

# A characteristic property of Sasakian manifolds

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**Abstract.** We study the case when a unit vector field  $\xi$  on a Riemannian manifold  $(M, g)$  defines an isometric embedding  $\xi: (M, g) \rightarrow (T_1M, \tilde{G})$  where  $\tilde{G}$  is the Riemannian  $g$ -natural metric. The main goal is to find conditions under which the submanifold  $\xi(M) \subset (T_1M, \tilde{G})$  can be totally geodesic. It is proved that the Reeb vector field of a  $K$ -contact metric structure on  $M$  gives rise to totally geodesic  $\xi(M)$  if and only if the structure is Sasakian. As a by-product, we find the expression for the second fundamental form of  $\xi(M) \subset (T_1M, \tilde{G})$ .

**Анотація.** Ми вивчаємо випадок, коли одиничне векторне поле  $\xi$  на рімановому многовиді  $(M, g)$  визначає ізометричне вкладення  $\xi: (M, g) \rightarrow (T_1M, \tilde{G})$ , де  $\tilde{G}$  —  $g$ -природна метрика Рімана. Основна мета полягає в тому, щоб знайти умови, за яких підмноговид  $\xi(M) \subset (T_1M, \tilde{G})$  є цілком геодезичним. Доведено, що векторне поле Ріба  $K$ -контактної метричної структури на  $M$  породжує цілком геодезичний підмноговид  $\xi(M)$  тоді і тільки тоді, коли структура є сасаківською. Зокрема, ми знаходимо вираз для другої фундаментальної форми  $\xi(M) \subset (T_1M, \tilde{G})$ .

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $(M, g)$  be the Riemannian manifold and  $(T_1M, g_S)$  be the unit tangent bundle of  $M$  endowed with the *Sasaki metric* (see [10, 11]). It is well known that the fibers of  $T_1M$  as submanifolds in  $(T_1M, g_S)$  are totally geodesic ones. The other natural type of submanifolds in  $(T_1M, g_S)$  are given by (at least locally) unit vector field  $\xi$  being considered as a mapping  $\xi: M \rightarrow T_1M$  given by  $\xi(x) = (x, \xi(x))$ . The submanifold  $\xi(M) \subset (T_1M, g_S)$  is transversal to the fibers, and (locally) homeomorphic to the base manifold but almost never isometric to the base except  $\xi$  is a parallel unit vector field. M. T. K. Abbassi and M. Sarih [1, 2] defined a family of the so-called Riemannian  $g$ -natural metrics on the unit tangent bundle of the Riemannian manifold  $(M, g)$  which depends on four constants  $(a, b, c, d)$ .

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The Sasaki metric belongs to the family with parameters value  $(1, 0, 0, 0)$ . D. Perrone showed that a *non-parallel* unit vector field can define an *isometric embedding* of the base manifold into its unit tangent bundle endowed with a 2-parametric family of *Riemannian  $g$ -natural metrics* (the family does not include the Sasaki metric). This is the case when the base manifold is  $K$ -contact and the field  $\xi$  is the characteristic vector field of the Killing-contact structure (the so called, *Reeb unit vector field*). Namely,

**Theorem 1.1** ([8]). *Let  $(M, g, \eta, \xi, \phi)$  be a contact metric manifold with  $\dim M = 2n + 1$  and let  $\tilde{G}$  be a Riemannian  $g$ -natural metric on  $T_1M$  with  $c = 1 - 2a$ . Then  $\xi: (M, g) \rightarrow (T_1M, \tilde{G})$  is an isometric embedding if and only if  $d = a$  and  $M$  is  $K$ -contact.*

In addition, he proved

**Theorem 1.2** ([8]). *The Reeb vector field of a  $K$ -contact manifold  $(M, \eta, g)$  defines a harmonic map  $\xi: (M, g) \rightarrow (T_1M, \tilde{G})$  for any Riemannian  $g$ -natural metric  $\tilde{G}$  on  $T_1M$ .*

In the case of isometric embedding, minimality of embedded manifold implies harmonicity of embedding, and vice-versa [6]. In particular, the Theorem above implies that the image of the Reeb vector field from [8, Proposition 3.5] is *minimal*.

A unit vector field  $\xi$  on the Riemannian manifold  $(M, g)$  is called *totally geodesic* if the image of (local) embedding  $\xi: M \rightarrow T_1M$  is a totally geodesic submanifold of  $(T_1M, \tilde{G})$  (see [12, 13] for the case of the Sasaki metric). In this paper we prove the following Theorem which is a natural addition to D. Perrone's result.

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $(M, g, \eta, \xi, \phi)$  be a  $(2n + 1)$ -dimensional  $K$ -contact metric manifold. Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be the family of Riemannian  $g$ -natural metrics on  $T_1M$  defined by the parameters*

$$0 < a < 1, \quad b^2 < a(1 - a), \quad c = 1 - 2a, \quad d = a.$$

*Then the Reeb vector field  $\xi$  for each  $\tilde{G} \in \mathcal{F}$  defines totally geodesic isometric embedding  $\xi: (M, g) \rightarrow (T_1M, \tilde{G})$  if and only if  $M$  is a Sasakian manifold.*

Theorem 3.1 distinguishes Sasakian manifolds among  $K$ -contact manifolds taking into account the geometry of the unit tangent bundle endowed with  $g$ -natural metrics.

## 2. PRELIMINARIES

**2.1.  $g$ -natural metrics on (unit) tangent bundle.** Let  $(M, g)$  be an  $n$ -dimensional Riemannian manifold with metric  $g$ . Denote by  $g(\cdot, \cdot)$  the

scalar product with respect to  $g$ . The *tangent bundle* of a Riemannian manifold  $(M, g)$  is a Riemannian manifold  $TM$  which is given by

$$TM = \bigsqcup_{x \in M} T_x M = \{(x, \xi) : x \in M, \xi \in T_x M\},$$

where  $T_x M$  denotes the tangent space to  $M$  at the point  $x$ . The *point* of  $TM$  is a pair  $(x, \xi)$ , where  $x$  is a point in  $M$  and  $\xi$  is a tangent vector to  $M$  at  $x$ .

It is well known that at each point  $(x, \xi) \in TM$  the tangent space  $T_{(x, \xi)} TM$  splits into *vertical* and *horizontal* parts:

$$T_{(x, \xi)} TM = \mathcal{H}_{(x, \xi)} TM \oplus \mathcal{V}_{(x, \xi)} TM.$$

The vertical part  $\mathcal{V}_{(x, \xi)}$  is tangent to the fiber, while the horizontal part  $\mathcal{H}_{(x, \xi)}$  is transversal to it. Denote by  $(x^1, \dots, x^n; \xi^1, \dots, \xi^n)$  the natural induced local coordinate system on  $TM$ . Let also

$$\partial_i = \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \quad \text{and} \quad \partial_{n+i} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi^i}.$$

Then for  $\tilde{X} \in T_{(x, \xi)} TM$  we have that

$$\tilde{X} = \tilde{X}^i \partial_i + \tilde{X}^{n+i} \partial_{n+i}.$$

If  $X \in T_x M$ , then, denoting by  $\Gamma_{jk}^i$  the Christoffel's symbols of  $g$ ,

$$X^h = X^i \partial_i - \Gamma_{jk}^i \xi^j X^k \partial_{n+i}$$

belongs to  $\mathcal{H}_{(x, \xi)} TM$  and is called the *horizontal lift* of  $X$ , while

$$X^v = X^i \partial_{n+i}$$

belongs to  $\mathcal{V}_{(x, \xi)} TM$  and is called the *vertical lift* of  $X$ .

The *unit tangent bundle*  $T_1 M$  is defined as a hypersurface in  $TM$  given by  $g_x(\xi, \xi) = 1$ , that is

$$T_1 M = \{(x, \xi) \mid x \in M, \xi \in T_x M, g_x(\xi, \xi) = 1\}.$$

The *Riemannian  $g$ -natural metric*  $G$  on  $TM$  [2] is defined by

$$G_{(x, \xi)}(X^h, Y^h) = (\alpha_1 + \alpha_3)(r^2)g_x(X, Y) + (\beta_1 + \beta_3)(r^2)g_x(X, \xi)g_x(Y, \xi),$$

$$G_{(x, \xi)}(X^h, Y^v) = \alpha_2(r^2)g_x(X, Y) + \beta_2(r^2)g_x(X, \xi)g_x(Y, \xi),$$

$$G_{(x, \xi)}(X^v, Y^v) = \alpha_1(r^2)g_x(X, Y) + \beta_1(r^2)g_x(X, \xi)g_x(Y, \xi),$$

for all tangent vectors  $X, Y \in T_x M$  and  $(x, \xi) \in TM$ , where

$$\alpha_i, \beta_i: [0, +\infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad i = 1, 2, 3,$$

are smooth functions, and  $r^2 = g_x(\xi, \xi)$ .

The Riemannian  $g$ -natural metric  $\tilde{G}$  on  $T_1M$  [1] is defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{G}_{(x,\xi)}(X^h, Y^h) &= (a + c)g_x(X, Y) + dg_x(X, \xi)g_x(Y, \xi), \\ \tilde{G}_{(x,\xi)}(X^h, Y^t) &= bg_x(X, Y), \\ \tilde{G}_{(x,\xi)}(X^t, Y^t) &= ag_x(X, Y) - \frac{\phi}{a + c + d}g_x(X, \xi)g_x(Y, \xi). \end{aligned}$$

for all tangent vectors  $X, Y \in T_xM$  and  $(x, \xi) \in T_1M$ , where the constants  $a, b, c, d$  satisfy the following inequalities:

$$a > 0, \quad \alpha := a(a + c) - b^2 > 0, \quad \phi := a(a + c + d) - b^2 > 0;$$

the unit normal at any point of  $T_1M$  is given by

$$N_{(x,\xi)}^G = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(a + c + d)\phi}} \left( -b\xi^h + (a + c + d)\xi^v \right); \tag{2.1}$$

the “tangential lift”  $X^t$ , with respect to  $G$ , of a chosen vector  $X \in T_xM$  to  $(x, \xi) \in T_1M$ , is defined as the tangential projection of the vertical lift of  $X$  to  $(x, \xi)$  with respect to  $N^G$ , namely

$$\begin{aligned} X^t &= X^v - G_{(x,\xi)}(X^v, N_{(x,\xi)}^G)N_{(x,\xi)}^G \\ &= X^v - \sqrt{\frac{\phi}{a + c + d}}g_x(X, \xi)N_{(x,\xi)}^G. \end{aligned} \tag{2.2}$$

Note that

$$\xi^t = \frac{b}{a + c + d}\xi^h. \tag{2.3}$$

If  $a = 1$  and  $b = c = d = 0$ , then  $\tilde{G}$  is the Sasaki metric.

Let  $\nabla$  be the Levi-Civita connection on  $M$ . The Nomizu operator

$$A_\xi: \mathfrak{X}(M) \rightarrow \xi^\perp \subset \mathfrak{X}(M)$$

for a unit smooth vector field  $\xi$  is defined by  $A_\xi X = -\nabla_X \xi$ . It is worth to remark that  $A_\xi X$  is orthogonal to  $\xi$  and  $(A_\xi X)^v = (A_\xi X)^t$ .

The tangent map  $\xi_*: \mathfrak{X}(M) \rightarrow T\xi(M)$  is defined by

$$\xi_* X = X^h - (A_\xi X)^t. \tag{2.4}$$

The rough Hessian and the  $\xi$ -harmonicity tensor (see [13]) are given by

$$Hess_\xi(X, Y) = \frac{1}{2}((\nabla_X A_\xi)Y + (\nabla_Y A_\xi)X), \tag{2.5}$$

$$Hm_\xi(X, Y) = \frac{1}{2}(R(\xi, A_\xi X)Y + R(\xi, A_\xi Y)X), \tag{2.6}$$

where  $(\nabla_X A_\xi)Y = \nabla_X(A_\xi Y) - A_\xi(\nabla_X Y)$  and  $R$  is the curvature tensor of the base manifold  $(M, g)$ . The second fundamental form of the map  $\phi: (M, g) \rightarrow (N, h)$  between Riemannian manifolds is defined as

$$B_\phi(X, Y) = \nabla_{\phi_* X}^\phi(\phi_* Y) - \phi_*(\nabla_X^g Y), \tag{2.7}$$

where  $\nabla^\phi$  is the induced Levi-Civita connection on  $\phi(M)$  and  $\nabla^g$  is the Levi-Civita connection on  $M$ .

**2.2. Contact metric manifolds.** A differentiable  $(2n + 1)$ -dimensional manifold  $M$  carries a  $(\phi, \xi, \eta)$ -structure if it admits a field  $\phi$  of endomorphisms of the tangent spaces, a vector field  $\xi$ , and a 1-form  $\eta$  satisfying the following identities:

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

where  $I$  denotes the identity transformation. Note that

$$\phi\xi = 0, \quad \eta \circ \phi = 0. \quad (2.8)$$

If the manifold  $M$  with a  $(\phi, \xi, \eta)$ -structure admits a Riemannian metric  $g$  such that

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

for any vector fields  $X, Y$ , then  $M$  is said to have a  $(\phi, \xi, \eta, g)$ -structure, or an *almost contact metric structure*, while  $g$  is called a *compatible metric*. Setting  $Y = \xi$ , an immediate consequence is that  $\eta$  is the covariant form of  $\xi$ , that is

$$\eta(X) = g(X, \xi). \quad (2.9)$$

Define the following 2-form  $\Phi$  on  $M$  by

$$\Phi(X, Y) = g(X, \phi Y).$$

Note that

$$g(X, \phi Y) = -g(\phi X, Y). \quad (2.10)$$

We will call  $\Phi$  the *fundamental 2-form* of the almost contact metric structure  $(\phi, \xi, \eta, g)$ . If  $\Phi = d\eta$ , then an almost contact metric structure  $(\phi, \xi, \eta, g)$  is called a *contact metric structure*, while  $(M, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$  is called a *contact metric manifold*,  $\xi$  is called *Reeb vector field* and  $\eta$  uniquely defines  $\xi$  by the conditions

$$\eta(\xi) = 1, \quad d\eta(\xi, X) = 0.$$

The Reeb vector field of a contact manifold plays a fundamental role in the study of the Riemannian geometry of a contact metric manifold. More detailed information about the contact metric manifolds and the Reeb vector fields can be found in [3, 14]. Besides, consider several types of almost contact metric manifolds.

**Definition 2.3.** A differentiable  $(2n + 1)$ -dimensional contact metric manifold  $(M, g, \eta, \xi, \phi)$  is called *K-contact manifold* if  $\xi$  is Killing vector field.

Equivalently,  $(M, g, \eta, \xi, \phi)$  is  $K$ -contact if and only if

$$\mathcal{L}_\xi \phi = 0, \tag{2.11}$$

where  $\mathcal{L}_\xi \phi$  is the *Lie derivative* of  $\phi$  along the vector field  $\xi$ . The basic property of a  $K$ -contact manifold is that

$$\nabla_X \xi = -\phi X. \tag{2.12}$$

The other important properties of a  $K$ -contact manifold are that

$$\eta(R(\xi, X)Y) = g(X, Y) - \eta(X)\eta(Y), \tag{2.13}$$

$$(\nabla_X \phi)Y = R(\xi, X)Y, \tag{2.14}$$

$$R(\xi, X)\xi = -X + \eta(X)\xi. \tag{2.15}$$

Note that equation (2.13) is a direct consequence of equation (2.15).

**Definition 2.4.** A contact metric manifold  $(M, g, \eta, \xi, \phi)$  is called a *Sasakian manifold* if

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

Note that any Sasakian manifold is  $K$ -contact. An important property of a Sasakian manifold is that

$$R(\xi, X)Y = g(X, Y)\xi - \eta(Y)X.$$

**Definition 2.5.** A contact metric manifold  $(M, g, \eta, \xi, \phi)$  is called a *nearly Sasakian manifold* if

$$(\nabla_X \phi)Y + (\nabla_Y \phi)X = 2g(X, Y)\xi - \eta(X)Y - \eta(Y)X. \tag{2.16}$$

Note that each Sasakian manifold is nearly Sasakian. From (2.16), we obtain that

$$\nabla_X \xi = -\phi X - HX,$$

where

$$HX = \phi(\nabla_\xi \phi)X. \tag{2.17}$$

The tensor field  $H$  is of type  $(1, 1)$  and satisfies  $H\xi = 0, \eta \circ H = 0$ , and

$$\nabla_\xi H = -\nabla_\xi \phi = \phi H = -\frac{1}{3}\mathcal{L}_\xi \phi. \tag{2.18}$$

If  $H$  vanishes, then a nearly Sasakian manifold is Sasakian. Note that, using (2.11), (2.17) and (2.18), we obtain that

**Theorem 2.6.** *Nearly Sasakian manifold is  $K$ -contact if and only if it is Sasakian.*

It is worth to note that in dimension  $2n + 1 > 5$  it is known that every nearly Sasakian manifold is Sasakian [5].

More detailed information about the  $K$ -contact, Sasakian and nearly Sasakian manifolds can be found in [3–5, 7, 9, 14].

### 3. MAIN RESULT

Let  $(M, g, \eta, \xi, \phi)$  be a  $K$ -contact metric manifold,  $\dim M = 2n + 1$ , and let  $\tilde{G}$  be a Riemannian  $g$ -natural metric on  $T_1M$  with  $c = 1 - 2a$  and  $d = a$ . By Theorem 1.1, the Reeb vector field defines an isometric embedding  $\xi: (M, g) \rightarrow (T_1M, \tilde{G})$ . Under this hypothesis we can prove the following assertions.

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $(M, g, \eta, \xi, \phi)$  be a  $(2n + 1)$ -dimensional  $K$ -contact metric manifold. Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be the family of Riemannian  $g$ -natural metrics on  $T_1M$  defined by the parameters*

$$0 < a < 1, \quad b^2 < a(1 - a), \quad c = 1 - 2a, \quad d = a.$$

*Then the Reeb vector field  $\xi$  for any  $\tilde{G} \in \mathcal{F}$  defines a totally geodesic isometric embedding  $\xi: (M, g) \rightarrow (T_1M, \tilde{G})$  if and only if  $M$  is a Sasakian manifold.*

The proof is based on the following Lemma.

**Lemma 3.2.** *Let  $\tilde{G}$  be Riemannian  $g$ -natural metric on the unit tangent bundle  $T_1M$  of Riemannian manifold  $(M, g)$  defined by four parameters  $a, b, c$  and  $d$ . Then for the unit vector field  $\xi$  defining the map*

$$\xi: (M, g) \rightarrow (T_1M, \tilde{G})$$

*the second fundamental form of  $\xi(M) \subset (T_1M, \tilde{G})$  has the following expression*

$$\begin{aligned} B_\xi(X, Y) = & \left\{ -\frac{a^2}{\alpha}Hm_\xi(X, Y) - \frac{ab}{\alpha}\rho_\xi(X, Y) \right. \\ & + \frac{bd}{\alpha}\gamma_\xi(X, Y) - \frac{ad}{\alpha}A_\xi(\gamma_\xi(X, Y)) \\ & + \frac{d}{(a+c+d)\alpha} \left[ a^2g(Hm_\xi(X, Y), \xi) + abg(\rho_\xi(X, Y), \xi) \right. \\ & \left. \left. - bdg(\gamma_\xi(X, Y), \xi) - \frac{\alpha}{2}(g(X, A_\xi Y) + g(Y, A_\xi X)) \right] \xi \right\}^h \\ & + \left\{ -Hess_\xi(X, Y) + \frac{b^2}{\alpha}\rho_\xi(X, Y) - \frac{(a+c)d}{\alpha}\gamma_\xi(X, Y) \right. \\ & \left. + \frac{bd}{\alpha}A_\xi(\gamma_\xi(X, Y)) + \frac{ab}{\alpha}Hm_\xi(X, Y) \right\}^t, \end{aligned} \tag{3.1}$$

where  $\alpha = a(a + c) - b^2$ , and

$$\rho_\xi(X, Y) = \frac{1}{2}(R(X, \xi)Y + R(Y, \xi)X), \tag{3.2}$$

$$\gamma_\xi(X, Y) = \frac{1}{2}(g(X, \xi)Y + g(Y, \xi)X). \tag{3.3}$$

*Proof.* Substituting (2.4) in (2.7), we can calculate the second fundamental form of the map

$$B_\xi(X, Y) = \tilde{\nabla}_{\xi_*X}(\xi_*Y) - \xi_*(\nabla_X Y).$$

Note that

$$\xi_*(\nabla_X Y) = (\nabla_X Y)^h - (A_\xi(\nabla_X Y))^t = (\nabla_X Y)^h + (\nabla_{\nabla_X Y} \xi)^t$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\nabla}_{\xi_*X}(\xi_*Y) &= \tilde{\nabla}_{X^h} Y^h - \tilde{\nabla}_{X^h}(A_\xi Y)^t - \tilde{\nabla}_{(A_\xi X)^t} Y^h + \tilde{\nabla}_{(A_\xi X)^t}(A_\xi Y)^t \\ &= \tilde{\nabla}_{X^h} Y^h + \tilde{\nabla}_{X^h}(\nabla_Y \xi)^t + \tilde{\nabla}_{(\nabla_X \xi)^t} Y^h + \tilde{\nabla}_{(\nabla_X \xi)^t}(\nabla_Y \xi)^t. \end{aligned}$$

Using (2.5), (2.6), (3.2), (3.3) and [1, Proposition 5], we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\nabla}_{X^h} Y^h &= \left\{ \nabla_X Y - \frac{ab}{\alpha} \rho_\xi(X, Y) + \frac{bd}{\alpha} \gamma_\xi(X, Y) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{b}{(a+c+d)\alpha} [(ad + b^2)g(\rho_\xi(X, Y), \xi) \right. \\ &\quad \left. - d(a + c + d)g(\gamma_\xi(X, Y), \xi)] \xi \right\}^h \\ &\quad + \left\{ \frac{b^2}{\alpha} R(X, \xi)Y - \frac{a(a+c)}{2\alpha} R(X, Y)\xi - \frac{(a+c)d}{\alpha} \gamma_\xi(X, Y) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{1}{\alpha} [-b^2g(\rho_\xi(X, Y), \xi) + d(a + c)g(\gamma_\xi(X, Y), \xi)] \xi \right\}^t, \\ \tilde{\nabla}_{X^h}(\nabla_Y \xi)^t &= \left\{ -\frac{a^2}{2\alpha} R(\nabla_Y \xi, \xi)X + \frac{ad}{2\alpha} g(X, \xi)\nabla_Y \xi \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{1}{2(a+c+d)\alpha} [a(ad + b^2)g(R(X, \xi)\nabla_Y \xi, \xi) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + d\alpha g(X, \nabla_Y \xi)] \xi \right\}^h \\ &\quad + \left\{ \nabla_X \nabla_Y \xi + \frac{ab}{2\alpha} R(\nabla_Y \xi, \xi)X \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \frac{bd}{2\alpha} g(X, \xi)\nabla_Y \xi - \frac{ab}{2\alpha} g(R(X, \xi)\nabla_Y \xi, \xi) \xi \right\}^t, \\ \tilde{\nabla}_{(\nabla_X \xi)^t} Y^h &= \left\{ -\frac{a^2}{2\alpha} R(\nabla_X \xi, \xi)Y + \frac{ad}{2\alpha} g(Y, \xi)\nabla_X \xi \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{1}{2(a+c+d)\alpha} [a(ad + b^2)g(R(\nabla_X \xi, \xi)Y, \xi) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + d\alpha g(\nabla_X \xi, Y)] \xi \right\}^h \end{aligned}$$

$$+ \left\{ \frac{ab}{2\alpha} R(\nabla_X \xi, \xi) Y - \frac{bd}{2\alpha} g(Y, \xi) \nabla_X \xi - \frac{ab}{2\alpha} g(R(\nabla_X \xi, \xi) Y, \xi) \xi \right\}^t,$$

$$\tilde{\nabla}_{(\nabla_X \xi)^t} (\nabla_Y \xi)^t = 0.$$

First, calculate the horizontal component

$$\begin{aligned} h: \quad & \nabla_X Y - \frac{ab}{\alpha} \rho_\xi(X, Y) + \frac{bd}{\alpha} \gamma_\xi(X, Y) \\ & + \frac{b}{(a+c+d)\alpha} [(ad + b^2)g(\rho_\xi(X, Y), \xi) - d(a + c + d)g(\gamma_\xi(X, Y), \xi)] \xi \\ & - \frac{a^2}{2\alpha} R(\nabla_Y \xi, \xi) X + \frac{ad}{2\alpha} g(X, \xi) \nabla_Y \xi \\ & + \frac{1}{2(a+c+d)\alpha} [a(ad + b^2)g(R(X, \xi) \nabla_Y \xi, \xi) + d\alpha g(X, \nabla_Y \xi)] \xi \\ & - \frac{a^2}{2\alpha} R(\nabla_X \xi, \xi) Y + \frac{ad}{2\alpha} g(Y, \xi) \nabla_X \xi \\ & + \frac{1}{2(a+c+d)\alpha} [a(ad + b^2)g(R(\nabla_X \xi, \xi) Y, \xi) + d\alpha g(\nabla_X \xi, Y)] \xi \\ & - \nabla_X Y. \end{aligned}$$

Note that

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{a}{2} g(R(X, \xi) \nabla_Y \xi, \xi) + \frac{a}{2} g(R(\nabla_X \xi, \xi) Y, \xi) = \\ & = \frac{a}{2} g(R(\xi, A_\xi Y) X, \xi) + \frac{a}{2} g(R(\xi, A_\xi X) Y, \xi) = ag(Hm_\xi(X, Y), \xi), \\ & \frac{ad}{2\alpha} g(X, \xi) \nabla_Y \xi + \frac{ad}{2\alpha} g(Y, \xi) \nabla_X \xi = -\frac{ad}{\alpha} A_\xi(\gamma_\xi(X, Y)), \\ & -\frac{a^2}{2\alpha} R(\nabla_Y \xi, \xi) X - \frac{a^2}{2\alpha} R(\nabla_X \xi, \xi) Y = -\frac{a^2}{\alpha} Hm_\xi(X, Y). \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} h: \quad & -\frac{a^2}{\alpha} Hm_\xi(X, Y) - \frac{ab}{\alpha} \rho_\xi(X, Y) + \frac{bd}{\alpha} \gamma_\xi(X, Y) - \frac{ad}{\alpha} A_\xi(\gamma_\xi(X, Y)) \\ & + \left( \frac{ad+b^2}{(a+c+d)\alpha} (ag(Hm_\xi(X, Y), \xi) + bg(\rho_\xi(X, Y), \xi)) \right. \\ & \left. - \frac{bd}{\alpha} g(\gamma_\xi(X, Y), \xi) - \frac{d}{2(a+c+d)} (g(X, A_\xi Y) + g(Y, A_\xi X)) \right) \xi. \end{aligned}$$

Calculate the tangential component.

$$\begin{aligned} t: \quad & \frac{b^2}{\alpha} R(X, \xi) Y - \frac{a(a+c)}{2\alpha} R(X, Y) \xi - \frac{(a+c)d}{\alpha} \gamma_\xi(X, Y) \\ & + \frac{1}{\alpha} [-b^2 g(\rho_\xi(X, Y), \xi) + d(a + c)g(\gamma_\xi(X, Y), \xi)] \xi + \nabla_X \nabla_Y \xi \\ & + \frac{ab}{2\alpha} R(\nabla_Y \xi, \xi) X - \frac{bd}{2\alpha} g(X, \xi) \nabla_Y \xi - \frac{ab}{2\alpha} g(R(X, \xi) \nabla_Y \xi, \xi) \xi \\ & + \frac{ab}{2\alpha} R(\nabla_X \xi, \xi) Y - \frac{bd}{2\alpha} g(Y, \xi) \nabla_X \xi - \frac{ab}{2\alpha} g(R(\nabla_X \xi, \xi) Y, \xi) \xi \\ & - \nabla_{\nabla_X Y} \xi. \end{aligned}$$

Note that

$$\begin{aligned}
& \frac{ab}{2\alpha}R(\nabla_Y\xi, \xi)X + \frac{ab}{2\alpha}R(\nabla_X\xi, \xi)Y = \\
& = \frac{ab}{2\alpha}(R(\xi, A_\xi Y)X + R(\xi, A_\xi X)Y) = \frac{ab}{\alpha}Hm_\xi(X, Y), \\
& - \frac{bd}{2\alpha}g(X, \xi)\nabla_Y\xi - \frac{bd}{2\alpha}g(Y, \xi)\nabla_X\xi = \\
& = \frac{bd}{2\alpha}(g(X, \xi)A_\xi Y + g(Y, \xi)A_\xi X) = \frac{bd}{\alpha}A_\xi(\gamma_\xi(X, Y)), \\
& - \frac{ab}{2\alpha}g(R(X, \xi)\nabla_Y\xi, \xi)\xi - \frac{ab}{2\alpha}g(R(\nabla_X\xi, \xi)Y, \xi)\xi = \\
& = -\frac{ab}{2\alpha}g(R(\xi, A_\xi Y)X + R(\xi, A_\xi X)Y, \xi)\xi = -\frac{ab}{\alpha}g(Hm_\xi(X, Y), \xi)\xi.
\end{aligned}$$

Using the identity

$$R(X, \xi)Y + R(\xi, Y)X + R(Y, X)\xi = 0,$$

we get that

$$R(X, \xi)Y = R(X, Y)\xi + R(Y, \xi)X$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
& \frac{b^2}{\alpha}R(X, \xi)Y - \frac{a(a+c)}{2\alpha}R(X, Y)\xi \\
& = \left(\frac{b^2}{\alpha} - \frac{a(a+c)}{2\alpha}\right)R(X, Y)\xi + \frac{b^2}{\alpha}R(Y, \xi)X \\
& = \left(\frac{b^2}{2\alpha} - \frac{1}{2}\right)R(X, Y)\xi + \frac{b^2}{\alpha}R(Y, \xi)X.
\end{aligned}$$

Similarly, using

$$R(X, Y)\xi + R(Y, \xi)X + R(\xi, X)Y = 0,$$

we obtain that

$$R(X, Y)\xi = R(X, \xi)Y - R(Y, \xi)X$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
& \left(\frac{b^2}{2\alpha} - \frac{1}{2}\right)R(X, Y)\xi + \frac{b^2}{\alpha}R(Y, \xi)X \\
& = \frac{b^2}{2\alpha}R(X, Y)\xi - \frac{1}{2}R(X, Y)\xi + \frac{b^2}{\alpha}R(Y, \xi)X \\
& = \frac{b^2}{2\alpha}R(X, \xi)Y - \frac{b^2}{2\alpha}R(Y, \xi)X - \frac{1}{2}R(X, Y)\xi + \frac{b^2}{\alpha}R(Y, \xi)X \\
& = \frac{b^2}{2\alpha}(R(X, \xi)Y + R(Y, \xi)X) - \frac{1}{2}R(X, Y)\xi \\
& = \frac{b^2}{\alpha}\rho_\xi(X, Y) - \frac{1}{2}R(X, Y)\xi.
\end{aligned}$$

Finally, using the following relations

$$\begin{aligned}
& \nabla_X\nabla_Y\xi = -\nabla_X(A_\xi Y), \\
& R(X, Y)\xi = \nabla_X\nabla_Y\xi - \nabla_Y\nabla_X\xi - \nabla_{\nabla_X Y}\xi + \nabla_{\nabla_Y X}\xi \\
& = \nabla_Y(A_\xi X) - \nabla_X(A_\xi Y) + A_\xi(\nabla_X Y) - A_\xi(\nabla_Y X),
\end{aligned}$$

$$\nabla_X(A_\xi Y) = (\nabla_X A_\xi)Y + A_\xi(\nabla_X Y),$$

we get that

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{b^2}{\alpha}R(X, \xi)Y - \frac{a(a+c)}{2\alpha}R(X, Y)\xi + \nabla_X \nabla_Y \xi - \nabla_{\nabla_X Y} \xi \\ &= \frac{b^2}{\alpha}\rho_\xi(X, Y) - \frac{1}{2}R(X, Y)\xi - \nabla_X(A_\xi Y) + A_\xi(\nabla_X Y) \\ &= \frac{b^2}{\alpha}\rho_\xi(X, Y) - \frac{1}{2}(\nabla_Y(A_\xi X) + \nabla_X(A_\xi Y) - A_\xi(\nabla_X Y) - A_\xi(\nabla_Y X)) \\ &= \frac{b^2}{\alpha}\rho_\xi(X, Y) - \frac{1}{2}((\nabla_Y A_\xi)X + (\nabla_X A_\xi)Y) \\ &= \frac{b^2}{\alpha}\rho_\xi(X, Y) - Hess_\xi(X, Y). \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} t: & -Hess_\xi(X, Y) + \frac{b^2}{\alpha}\rho_\xi(X, Y) - \frac{(a+c)d}{\alpha}\gamma_\xi(X, Y) \\ & + \frac{bd}{\alpha}A_\xi(\gamma_\xi(X, Y)) + \frac{ab}{\alpha}Hm_\xi(X, Y) + \\ & \left( -\frac{b^2}{\alpha}g(\rho_\xi(X, Y), \xi) + \frac{d(a+c)}{\alpha}g(\gamma_\xi(X, Y), \xi) - \frac{ab}{\alpha}g(Hm_\xi(X, Y), \xi) \right) \xi. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, using (2.3), we obtain (3.1).  $\square$

**3.3. Proof of the Theorem 3.1.** Let  $(M, g, \eta, \xi, \phi)$  be a  $K$ -contact manifold, but not necessarily Sasakian. Using (2.9), (2.12) and (2.14), we have that

$$\begin{aligned} Hess_\xi(X, Y) &= \frac{1}{2}(R(\xi, X)Y + R(\xi, Y)X), \\ Hm_\xi(X, Y) &= \frac{1}{2}(R(\xi, \phi X)Y + R(\xi, \phi Y)X), \\ \rho_\xi(X, Y) &= -Hess_\xi(X, Y), \\ \gamma_\xi(X, Y) &= \frac{1}{2}(\eta(X)Y + \eta(Y)X). \end{aligned}$$

Then (2.8), (2.10) and (2.13) imply that

$$\begin{aligned} \eta(Hm_\xi(X, Y)) &= 0, \\ \eta(Hess_\xi(X, Y)) &= g(X, Y) - \eta(X)\eta(Y), \\ \eta(\gamma_\xi(X, Y)) &= \eta(X)\eta(Y), \\ \eta(\phi(\gamma_\xi(X, Y))) &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $c = 1 - 2a$  and  $d = a$ , we can rewrite  $B_\xi$  as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} B_\xi(X, Y) &= \left\{ \frac{ab}{\alpha}(Hess_\xi(X, Y) + \gamma_\xi(X, Y)) \right. \\ & \quad \left. - \frac{a^2}{\alpha}(Hm_\xi(X, Y) + \phi(\gamma_\xi(X, Y))) - \frac{a^2b}{\alpha}g(X, Y)\xi \right\}^h \\ & + \left\{ -\frac{a(1-a)}{\alpha}(Hess_\xi(X, Y) + \gamma_\xi(X, Y)) \right. \end{aligned}$$

$$+ \frac{ab}{\alpha}(\phi(\gamma_\xi(X, Y)) + Hm_\xi(X, Y))\}^t.$$

Denote by  $V$  the vector filed

$$V = \frac{ab}{\alpha}(Hess_\xi(X, Y) + \gamma_\xi(X, Y)) - \frac{a^2}{\alpha}(Hm_\xi(X, Y) + \phi(\gamma_\xi(X, Y))) - \frac{a^2b}{\alpha}g(X, Y)\xi.$$

Then, the horizontal component of  $V$  is

$$V^h = \left\{ \frac{ab}{\alpha}(Hess_\xi(X, Y) + \gamma_\xi(X, Y)) - \frac{a^2}{\alpha}(Hm_\xi(X, Y) + \phi(\gamma_\xi(X, Y))) \right\}^h - \frac{a^2b}{\alpha}g(X, Y)\xi^h.$$

Denote further by  $W$  the vector field

$$W = -\frac{a(1-a)}{\alpha}(Hess_\xi(X, Y) + \gamma_\xi(X, Y)) + \frac{ab}{\alpha}(\phi(\gamma_\xi(X, Y)) + Hm_\xi(X, Y)).$$

Using (2.1), (2.2),  $c = 1 - 2a$  and  $d = a$ , we can rewrite  $W^t$  as follows:

$$W^t = W^v + \eta(W)(b\xi^h - \xi^v). \tag{3.4}$$

Note that

$$\eta(W) = -\frac{a(1-a)}{\alpha}g(X, Y).$$

Therefore,

$$W^t = -\frac{a(1-a)b}{\alpha}g(X, Y)\xi^h + \left\{ -\frac{a(1-a)}{\alpha}(Hess_\xi(X, Y) + \gamma_\xi(X, Y)) + \frac{ab}{\alpha}(\phi(\gamma_\xi(X, Y)) + Hm_\xi(X, Y)) + \frac{a(1-a)}{\alpha}g(X, Y)\xi \right\}^v.$$

Denote

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_\xi(X, Y) &= Hess_\xi(X, Y) + \gamma_\xi(X, Y), \\ \mu_\xi(X, Y) &= Hm_\xi(X, Y) + \phi(\gamma_\xi(X, Y)). \end{aligned}$$

Then we can rewrite  $B_\xi$  as follows

$$B_\xi(X, Y) = \left\{ \frac{ab}{\alpha}\lambda_\xi(X, Y) - \frac{a^2}{\alpha}\mu_\xi(X, Y) - \frac{ab}{\alpha}g(X, Y)\xi \right\}^h + \left\{ -\frac{a(1-a)}{\alpha}\lambda_\xi(X, Y) + \frac{ab}{\alpha}\mu_\xi(X, Y) + \frac{a(1-a)}{\alpha}g(X, Y)\xi \right\}^v.$$

It follows that  $B_\xi(X, Y) = 0$  if and only if

$$\begin{cases} \frac{ab}{\alpha}\lambda_\xi(X, Y) - \frac{a^2}{\alpha}\mu_\xi(X, Y) = \frac{ab}{\alpha}g(X, Y)\xi, \\ -\frac{a(1-a)}{\alpha}\lambda_\xi(X, Y) + \frac{ab}{\alpha}\mu_\xi(X, Y) = -\frac{a(1-a)}{\alpha}g(X, Y)\xi. \end{cases}$$

We get the system of linear equations with respect to unknowns  $\lambda_\xi(X, Y)$  and  $\mu_\xi(X, Y)$ . Note that

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} \frac{ab}{\alpha} & -\frac{a^2}{\alpha} \\ -\frac{a(1-a)}{\alpha} & \frac{ab}{\alpha} \end{pmatrix} = -\frac{a^2}{\alpha} \neq 0.$$

Therefore, due to the Cramer's rule  $\lambda_\xi(X, Y) = g(X, Y)\xi$ ,  $\mu_\xi(X, Y) = 0$ , that is

$$\begin{cases} Hess_\xi(X, Y) + \gamma_\xi(X, Y) = g(X, Y)\xi, \\ Hm_\xi(X, Y) + \phi(\gamma_\xi(X, Y)) = 0 \end{cases}$$

or, more detailed,

$$\begin{cases} R(\xi, X)Y + R(\xi, Y)X + \eta(X)Y + \eta(Y)X = 2g(X, Y)\xi, \\ R(\xi, \phi X)Y + R(\xi, \phi Y)X + \eta(X)\phi Y + \eta(Y)\phi X = 0. \end{cases}$$

Note that, using (2.14), we can rewrite the first equation as

$$(\nabla_X \phi)Y + (\nabla_Y \phi)X = 2g(X, Y)\xi - \eta(X)Y - \eta(Y)X.$$

This condition is exactly (2.16), that is  $(M, g, \eta, \xi, \phi)$  is a nearly Sasakian manifold. Then by Theorem 2.6 it is Sasakian, which completes the proof.

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