follows
\[
(\mathcal{L}_{\operatorname{grad} f} g)_{11} = (\mathcal{L}_{\operatorname{grad} f} g)_{22} = -2p, \quad (\mathcal{L}_{\operatorname{grad} f} g)_{12} = -2q.
\]
Therefore, we have the following expression
\[
(\mathcal{L}_{\operatorname{grad} f} g) = -2pg - 2q\tilde{g} + 2(p + q)\eta \otimes \eta.
\]
Equality (20) coincides with
\[
\mathcal{L}_v g = -2c_1 g + 2(c_2 + c_3)\tilde{g} + 2(c_1 - c_2 - c_3)\eta \otimes \eta
\]
492
obtained for the same example in [19] when \( p = c_1, \ q = -(c_2 + c_3) \). Therefore, the manifold \((\mathcal{M}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)\) admits a gradient almost para-Ricci-like soliton with potential \( v = \text{grad} \ f \) determined by (19) and \((\lambda, \mu, \nu)\) are the following

\[
\lambda = p, \quad \mu = q, \quad \nu = -p - q + 2.
\]

In conclusion, the constructed 3-dimensional example of a para-Sasaki-like Riemannian II-manifold \((\mathcal{M}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)\) with (18) and gradient para-Ricci-like soliton supports Theorem 2.1.

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