



## Certain results on Ricci solitons in $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifolds

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In this paper, we study some curvature problems of Ricci solitons in  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifold. It is shown that a symmetric parallel second order-covariant tensor in a  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifold is a constant multiple of the metric tensor. Using this result, it is shown that if  $(L_V g + 2S)$  is parallel where  $V$  is a given vector field, then the structure  $(g, V, \lambda)$  yield a Ricci soliton. Further, by virtue of this result, Ricci solitons for  $n$ -dimensional  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifolds are obtained. In the last section, we discuss Ricci soliton for 3-dimensional  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifolds.

**2010 Mathematical Subject Classification:** 53C25, 53C10, 53C44

**Key words:** Ricci soliton,  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifold, Einstein manifold.

Received 07 November 2017  
Accepted 06 January 2018

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<https://doi.org/10.33493/scvis.18.01.02>

### Introduction

A Ricci soliton are the natural generalization of Einstein metric and are defined on a Riemannian manifold. On the manifold  $M$ , a Ricci soliton is a triple<sup>1</sup>  $(g, V, \lambda)$  with a Riemannian metric  $g$ , a vector field  $V$  and a real scalar  $\lambda$  such that

$$(\mathcal{L}_V g)(X, Y) + 2S(X, Y) + 2\lambda g(X, Y) = 0, \quad \dots(1)$$

for any vector fields  $X, Y$  on  $\chi(M)$  where  $S$  is the Ricci tensor and  $\mathcal{L}_V$  denotes the Lie derivative operator along the vector field  $V$ . The metric satisfying (1) are very interesting in the field of physics and are often referred as quasi-Einstein.<sup>2,3</sup> The Ricci soliton is said to be shrinking, steady and expanding according as  $\lambda$  is negative, zero and positive respectively.<sup>4</sup>

Das<sup>5</sup> studied second order parallel tensor on an almost contact metric manifold and found that on an  $\alpha$ -K-contact manifold ( $\alpha$  being non-zero real constant) a second order symmetric parallel tensor is a constant multiple of the associative positive definite Riemannian metric

tensor. It is also proved that in an  $\alpha$ -Sasakian manifold there is no non-zero parallel 2-form. The study of Ricci solitons in K-contact manifolds was started by Sharma<sup>6</sup> and in the continuation of this Ghosh, Sharma and Cho<sup>7</sup> studied gradient Ricci soliton of a non-Sasakian  $(k, \mu)$ -contact manifold. Generally, in a P-Sasakian manifold the structure vector field  $\xi$  is not killing, that is  $(\mathcal{L}_V g) \neq 0$  but in K-contact manifold  $\xi$  is a killing vector field, that is  $(\mathcal{L}_V g) = 0$ . Recently, De<sup>8</sup> have studied Ricci soliton in P-Sasakian, Barua and De<sup>9</sup> have studied Ricci soliton in Riemannian manifolds. Since then several other studied Ricci soliton have been published in various contact manifolds: Eisenhart problem to Ricci soliton in  $f$ -Kenmotsu manifold,<sup>10</sup> Eta-Ricci solitons on para-Kenmotsu manifolds,<sup>11</sup> on contact and Lorentzian manifolds,<sup>10,12,13</sup> on Sasakian manifold,<sup>14,15</sup>  $\alpha$ -Sasakian manifold,<sup>16</sup> on Kenmotsu manifold,<sup>17</sup> etc.

Motivated by above studies, in this paper we treat Ricci soliton in  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifolds. The paper is structured as follows. After

introduction, section 2 is a brief review of  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifold. Section 3, is devoted to the study of parallel symmetric second order tensor in  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifold and Ricci soliton in  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifolds. In this section, we obtain a relation between symmetric parallel second order covariant tensor and metric tensor in  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifold. In the second problem of this section we studied the necessary and sufficient condition of a Ricci semi-symmetric  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifold and  $\eta$ -Einstein manifold. Section 4 is devoted to study Ricci soliton in 3-dimensional  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifold.

## $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifold

An  $n$ -dimensional real  $C^\infty$ -manifold  $M$  is said to almost contact structure  $(\varphi, \xi, \eta)$  if it admits a  $(1, 1)$  tensor field  $\varphi$ , a contravariant vector field  $\xi$  and a 1-form  $\eta$  which satisfy

$$\eta(\xi) = 1, \varphi^2 X = -X + \eta(X)\xi, \quad \dots (2)$$

which implies

$$\varphi(\xi) = 0, \eta(\varphi X) = 0, \quad \dots (3)$$

for all vector field  $X, Y$  on  $\chi(M)$ , where  $\chi(M)$  is the Lie algebra of  $C^\infty$  vector fields on  $M$ . An  $n$ -dimensional real  $C^\infty$ -manifold  $M$  equipped with almost contact structure  $(\varphi, \xi, \eta)$  is called almost contact manifold<sup>18</sup>.

An almost contact manifold  $M$  with metric tensor  $g$  which satisfies the condition

$$g(\varphi X, \varphi Y) = g(X, Y) - \eta(X)\eta(Y), \quad \dots (4)$$

$$\text{and } g(X, \xi) = \eta(X), \quad \dots (5)$$

is called almost contact metric manifold  $M$   $(\varphi, \xi, \eta, g)$ .

An almost contact metric manifold  $M$  is said to be almost  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifold if

$$d\eta = 0, \quad \text{and} \quad d\Phi = 2\alpha \eta \wedge \Phi,$$

where  $\Phi$  is a fundamental 2-form defined as  $\Phi(X, Y) = g(\varphi X, Y)$  and  $\alpha$  being a non-zero real constant.<sup>17</sup> Moreover, if an almost  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifold  $M$  satisfies the following relations

$$(\nabla_X \varphi)Y = -\alpha\{g(X, \varphi Y)\xi + \eta(Y)\varphi X\}, \quad \dots (6)$$

$$\text{and } (\nabla_X \xi) = \alpha\{X - \eta(X)\xi\}, \quad \dots (7)$$

then it is called  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifold.<sup>17,18,19</sup>

On an  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifold  $M$ , the following relations hold<sup>20,21,22</sup>

$$R(X, Y)\xi = \alpha^2\{\eta(X)Y - \eta(Y)X\}, \quad \dots (8)$$

$$R(\xi, X)Y = \alpha^2\{\eta(Y)X - g(X, Y)\xi\}, \quad \dots (9)$$

$$\eta(R(X, Y)Z) = \alpha^2\{g(X, Y)\eta(Z) - g(Y, Z)\eta(X)\}, \quad \dots (10)$$

$$S(X, \xi) = -\alpha^2(n-1)\eta(X), \quad \dots (11)$$

$$S(\xi, \xi) = -\alpha^2(n-1), \quad \dots (12)$$

$$Q\xi = -\alpha^2(n-1)\xi, \quad \dots (13)$$

$$(\nabla_X \eta)Y = \alpha\{g(X, Y) - \eta(X)\eta(Y)\}, \quad \dots (14)$$

for all vector fields  $X, Y, Z$  on  $\chi(M)$ , where  $R$  is the Riemannian curvature tensor,  $S$  is the Ricci tensor of type  $(0, 2)$  and  $Q$  is the Ricci operator defined as  $S(X, Y) = g(QX, Y)$ .

## Parallel symmetric second order tensors and Ricci solitons in $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifolds

Let  $h$  denote a  $(0, 2)$  type symmetric tensor field which is parallel with respect to  $\nabla$  that is  $\nabla h = 0$ . Then it follows that<sup>14, 23</sup>

$$\nabla^2 h(X, Y; Z, W) - \nabla^2 h(X, Y; W, Z) = 0, \quad \dots (15)$$

which gives

$$h(R(X, Y)Z, W) + h(Z, R(X, Y)W) = 0. \quad \dots (16)$$

Taking  $Z = W = \xi$  in (16) and using (8), we have

$$\alpha^2\{\eta(X)h(Y, \xi) - \eta(Y)h(X, \xi)\} = 0. \quad \dots (17)$$

Since  $\alpha$  is non-zero, so by taking  $X = \xi$  in (17) and by the symmetry of  $h$ , we have

$$h(Y, \xi) = \eta(Y)h(\xi, \xi). \quad \dots (18)$$

Differentiating (18) covariantly with respect to  $X$ , we have

$$(\nabla_X h)(Y, \xi) + h(\nabla_X Y, \xi) + h(Y, \nabla_X \xi) = (\nabla_X \eta)(Y)h(\xi, \xi) + \eta(\nabla_X Y)h(\xi, \xi)$$

$$+ \eta(Y)(\nabla_X h)(\xi, \xi) + 2\eta(Y)h(\nabla_X \xi, \xi). \quad \dots (19)$$

By using (7), (14), (18) and the parallel condition  $\nabla h = 0$  in (19), we have

$$h(X, Y) = g(X, Y)h(\xi, \xi).$$

The above equation implies that  $h(\xi, \xi)$  is a constant, via (18). So we have the following theorem.

**Theorem 1.** A symmetric parallel second order covariant tensor in an  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifold is a constant multiple of the metric tensor.

**Corollary 1.** A locally Ricci symmetric ( $\nabla S = 0$ )  $\alpha$ -Kenmatsu manifold is an Einstein manifold.

**Remark 1.** The following statements for  $\alpha$ -Kenmatsu manifold are equivalent

- (i) Einstein,
- (ii) locally Ricci symmetric,
- (iii) Ricci semi-symmetric, that is  $R \cdot S = 0$ .

The implication  $(i) \rightarrow (ii) \rightarrow (iii)$  is trivial. Now we prove that the implication  $(iii) \rightarrow (i)$  in more general frame work of  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifold. Since  $R \cdot S = 0$ , means exactly (16) with  $h$

replaced by  $S$ , that is

$$(R(X, Y) \cdot S)(U, V) = -S(R(X, Y)U, V) - S(U, R(X, Y)V). \quad \dots(21)$$

Taking  $R \cdot S = 0$  and putting  $X = \xi$  in (21), we have

$$S(R(\xi, Y)U, V) + S(U, R(\xi, Y)V) = 0. \quad \dots(22)$$

In view of (9) and  $\alpha \neq 0$ , the above equation becomes

$$\eta(U)S(Y, V) - g(Y, V)S(\xi, V) + \eta(V)S(U, Y) - g(Y, V)S(U, \xi) = 0. \quad \dots(23)$$

Putting  $U = \xi$  in (23) and by using (3), (11) and (12), we obtain

$$S(Y, V) = -\alpha^2(n-1)g(Y, V).$$

This lead the following theorem.

**Theorem 2.** A Ricci semi-symmetric  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifold is an Einstein manifold.

**Corollary 2.** If on an  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifold the tensor field  $(\mathcal{L}_V g + 2S)$  is parallel, then  $(g, V, \lambda)$  gives a Ricci soliton.

**Proof.** A Ricci soliton in  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifold is defined by (1). Thus  $(\mathcal{L}_V g + 2S)$  is parallel. By theorem (1) it is clear that if an  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifold admits a symmetric parallel  $(0, 2)$  tensor, then the tensor is a constant multiple of the metric tensor. Hence  $(\mathcal{L}_V g + 2S)$  is a constant multiple of metric tensor  $g$  that is  $(\mathcal{L}_V g + 2S)(X, Y) = g(X, Y)h(\xi, \xi)$ , where  $h(\xi, \xi)$  is a non zero constant. It is the application of the theorem (1) to Ricci soliton.

**Theorem 3.** If a metric  $g$  in an  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifold is a Ricci soliton with  $V = \xi$  then it is  $\eta$ -Einstein.

**Proof.** Putting  $V = \xi$  in (1), we have

$$(\mathcal{L}_\xi g)(X, Y) + 2S(X, Y) + 2\lambda g(X, Y) = 0, \quad \dots(24)$$

$$\text{where } (\mathcal{L}_\xi g)(X, Y) = g(\nabla_X \xi, Y) + g(X, \nabla_Y \xi) = 2\alpha\{g(X, Y) - \eta(X)\eta(Y)\}. \quad \dots(25)$$

Substituting (25) in (24) and by use of (7), we obtain

$$S(X, Y) = -(\alpha + \lambda)g(X, Y) + \alpha\eta(X)\eta(Y).$$

Hence the result.

**Theorem 4.** A Ricci soliton  $(g, \xi, \lambda)$  in an  $n$ -dimensional  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifold can not be steady but is shrinking.

**Proof.** In the Linear Algebra either the vector field  $V \in \text{Span } \xi$  or  $V \perp \xi$ . However, the second case seems to be complex to analyse in practice. For this reason, we investigate for the case  $V = \xi$ .

By a simple computation of  $(\mathcal{L}_V g + 2S)$ , we obtain

$$(\mathcal{L}_\xi g)(X, Y) = 0. \quad \dots(26)$$

$$h(\xi, \xi) = -2\lambda, \quad \dots(27)$$

$$\text{where } h(\xi, \xi) = (\mathcal{L}_\xi g)(\xi, \xi) + 2S(\xi, \xi). \quad \dots(28)$$

Using (12) and (26) in above equation, we get

$$h(\xi, \xi) = 2\alpha^2(n-1). \quad \dots(29)$$

Equating (27) and (29), we have

$$\lambda = -\alpha^2(n-1).$$

Since  $\alpha$  is some non-zero scalar function, we have  $\lambda \neq 0$ , that is Ricci soliton in an  $n$ -dimensional  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifold cannot be steady but is shrinking because  $\lambda < 0$ .

**Theorem 5.** If an  $n$ -dimensional  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifold is  $\eta$ -Einstein then the Ricci solitons in  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifold that is  $(g, \xi, \lambda)$  where  $\lambda = -\alpha^2(n-1)$  with varying scalar curvature cannot be steady but it is expanding.

**Proof.** The proof consists of three parts.

(i) We prove  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifold is  $\eta$ -Einstein,

(ii) We prove the Ricci soliton in  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifold is consisting of varying scalar curvature,

(iii) We find that the Ricci soliton in  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifold is expanding.

First we prove that the  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifold is  $\eta$ -Einstein: the metric  $g$  is called  $\eta$ -Einstein if there exists two real function  $a$  and  $b$  such that the Ricci tensor of  $g$  is given by the general equation

$$S(X, Y) = ag(X, Y) + b\eta(X)\eta(Y). \quad \dots(30)$$

Let  $e_i, (i = 1, 2, \dots, n)$  be an orthonormal basis of the tangent space at any point of the manifold. Then putting  $X = Y = e_i$  in (30) and taking summation over  $i$ , we get

$$r = an + b. \quad \dots(31)$$

Again putting  $X = Y = \xi$  in (30) then by use of (12), we have

$$a + b = -\alpha^2(n-1). \quad \dots(32)$$

Then from (31) and (32), we have

$$a = \left(\alpha^2 + \frac{r}{n-1}\right), b = -\left(n\alpha^2 + \frac{r}{n-1}\right). \quad \dots(33)$$

Substituting the value of  $a$  and  $b$  from (33) in (30), we have

$$S(X, Y) = \left(\alpha^2 + \frac{r}{n-1}\right)g(X, Y) - \left(n\alpha^2 + \frac{r}{n-1}\right)\eta(X)\eta(Y), \quad \dots(34)$$

the above equation shows that  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifold is  $\eta$ -Einstein manifold.

Now, we have to show that the scalar curvature  $r$  is not a constant and it is varying.

For an  $n$ -dimensional  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifolds the symmetric parallel covariant tensor  $h(X, Y)$  of type  $(0, 2)$  is given by

$$h(X, Y) = (\mathcal{L}_\xi g)(X, Y) + 2S(X, Y). \quad \dots(35)$$

By using (25) and (34) in (35), we have

$$h(X, Y) = 2 \left\{ \alpha(\alpha + 1) + \frac{r}{n-1} \right\} g(X, Y) - 2 \left\{ \alpha(n\alpha + 1) + \frac{r}{n-1} \right\} \eta(X)\eta(Y). \quad \dots(36)$$

Differentiating (36) covariantly with respect to  $Z$  and using (14), we have

$$\begin{aligned} (\nabla_Z h)(X, Y) &= 2 \left\{ (Z\alpha)(\alpha + 1) + \alpha(Z\alpha) + \frac{\nabla_Z r}{n-1} \right\} g(X, Y) \\ &\quad - 2 \left\{ (Z\alpha)(n\alpha + 1) + n\alpha(Z\alpha) + \frac{\nabla_Z r}{n-1} \right\} \eta(X)\eta(Y) \\ &\quad - 2 \left\{ \alpha(n\alpha + 1) + \frac{r}{n-1} \right\} \alpha \{ g(Z, X) - \eta(Z)\eta(X) \\ &\quad + g(Z, Y) - \eta(Z)\eta(Y) \}. \end{aligned} \quad \dots(37)$$

By substituting  $Z = \xi$  and  $X = Y \in (Span)^\perp$  in (37) and by using  $\nabla h = 0$ , we have

$$\nabla_\xi r = -(n-1)\nabla_\xi \{ \alpha(\alpha + 1) \}. \quad \dots(38)$$

On integrating (38), we have

$$r = -(n-1)\alpha(\alpha + 1) + c, \quad \dots(39)$$

where  $c$  is some integral constant. Thus from (39), we have  $r$  is a varying scalar curvature.

Finally, we have to check the nature of the soliton that is Ricci soliton in  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifold:

From (1), we have  $h(X, Y) - 2\lambda g(X, Y)$  then putting  $X = Y = \xi$ , we have

$$h(\xi, \xi) = -2\lambda. \quad \dots(40)$$

On putting  $X = Y = \xi$  in (36), we have

$$h(\xi, \xi) = -2(n-1)\alpha^2. \quad \dots(41)$$

Equating (40) and (41), we have

$$\lambda = (n-1)\alpha^2.$$

This show that  $\lambda > 0$ ,  $\forall n > 1$  and hence Ricci soliton in an  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifold is expending.

**Theorem 6.** If a Ricci soliton  $(g, \xi, \lambda)$  where  $\lambda = 2\alpha^2$  of 3-dimensional  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifold with varying scalar curvature cannot be steady but it is expending.

**Proof.** The proof consists of three parts.

(i) We prove that the Riemannian curvature tensor of 3-dimensional  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifold is  $\eta$ -Einstein,

(ii) We prove that the Ricci soliton in 3-dimensional  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifold is consisting of varying scalar curvature,

(iii) We prove that find that the Ricci soliton in a 3-dimensional  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifold is expending.

The Riemannian curvature tensor of 3-

dimensional  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifold is given by

$$\begin{aligned} R(X, Y)Z &= g(Y, Z)QX - g(X, Z)QY + S(Y, Z)X - \\ &\quad S(X, Z)Y - \frac{r}{2} \{ g(Y, Z)X - g(X, Z)Y \}. \end{aligned} \quad \dots(42)$$

Putting  $Z = \xi$  in (42) and by using (8) and (11), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha^2 \{ \eta(X)Y - \eta(Y)X \} &= \eta(Y)QX - \eta(X)QY - \\ &\quad \left( 2\alpha^2 + \frac{r}{2} \right) \{ \eta(Y)X - \eta(X)Y \}. \end{aligned} \quad \dots(43)$$

Again putting  $Y = \xi$  in (43) and by using (2), (3) and (13), we get

$$QX = \left( \alpha^2 + \frac{r}{2} \right) X - \left( 3\alpha^2 + \frac{r}{2} \right) \eta(X)\xi. \quad \dots(44)$$

By taking an inner product with  $Y$  in (44), we have

$$S(X, Y) = \left( \alpha^2 + \frac{r}{2} \right) g(X, Y) - \left( 3\alpha^2 + \frac{r}{2} \right) \eta(X)\eta(Y). \quad \dots(45)$$

It shows that 3-dimensional  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifold is  $\eta$ -Einstein manifold.

Now, we have to show that the scalar curvature  $r$  is not a constant that is  $r$  is varying

We have

$$h(X, Y) = (\mathcal{L}_\xi g)(X, Y) + 2S(X, Y). \quad \dots(46)$$

By using (25) and (45) in (46), we have

$$h(X, Y) = 2 \left\{ \alpha(\alpha + 1) + \frac{r}{2} \right\} g(X, Y) - 2 \left\{ \alpha(3\alpha + 1) + \frac{r}{2} \right\} \eta(X)\eta(Y). \quad \dots(47)$$

Differentiating above equation with respect to  $Z$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} (\nabla_Z h)(X, Y) &= 2 \left\{ (Z\alpha)(\alpha + 1) + \alpha(Z\alpha) + \frac{\nabla_Z r}{2} \right\} g(X, Y) \\ &\quad - 2 \left\{ (Z\alpha)(3\alpha + 1) + \alpha(3Z\alpha) + \frac{r}{2} \right\} \eta(X)\eta(Y) \\ &\quad - 2 \left\{ \alpha(3\alpha + 1) + \frac{r}{2} \right\} \{ (\nabla_Z \eta)(X)\eta(Y) + \eta(X)(\nabla_Z \eta)(Y) \}. \end{aligned} \quad \dots(48)$$

By substituting  $Z = \xi$  and  $X = Y \in (Span)^\perp$  in (48) and by using  $\nabla h = 0$ , we have

$$\nabla_\xi r = -2\nabla_\xi \{ \alpha(\alpha + 1) \}. \quad \dots(49)$$

On integrating (49), we have

$$r = -2\alpha(\alpha + 1) + c, \quad \dots(50)$$

where  $c$  is some integral constant. Thus from (50), we have  $r$  is a varying scalar curvature.

Finally we have to check the nature of the Ricci soliton  $(g, \xi, \lambda)$  in 3-dimensional  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifold.

From (1), we have  $h(X, Y) - 2\lambda g(X, Y)$  then putting  $X = Y = \xi$ , we have

$$h(\xi, \xi) = -2\lambda. \quad \dots(51)$$

On putting  $X = Y = \xi$  in (47), we have

$$h(\xi, \xi) = -4\alpha^2. \quad \dots(52)$$

Equating (51) and (52), we have

Equating (51) and (52), we have  
 $\lambda = 2\alpha^2$ .

This show that  $\lambda > 0$  and hence Ricci soliton in an  $\alpha$ -Kenmotsu manifold is expanding.

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