

MAGNETIC CURVES IN QUASI-SASAKIAN 3-MANIFOLDS

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ABSTRACT. We study magnetic trajectories corresponding to contact magnetic fields in 3-dimensional quasi-Sasakian manifolds. We show that they are slant curves, that is their contact angles are constant. We prove that such magnetic curves are geodesics for a certain linear connection for which all four structure tensor fields are parallel.

INTRODUCTION

From mathematical point of view, static magnetic fields on oriented Euclidean 3-space \mathbb{E}^3 are regarded as closed 2-forms. Based on this fundamental fact, we can introduce the notion of magnetic field on arbitrary Riemannian manifolds. A *magnetic field* F on a Riemannian manifold (M, g) is a closed 2-form. Denote by ϕ the endomorphism field metrically equivalent to the magnetic field F , then the *Lorentz equation* (called sometimes also Newton equation) is defined as $\nabla_{\gamma'}\gamma' = q\phi\gamma'$. Here ∇ is the Levi-Civita connection of (M, g) and q is a constant. Solutions to Lorentz equation are called *magnetic curves* with strength q . Thus, a magnetic curve γ is a mathematical model of trajectory of a charged particle moving under the action of the Lorentz force derived from the magnetic field F . Note that when $F = 0$, *i.e.*, the Lorentz force is null, then the trajectories are geodesics. In this manner we may regard the magnetic curves as generalizations of geodesics.

Return to the original 3-dimensional situation, magnetic fields are identified with divergence free vector fields. More precisely, on every oriented Riemannian 3-manifold (M, g) , the space $\Lambda^2(M)$ of all smooth 2-forms is identified with the space $\mathfrak{X}(M)$ of all smooth vector fields via the Hodge star operator and the volume form dv_g . Under this identification, magnetic fields are considered as divergence-free vector fields.

Moreover, if a divergence free vector field ξ is a *unit vector field*, then one can see that (ϕ, ξ, η) is an *almost contact structure* on M compatible with the metric g . Here η is the 1-form dual to ξ . Hence, an oriented Riemannian 3-manifold (M, g) together with a magnetic field F whose corresponding divergence free vector field is of unit length can be regarded as an almost contact metric manifold with closed fundamental 2-form.

This observation motivates us to study Lorentz equations in almost contact metric manifolds of arbitrary odd-dimension with *closed* fundamental 2-form.

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In our previous works, we have studied magnetic fields in Sasakian manifolds [4, 10] and cosymplectic manifolds [5, 13, 15], respectively. Both Sasakian and cosymplectic manifolds are particular cases of quasi-Sasakian manifolds. In two other papers [11, 14] we have studied magnetic curves in odd-dimensional Cartesian space \mathbb{R}^{2n+1} equipped with *non-Sasakian* quasi-Sasakian structure with $n > 1$. As we have seen before, 3-dimensional magnetic theory is exceptional among odd-dimensional magnetic theory, we study magnetic curves in 3-dimensional quasi-Sasakian manifolds in this paper. From another point of view, the class of quasi-Sasakian 3-manifolds contains important Riemannian 3-manifolds. In fact, all *model spaces of Thurston geometry* except the space Sol_3 and hyperbolic 3-space \mathbb{H}^3 admit homogeneous almost contact structures compatible with the corresponding metric. The resulting homogeneous almost contact metric 3-manifolds are quasi-Sasakian.

This paper is organized as follows. After recalling, in Section 1, prerequisite knowledge on almost contact geometry, we show, in Section 2, that every contact magnetic curve is a *slant curve*, that is, a curve making constant angle with the trajectories of the characteristic vector field. In Section 3, we study contact magnetic curves in quasi-Sasakian 3-manifolds, in detail. As it is well known, magnetic trajectories in the Euclidean 3-space \mathbb{E}^3 are helices. Furthermore, magnetic curves in Sasakian and cosymplectic manifolds of arbitrary dimension are also helices. Remarkably, the magnetic curves in quasi-Sasakian manifolds are not, in general, helices. We exhibit explicit examples of contact magnetic curves in a quasi-Sasakian space which are not helices. In Section 4, we study magnetic curves under pseudo-conformal deformations. In the last section, we define a family linear connections with respect to which the four structure tensor fields are parallel and we call them the *Okumura type connections*. We give some reinterpretation of magnetic curves, namely we prove that they are geodesic for the Okumura type connections.

1. ALMOST CONTACT METRIC MANIFOLDS

1.1. General settings. Let M be an odd-dimensional manifold. An *almost contact structure* on M is a triplet of tensor fields (φ, ξ, η) where φ is an endomorphism field, ξ is a vector field, η is a one form, respectively, such that

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

An $(2n + 1)$ -dimensional manifold together with an almost contact structure is called an *almost contact manifold*. A Riemannian metric g on an almost contact manifold (M, φ, ξ, η) is said to be a *compatible metric* if it satisfies

$$g(\varphi X, \varphi Y) = g(X, Y) - \eta(X)\eta(Y). \quad (1.1)$$

An almost contact structure together with a compatible metric is called an *almost contact metric structure*. An $(2n + 1)$ -dimensional manifold together with an almost contact metric structure is called an *almost contact metric manifold*.

On an almost contact manifold M , we define a hyperplane field D by

$$D = \{X \in TM \mid \eta(X) = 0\}.$$

Here TM denotes the tangent bundle of M . A diffeomorphism f on an almost contact metric manifold M is said to be a *pseudo-conformal transformation* if f^*g is a Riemannian metric

on M and represented as

$$f^*g = ag + b\eta \otimes \eta,$$

for some positive smooth function a and smooth function b such that $a + b > 0$. Clearly, pseudo-conformal transformations are conformal on D , and hence, they preserve D .

In particular, if a diffeomorphism f satisfies

$$f^*g = ag + a(a - 1)\eta \otimes \eta,$$

for some positive constant a , then f is a *D-homothetic transformation* in the sense of Tanno [22].

One can see that on an almost contact metric 3-manifold $(M, \varphi, \xi, \eta, g)$, another Riemannian metric \tilde{g} is compatible to (φ, ξ, η) if and only if there exists a smooth positive function σ such that $\tilde{g} = \sigma g + (1 - \sigma)\eta \otimes \eta$ (see [18]).

A plane section at a point p of an almost contact metric manifold is called a *holomorphic plane* at p if it is invariant under φ_p . The sectional curvature function of holomorphic planes is called the *φ -holomorphic sectional curvature*.

On the other hand, a plane section at p is said to be a *ξ -section* at p if it contains ξ_p .

The *fundamental 2-form* Φ of an almost contact metric manifold M is defined by

$$\Phi(X, Y) := g(X, \varphi Y), \quad X, Y \in \mathfrak{X}(M).$$

An almost contact metric manifold $(M, \varphi, \xi, \eta, g)$ is called a *contact metric manifold* if

$$\Phi = d\eta. \tag{1.2}$$

The formula (1.2) implies that the one-form η is actually a *contact form*, namely η satisfies $\eta \wedge (d\eta)^n \neq 0$.

It should be remarked that every almost contact metric manifold is *orientable*. In fact, the volume element of the associated metric coincides with $(-1)^n \eta \wedge \Phi^n / (2^n n!)$.

An almost contact manifold M is said to be of *rank* $r = 2s$, ($s > 0$) if $(d\eta)^s \neq 0$ and $\eta \wedge (d\eta)^s = 0$, respectively of *rank* $r = 2s + 1$ if $\eta \wedge (d\eta)^s \neq 0$ and $(d\eta)^{s+1} = 0$. Thus, contact metric manifolds are of rank $2n + 1$.

An almost contact manifold M is said to be *normal* if its normality tensor vanishes, that is if $[\varphi, \varphi] + 2d\eta \otimes \xi = 0$, where $[\varphi, \varphi]$ is the Nijenhuis torsion of φ defined by

$$[\varphi, \varphi](X, Y) = [\varphi X, \varphi Y] - \varphi[X, \varphi Y] - \varphi[\varphi X, Y] + \varphi^2[X, Y],$$

for all $X, Y \in \mathfrak{X}(M)$.

A normal almost contact metric manifold is said to be a *quasi-Sasakian manifold* if its fundamental 2-form Φ is closed [1]. In particular, a contact metric manifold is called a *Sasakian manifold* if it is normal. By definition, Sasakian manifolds are quasi-Sasakian manifolds of rank $2n + 1$.

Assumption. Through the rest of the paper we suppose that the manifold M has dimension 3, even that some formulas are valid for arbitrary dimension.

1.2. Normal almost contact metric structures of type (α, β) . For an arbitrary almost contact metric 3-manifold M , we have:

$$(\nabla_X \varphi)Y = g(\varphi \nabla_X \xi, Y)\xi - \eta(Y)\varphi \nabla_X \xi, \quad (1.3)$$

where ∇ is the Levi-Civita connection on M .

Olszak showed in [18] that an almost contact metric 3-manifold M is normal if and only if $\nabla \xi \circ \varphi = \varphi \circ \nabla \xi$ or, equivalently,

$$\nabla_X \xi = -\alpha \varphi X + \beta(X - \eta(X)\xi), \quad X \in \mathfrak{X}(M), \quad (1.4)$$

where α and β are the functions defined by

$$\alpha = \frac{1}{2} \text{trace}(\varphi \nabla \xi), \quad \beta = \frac{1}{2} \text{trace}(\nabla \xi) = \text{div } \xi. \quad (1.5)$$

See also [12]. We call the pair (α, β) the *type* of a normal almost contact metric 3-manifold M .

We note that the functions α and β defined by (1.5) are interchanged compared to the original work of Olszak, but we have adopted the notations from Blair's book [2].

Using (1.3) and (1.4) we note that the covariant derivative $\nabla \varphi$ of a normal almost contact metric 3-manifold is given by

$$(\nabla_X \varphi)Y = \alpha(g(X, Y)\xi - \eta(Y)X) + \beta(g(\varphi X, Y)\xi - \eta(Y)\varphi X). \quad (1.6)$$

Moreover, the functions α and β satisfy

$$2\alpha\beta + \xi(\alpha) = 0.$$

This implies that, if α is a nonzero constant, then $\beta = 0$. In particular, a normal almost contact metric 3-manifold is said to be

- *cosymplectic* (or *coKähler*) *manifold* if $\alpha = \beta = 0$,
- *α -Sasakian manifold* if α is a nonzero constant and $\beta = 0$,
- *β -Kenmotsu manifold* if $\alpha = 0$ and β is a nonzero constant.

1-Sasakian manifolds and 1-Kenmotsu manifolds are simply called *Sasakian manifolds* and *Kenmotsu manifolds*, respectively. Sasakian manifolds of constant φ -holomorphic sectional curvature are called *Sasakian space forms*. Note that an almost contact metric manifold of dimension $2n + 1 \geq 3$ is said to be a *trans-Sasakian manifold* if it satisfies (1.6).

1.3. Quasi-Sasakian 3-manifolds. Let M be a quasi-Sasakian 3-manifold. The following statements hold true:

- rank $M = 1$ if and only if M is cosymplectic.
- There are no quasi-Sasakian 3-manifolds with rank $M = 2$ (*cf.* [1]).
- rank $M = 3$ if and only if η is a contact form on M .

Typical examples of cosymplectic 3-manifolds are the Euclidean 3-space \mathbb{E}^3 and the product manifolds $\mathbb{S}^2 \times \mathbb{R}$ and $\mathbb{H}^2 \times \mathbb{R}$. Magnetic curves in $\mathbb{S}^2 \times \mathbb{R}$ and $\mathbb{H}^2 \times \mathbb{R}$ have been studied in [13] and [15], respectively. In other news, for contact magnetic curves in Sasakian space forms and cosymplectic manifolds of arbitrary odd-dimension, we refer to [4, 10] and [5], respectively.

Remark 1.1 (Thurston geometry). It should be remarked that *all* the eight model spaces of Thurston geometry admit homogeneous almost contact structure naturally associated to the metric. In particular, other than the model space Sol_3 of solvegeometry, the naturally associated almost contact structures are normal. As we have mentioned above, the space form \mathbb{E}^3 and the product spaces $\mathbb{S}^2 \times \mathbb{R}$ and $\mathbb{H}^2 \times \mathbb{R}$ are cosymplectic. The unit 3-sphere \mathbb{S}^3 , the Heisenberg group Nil_3 and the universal covering $\widetilde{\text{SL}}_2\mathbb{R}$ of the special linear group $\text{SL}_2\mathbb{R}$ equipped with the compatible normal contact metric structure are Sasakian space forms. In particular Nil_3 is identified with the Sasakian space form $\mathbb{R}^3(-3)$. The hyperbolic 3-space \mathbb{H}^3 equipped with the compatible normal contact metric structure is a Kenmotsu manifold. The space Sol_3 equipped with a naturally associated almost contact structure is a non-Sasakian contact metric 3-manifold. Thus, the six model spaces $\mathbb{E}^3, \mathbb{S}^3, \mathbb{S}^2 \times \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{H}^2 \times \mathbb{R}, \text{Nil}_3, \widetilde{\text{SL}}_2\mathbb{R}$ are quasi-Sasakian.

The following result is due to Olszak.

Proposition 1.1. ([18]) *Let M be an almost contact metric 3-manifold. Then M is quasi-Sasakian if and only if M satisfies*

$$(\nabla_X \varphi)Y = \alpha(g(X, Y)\xi - \eta(Y)X),$$

for some function α satisfying $d\alpha(\xi) = 0$.

Compare this formula with (1.6). Thus quasi-Sasakian 3-manifolds are characterized as normal almost contact metric manifolds of type $(\alpha, 0)$ with $\xi(\alpha) = 0$.

On a quasi-Sasakian 3-manifold, we have

$$\nabla_X \xi = -\alpha\varphi X.$$

Note that on a quasi-Sasakian manifold of arbitrary odd dimension, ξ is a Killing vector field, especially, $\nabla_\xi \xi = 0$.

Olszak studied quasi-Sasakian 3-manifolds and obtained the following fundamental facts.

Proposition 1.2 ([17, 23]). *Let M be a quasi-Sasakian 3-manifold satisfying $\nabla \xi = -\alpha\varphi$ and σ a positive function on M satisfying $d\sigma(\xi) = 0$. Then M equipped with a new structure $(\varphi^\sigma, \xi^\sigma, \eta^\sigma, g^\sigma)$ defined by*

$$\varphi^\sigma := \varphi, \quad \xi^\sigma := \varepsilon\xi, \quad \eta^\sigma = \varepsilon\eta, \quad g^\sigma := \sigma g + (1 - \sigma)\eta \otimes \eta, \quad \varepsilon = \pm 1,$$

is a quasi-Sasakian 3-manifold. The Levi-Civita connection ∇^σ of g^σ satisfies

$$\nabla^\sigma \xi^\sigma = -\alpha^\sigma \varphi^\sigma,$$

with $\alpha^\sigma = \varepsilon\alpha/\sigma$. In particular, when M is Sasakian, the new quasi-Sasakian structure is always of rank 3.

Proposition 1.3. ([17]) *Let M be a quasi-Sasakian 3-manifold of rank 3 which satisfies $\nabla \xi = -\alpha\varphi$. Assume that α has constant sign $\varepsilon = \pm 1$. Then the new structure $(\tilde{\varphi}, \tilde{\xi}, \tilde{\eta}, \tilde{g})$ defined by*

$$\tilde{\varphi} := \varphi, \quad \tilde{\xi} := \varepsilon\xi, \quad \tilde{\eta} := \varepsilon\eta, \quad \tilde{g} := \sigma g + (1 - \sigma)\eta \otimes \eta, \quad \sigma := \varepsilon\alpha > 0,$$

is Sasakian.

Therefore, every quasi-Sasakian 3-manifold of rank 3 is locally pseudo-conformal to a Sasakian 3-manifold.

2. SLANT CURVES

2.1. Let $\gamma : I \rightarrow (M^3, g)$ be a Frenet curve parametrized by arc-length in a Riemannian 3-manifold M^3 with Frenet frame field (T, N, B) . Here T , N and B are the tangent, principal normal and binormal vector fields, respectively. Denote by ∇ the Levi-Civita connection of (M^3, g) . Then the Frenet frame satisfies the following *Frenet-Serret* equations:

$$\nabla_T T = \kappa N, \quad \nabla_T N = -\kappa T + \tau B, \quad \nabla_T B = -\tau N,$$

where $\kappa = |\nabla_T T|$ and τ are the *curvature* and *torsion* of γ , respectively.

2.2. Let $M = (M, \varphi, \xi, \eta, g)$ be an almost contact metric 3-manifold and $\gamma(s)$ a smooth curve in M parametrized by arclength. The *contact angle* of γ is defined as the angle $\theta(s) \in [0, \pi]$ made by γ with the trajectories of ξ , that is we have

$$\cos \theta(s) = g(\gamma'(s), \xi).$$

The curve $\gamma(s)$ in M is said to be a *slant curve* if the contact angle θ is constant. Slant curves of contact angle $\pi/2$ are called (almost) *Legendre curves* or *almost contact curves*.

Now let M be a quasi-Sasakian 3-manifold. Then we have

Proposition 2.1. *A non-geodesic Frenet curve γ is a slant curve on a quasi-Sasakian 3-manifold if and only if γ satisfies*

$$\eta(N) = 0,$$

where N is the principal normal to γ .

Proof. Direct computations lead to

$$\frac{d}{ds} \eta(\gamma') = g(\nabla_{\gamma'} \gamma', \xi) + g(\gamma', \nabla_{\gamma'} \xi) = g(\kappa N, \xi) + g(\gamma', \alpha \varphi \gamma') = \kappa \eta(N).$$

This shows the required result. □

We suppose that γ is non-geodesic; then γ can not be an integral curve of ξ . Using (1.1) we find an orthonormal frame field on the normal almost contact metric 3-manifold M along γ

$$e_1 = T = \gamma', \quad e_2 = \frac{\varphi \gamma'}{\sin \theta}, \quad e_3 = \frac{\xi - \cos \theta \gamma'}{\sin \theta}.$$

Hence, the characteristic vector field ξ decomposes as $\xi = \cos \theta e_1 + \sin \theta e_3$.

Then for a slant curve γ in a quasi-Sasakian 3-manifold M we have

$$\begin{cases} \nabla_{\gamma'} e_1 = \delta \sin \theta e_2, \\ \nabla_{\gamma'} e_2 = -\delta \sin \theta e_1 + (\alpha + \delta \cos \theta) e_3, \\ \nabla_{\gamma'} e_3 = -(\alpha + \delta \cos \theta) e_2, \end{cases}$$

where $\delta = g(\nabla_{\gamma'} \gamma', \varphi \gamma') / \sin^2 \theta$. Moreover, we also deduce that

$$\nabla_{\gamma'} \xi = -\alpha \sin \theta e_2, \quad \kappa = |\delta| \sin \theta, \quad \tau = \alpha + \delta \cos \theta.$$

For more information on slant curves, we refer to [9].

3. MAGNETIC CURVES

3.1. Let (M, g) be a Riemannian manifold equipped with a *closed* 2-form F . The 2-form F is referred as a *magnetic field* on M . The *Lorentz force* is an endomorphism field ϕ on M associated to F via the metric g , *i.e.*,

$$g(\phi X, Y) = F(X, Y),$$

for all X and $Y \in \mathfrak{X}(M)$. A regular curve γ is said to be a *magnetic curve* with respect to F if it satisfies the Lorentz equation (also called the Newton equation):

$$\nabla_{\gamma'} \gamma' = q\phi\gamma'.$$

3.2. Now we consider an almost contact metric manifold M with *closed* fundamental 2-form. Then we can consider magnetic curves with respect to the magnetic field $-\Phi$. This magnetic field $-\Phi$ is referred as to the *contact magnetic field*. The associated endomorphism field ϕ is φ .

As we have mentioned in Introduction, 3-dimensional electromagnetic theory on manifolds is rather special. On every oriented Riemannian 3-manifold (M, g) with volume form dv_g , the space of all closed 2-forms is identified with the space of divergence free vector fields, via the Hodge star operator. Let us denote by V the divergence free vector field corresponding to a magnetic field F on M . Assume that V is unitary; we define a quadruple of tensor fields (φ, ξ, η, g) by $\varphi = \phi$, $\xi = V$, $\eta = g(V, \cdot)$; then one can see that (φ, ξ, η, g) is an almost contact metric structure whose fundamental 2-form is closed. The contact magnetic field is the original magnetic field F . This fact means that in the 3-dimensional electromagnetic theory on manifolds, the contact magnetic fields constitute a nice class of magnetic fields. Typical examples of almost contact metric 3-manifolds with closed fundamental 2-form are quasi-Sasakian 3-manifolds.

3.3. In the following we investigate contact magnetic curves on quasi-Sasakian 3-dimensional manifolds.

Let γ be a normal magnetic trajectory in a quasi-Sasakian 3-manifold M with respect to the Lorentz force $q\varphi$. Namely, γ is parametrized by the arclength and it satisfies

$$\nabla_{\gamma'} \gamma' = q \varphi \gamma'. \quad (3.1)$$

The first fundamental result is the following one.

Proposition 3.1. *Every normal contact magnetic curve on a quasi-Sasakian 3-manifold is a slant curve.*

Proof. The contact angle θ is constant along γ . In fact,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{ds} \cos \theta &= \frac{d}{ds} g(\gamma', \xi) = g(\nabla_{\gamma'} \gamma', \xi) + g(\gamma', \nabla_{\gamma'} \xi) \\ &= g(q\varphi\gamma', \xi) + g(\gamma', -\alpha\varphi\gamma') = 0. \end{aligned}$$

□

Remark 3.1. The previous result can be proved in a general setting; we just need ξ to be a Killing vector field.

Proof. Because of (3.1), then along γ the following holds:

$$\frac{d}{ds}g(\gamma', \xi) = g(\nabla_{\gamma'}\gamma', \xi) + g(\gamma', \nabla_{\gamma'}\xi) = qg(\varphi\gamma', \xi) = 0.$$

It follows that γ is a slant curve. □

3.4. On an arbitrary oriented Riemannian 3-manifold one can canonically define a *cross product* \times of two vector fields $X, Y \in \mathfrak{X}(M)$ as follows:

$$g(X \times Y, Z) = dv_g(X, Y, Z), \text{ for any } Z \in \mathfrak{X}(M),$$

where dv_g denotes the volume form defined by g . When M is an almost contact metric 3-manifold, the cross product is given by the formula

$$X \times Y = g(\varphi X, Y)\xi - \eta(Y)\varphi X + \eta(X)\varphi Y.$$

Note that for a unitary vector field X orthogonal to ξ , the basis $\{X, \varphi X, \xi\}$ is considered to be positively oriented. Then we have

$$\xi \times \gamma' = \varphi\gamma'.$$

Take the Frenet frame field (T, N, B) along γ . By definition $T = \gamma'$. Hence, the magnetic equation is written as

$$\nabla_{\gamma'}\gamma' = q\xi \times \gamma' = \kappa N. \tag{3.2}$$

Consequently, we get

$$\kappa^2 = q^2g(\xi \times \gamma', \xi \times \gamma') = q^2[g(\xi, \xi)g(\gamma', \gamma') - g(\gamma', \xi)^2] = q^2 \sin^2 \theta.$$

Thus γ has constant curvature $\kappa = |q| \sin \theta$. Assume that γ is a non-geodesic normal magnetic curve; then from (3.2) we have

$$N = \frac{q}{\kappa}\varphi\gamma'. \tag{3.3}$$

Next, the binormal vector field B is obtained from the formula

$$B = \gamma' \times N = \gamma' \times \left\{ \frac{q}{\kappa}(\xi \times \gamma') \right\} = \frac{q}{\kappa}(\xi - \cos \theta \gamma'). \tag{3.4}$$

The covariant derivative of the binormal may be computed as

$$\nabla_{\gamma'}B = \frac{q}{\kappa}\nabla_{\gamma'}(\xi - \cos \theta \gamma') = -\frac{q}{\kappa}(\alpha + q \cos \theta)\varphi\gamma'.$$

Comparing this with

$$\nabla_{\gamma'}B = -\tau N = -\frac{\tau q}{\kappa}\varphi\gamma',$$

we obtain the expression of the torsion of γ , that is

$$\tau = \alpha + q \cos \theta.$$

3.5. Recall that a magnetic curve in a Sasakian (respectively a cosymplectic) manifold is a helix. Unlike these situations, a magnetic curve on a quasi-Sasakian 3-manifold is *not*, in general, a helix.

In order to sustain this remark, let us consider the following quasi-Sasakian 3-manifold introduced by Węlyczko in [24]. Let $M = \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid x > 0\}$ be a half space. We equip M with a Riemannian metric g defined by

$$g = x^2(dx^2 + dy^2) + \eta \otimes \eta, \text{ where } \eta = dz + 2xdy.$$

Then we can take a global orthonormal frame field

$$e_1 = \frac{1}{x} \frac{\partial}{\partial x}, \quad e_2 = \frac{1}{x} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} - 2 \frac{\partial}{\partial z}, \quad e_3 = \frac{\partial}{\partial z}.$$

The Lie brackets satisfy

$$[e_1, e_2] = -\frac{1}{x^2} e_2 - \frac{2}{x^2} e_3, \quad [e_2, e_3] = [e_3, e_1] = 0.$$

Define an endomorphism field φ by

$$\varphi e_1 = e_2, \quad \varphi e_2 = -e_1, \quad \varphi e_3 = 0$$

and put $\xi = e_3$. Then (φ, ξ, η, g) is an almost contact metric structure on M . One can check that the following relation holds on $(M, \varphi, \xi, \eta, g)$:

$$\nabla_X \xi = \frac{1}{x^2} \varphi X,$$

where ∇ is the Levi-Civita connection of g . Thus, M is a quasi-Sasakian manifold with $\alpha = -1/x^2 < 0$. The eigenvalues of the Ricci operator are

$$-\frac{1}{x^4}, \quad -\frac{2}{x^4}, \quad \frac{3}{x^4}.$$

Hence, M is scalar flat.

Let us study the magnetic curves in Węlyczko's space. The magnetic equation (3.1) of Węlyczko's space is a system of three second order differential equations, that is

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\dot{x}^2}{x} - \frac{5\dot{y}^2}{x} - \frac{2\dot{y}\dot{z}}{x^2} + \ddot{x} &= -q\dot{y}, \\ \frac{6\dot{x}\dot{y}}{x} + \frac{2\dot{x}\dot{z}}{x^2} + \ddot{y} &= q\dot{x}, \\ -10\dot{x}\dot{y} - \frac{4\dot{x}\dot{z}}{x} + \ddot{x} &= -2qx\dot{x}. \end{cases} \quad (3.5)$$

We denoted by dot $(\dot{\cdot})$ the derivative with respect to the arclength parameter s .

From Proposition 3.1 we know that $\eta(\dot{\gamma}) = \cos \theta$, where θ is the constant contact angle. Hence, we have

$$\dot{z} + 2x\dot{y} = \cos \theta. \quad (3.6)$$

As the curve γ is parametrized by arclength, we also have

$$x^2(\dot{x}^2 + \dot{y}^2) = \sin^2 \theta.$$

Therefore, there exists a (smooth) function u (depending on s) such that

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = \frac{1}{x} \sin \theta \cos u(s), \\ \dot{y} = \frac{1}{x} \sin \theta \sin u(s). \end{cases}$$

Hence, when u is known, the x -coordinate may be found from the equation

$$x(s)^2 = c_0 + 2 \sin \theta \int_0^s \cos u(t) dt, \quad (3.7)$$

where c_0 is a positive constant. Then, from (3.6), we get

$$z(s) = z_0 + s \cos \theta - 2 \sin \theta \int_0^s \sin u(t) dt, \quad z_0 \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Finally, we compute y :

$$y(s) = y_0 + \sin \theta \int_0^s \frac{\sin u(t)}{x(t)} dt, \quad y_0 \in \mathbb{R}.$$

The key point is to obtain u .

From (3.5), when $\sin \theta \neq 0$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sin u(s) [2 \cos \theta + \sin \theta \sin u(s) + x^2(s) (-q + \dot{u}(s))] &= 0, \\ \cos u(s) [2 \cos \theta + \sin \theta \sin u(s) + x^2(s) (-q + \dot{u}(s))] &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Combining with (3.7) we deduce that u is a solution of the following integro-differential equation:

$$2 \cos \theta + \sin \theta \sin u(s) + (-q + \dot{u}(s)) [c_0 + 2 \sin \theta \int_0^s \cos u(t) dt] = 0.$$

Thus, in general, normal magnetic curves in Węlyczko space are not helices. In fact, the torsion $\tau = -1/x(s)^2 + q \cos \theta$ is non-constant.

In the sequel we investigate a particular example $u = u_0$ (constant).

On one hand we have

$$x(s)^2 = c_0 + 2s \sin \theta \cos u_0.$$

On the other hand, the following equation must be satisfied:

$$2 \cos \theta + \sin \theta \sin u_0 - q(c_0 + 2s \sin \theta \cos u_0) = 0, \quad \text{for all } s.$$

As $q \sin \theta \neq 0$, we should have $\cos u_0 = 0$ and therefore

$$2 \cos \theta + \epsilon \sin \theta - qc_0 = 0, \quad \epsilon = \pm 1.$$

This implies $x(s) = \sqrt{c_0}$, $y(s) = y_0 + \epsilon \frac{\sin \theta}{\sqrt{c_0}} s$, $z(s) = z_0 + (\cos \theta - 2\epsilon \sin \theta)s$. Thus, along this magnetic curve, α is constant. Hence, this magnetic curve is a helix.

For $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$, that is γ is a Legendre magnetic curve, and for $\epsilon = 1$, we obtain

$$\gamma(s) = \left(\sqrt{c_0}, y_0 + \frac{s}{\sqrt{c_0}}, z_0 - 2s \right).$$

Its strength is $q = \frac{1}{c_0}$. This magnetic curve is a helix with $\kappa = \tau = 1/c_0 > 0$.

For more examples of non-Sasakian quasi-Sasakian 3-manifolds, see [19]. In addition, in [19], Olszak constructed explicit examples of conformally flat quasi-Sasakian 3-manifolds.

4. PSEUDO-CONFORMAL DEFORMATIONS

Let $M = (M, \varphi, \xi, \eta, g)$ be a quasi-Sasakian 3-manifold. Consider the pseudo-conformally deformed structure

$$\tilde{\varphi} := \varphi, \quad \tilde{\xi} := \varepsilon \xi, \quad \tilde{\eta} := \varepsilon \eta, \quad \tilde{g} = \sigma g + (1 - \sigma)\eta \otimes \eta, \quad \varepsilon = \pm 1,$$

where σ is a positive smooth function satisfying $d\sigma(\xi) = 0$. The resulting almost contact metric 3-manifold is still a quasi-Sasakian 3-manifold.

Take an arclength parametrized curve $\gamma(s)$ in (M, g) . Then its velocity vector field $\gamma'(s)$ satisfies

$$\tilde{g}(\gamma'(s), \gamma'(s)) = \cos^2 \theta(s) + \sigma(\gamma(s)) \sin^2 \theta(s),$$

where θ is the contact angle, that is $\cos \theta = \eta(\gamma'(s))$. Obviously, the property ‘‘arclength parametrized’’ is not preserved under the pseudo-conformal deformation, while the property to be ‘‘Legendre’’ is.

In the following we study the behavior of magnetic curves under pseudo-conformal deformation.

The Levi-Civita connection $\tilde{\nabla}$ of \tilde{g} is related to the Levi-Civita connection ∇ of g by

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\nabla}_X Y &= \nabla_X Y + \frac{1}{2\sigma} \{d\sigma(X)(Y - \eta(Y)\xi) + d\sigma(Y)(X - \eta(X)\xi)\} \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{2\sigma} \{g(X, Y) - \eta(X)\eta(Y)\} \text{grad } \sigma \\ &\quad - \frac{\alpha(1 - \sigma)}{\sigma} \{\eta(X)\varphi Y + \eta(Y)\varphi X\}. \end{aligned} \quad (4.1)$$

Remark 4.1. From this relation we get

$$\tilde{\nabla}_X \xi = -\frac{\alpha}{\sigma} \varphi X.$$

When α has constant sign, if we choose $\sigma = \varepsilon \alpha$, we have $\tilde{\nabla}_X \tilde{\xi} = -\varphi X$. So, the new structure $(\varphi, \tilde{\xi}, \tilde{\eta}, \tilde{g})$ is really Sasakian.

Take a normal contact magnetic curve $\gamma(s)$ in (M, g) satisfying $\nabla_{\gamma'} \gamma' = q\varphi \gamma'$. Then we have

$$\tilde{\nabla}_{\gamma'} \gamma' = q\varphi \gamma' + \frac{\sigma'}{\sigma} (\gamma' - \cos \theta \xi) - \frac{\sin^2 \theta}{2\sigma} \text{grad } \sigma|_{\gamma} - \frac{2\alpha(1 - \sigma)}{\sigma} \cos \theta \varphi \gamma'. \quad (4.2)$$

Here σ' denotes the derivative $\frac{d}{ds} \sigma(\gamma(s))$. Thus, ‘‘contact magnetic’’ is not preserved. Even if every quasi-Sasakian 3-manifold of rank 3 are locally pseudo-conformal to Sasakian 3-manifolds, contact magnetic curves are not invariant under the deformation. Thus, the study of contact magnetic curves in quasi-Sasakian 3-manifolds does *not* reduce to that of Sasakian 3-manifolds. In other words, study of contact magnetic curves in quasi-Sasakian 3-manifolds has its own interest.

Assume that γ is *non-geodesic*, i.e., $\kappa \neq 0$ and $q \neq 0$, then from (3.3) and (3.4), the unit normal N and the binormal B are related to $\varphi \gamma'$ and ξ by

$$\varphi \gamma' = \frac{\kappa}{q} N, \quad \xi = \frac{\kappa}{q} B + \cos \theta T.$$

We rewrite the formula (4.2) as

$$\tilde{\nabla}_{\gamma'}\gamma' = \frac{\sigma' \sin^2 \theta}{\sigma} T + \left\{ q - \frac{2\alpha(1-\sigma) \cos \theta}{\sigma} \right\} \varphi\gamma' - \frac{\kappa\sigma' \cos \theta}{q\sigma} B - \frac{\sin^2 \theta}{2\sigma} \text{grad } \sigma|_{\gamma}.$$

Next we have

$$\begin{aligned} g(\text{grad } \sigma, T) &= \sigma', \\ \kappa g(\text{grad } \sigma, B) &= qg(\text{grad } \sigma, \xi - \cos \theta \gamma') = -q \cos \theta \sigma'. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, if both the σ and α are *constant along* γ , then γ is also magnetic with respect to the new metric \tilde{g} . For a Legendre magnetic curve $\gamma(s)$, we have

$$\tilde{\nabla}_{\gamma'}\gamma' = q\varphi\gamma' + \frac{\sigma'}{\sigma}\gamma' - \frac{1}{2\sigma} \text{grad } \sigma|_{\gamma}.$$

Thus, under the assumption “ $\sigma' = \alpha' = 0$ ”, γ is also a Legendre magnetic curve with the same strength with respect to \tilde{g} .

For example, let us consider the pseudo-conformal deformation of Welyczko's space with $\sigma = 1/x^2$ and $\varepsilon = -1$. The resulting Sasakian manifold is the Sasakian space form $\mathbb{R}^3(-3)$ with the metric

$$dx^2 + dy^2 + (dz + 2xdy)^2.$$

Thus the Legendre magnetic helix in Welyczko's space corresponds to Legendre magnetic helix in the Sasakian space form $\mathbb{R}^3(-3)$ under this pseudo-conformal deformation. For Legendre magnetic curves in $\mathbb{R}^3(-3)$, we refer to [4].

In fact, we have obtained a more general result:

Proposition 4.1. *Let M be an almost contact metric manifold satisfying $\nabla\xi = -\alpha\varphi$ for some function α with $\xi(\alpha) = 0$. Take a positive smooth function a and smooth function b such that $\tilde{g} = ag + b\eta \otimes \eta$ is a Riemannian metric. Assume that $da(\xi) = db(\xi) = 0$ and $a + b$ is a non-zero constant. Then the Levi-Civita connection $\tilde{\nabla}$ of \tilde{g} is*

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\nabla}_X Y &= \nabla_X Y + \frac{1}{2a} \{ da(X)Y + db(Y)X - g(X, Y)\text{grad } a \} \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2a} \{ (db(X)\eta(Y) + db(Y)\eta(X))\xi - \eta(X)\eta(Y)\text{grad } b \} \\ &\quad - \frac{\alpha b}{a} \{ \eta(X)\varphi Y + \eta(Y)\varphi X \}. \end{aligned}$$

In particular, if we assume that a is a constant and choosing $b = a(a - 1)$, then the \tilde{g} is a D -homothetic deformation of g . The Levi-Civita connection is

$$\tilde{\nabla}_X Y = \nabla_X Y + (1 - a)\alpha \{ \eta(X)\varphi Y + \eta(Y)\varphi X \}.$$

Next, if we assume that $a = \sigma > 0$ is a positive smooth function and setting $b = 1 - \sigma$, then we obtain (4.1).

5. MAGNETIC CURVES AND OKUMURA TYPE CONNECTION

5.1. In his paper [16], Okumura defined a class of linear connections on a Sasakian manifold $(M, \varphi, \xi, \eta, g)$ in such a way that g, η, ξ and φ are covariant constant. Such a connection was

called a (φ, η, g) connection in [16]. Using the same idea, we can define a (φ, η, g) connection on a quasi-Sasakian 3-manifold $(M, \varphi, \xi, \eta, g)$.

Let us consider the following $(1, 2)$ -type tensor field P on M :

$$P(X, Y) = a\eta(X)\varphi Y + b\eta(Y)\varphi X + c\Phi(X, Y)\xi,$$

where a, b and c are smooth functions on M which shall be determined such that the connection defined by

$$\bar{\nabla}_X Y = \nabla_X Y + P(X, Y), \quad (5.1)$$

is a (φ, η, g) connection.

Equation (5.1) yields

$$\begin{cases} (\bar{\nabla}_X g)(Y, Z) = (c - b)[\eta(Y)\Phi(X, Z) + \eta(Z)\Phi(X, Y)], \\ \bar{\nabla}_X \xi = \nabla_X \xi + b\varphi X, \end{cases}$$

for every X, Y tangent to M . From the assumption that ξ and g are parallel with respect to the connection $\bar{\nabla}$, we immediately obtain

$$b = c = \alpha.$$

It can be easily proved that $\bar{\nabla}\eta = 0$ and $\bar{\nabla}\varphi = 0$.

We can state the following result:

Theorem 5.1. *Let $(M, \varphi, \xi, \eta, g)$ be a quasi-Sasakian 3-manifold. For any function a on M , define a linear connection $\bar{\nabla}$ by setting*

$$\bar{\nabla}_X Y = \nabla_X Y + a\eta(X)\varphi Y + \alpha(\eta(Y)\varphi X + \Phi(X, Y)\xi), \quad (5.2)$$

for all X, Y tangent to M . Then the tensor fields g, η, ξ and φ are parallel with respect to $\bar{\nabla}$.

We will call this connection the *Okumura type connection*.

Remark 5.1. In fact, this connection exists when M belongs to the wider class of almost contact metric manifolds. See [6, Theorem 8.2].

5.2. Inspired by the Ikawa's paper [7] we would like to study the properties of magnetic curves on M with respect to the Okumura type connection $\bar{\nabla}$.

Let γ be a normal magnetic curve on M with strength q , where $q \in \mathbb{R}$, that is the curve γ is parametrized by the arclength and its velocity fulfills the Lorentz equation

$$\nabla_{\gamma'} \gamma' = q\varphi\gamma'.$$

As we have already proved, every magnetic curve in a quasi-Sasakian 3-manifold is slant, that is the contact angle θ is constant.

Equation (5.2) leads to

$$\bar{\nabla}_X X = \nabla_X X + (a + \alpha)\eta(X)\varphi X,$$

for any X tangent to M . If we consider $X = \gamma'$ and the covariant derivative along γ induced by $\bar{\nabla}$ we obtain

$$\bar{\nabla}_{\gamma'} \gamma' = [q + (a + \alpha)\cos\theta]\varphi\gamma'.$$

Hence we obtain the following.

Proposition 5.1. (i) *Any Legendre magnetic curve satisfies the analogue of the Lorentz equation when Okumura type connection is considered with arbitrary function a .*

(ii) *Any magnetic curve γ satisfies the analogue of the Lorentz equation for the Okumura type connection*

$$\bar{\bar{\nabla}}_X Y = \nabla_X Y + \alpha(\eta(Y)\varphi X - \eta(X)\varphi Y + \Phi(X, Y)\xi).$$

In particular, any geodesic of M is also geodesic for the Okumura type connection $\bar{\bar{\nabla}}$.

Note that when M is cosymplectic, the connection $\bar{\bar{\nabla}}$ is nothing but the Levi-Civita connection.

We obtain the following reinterpretation of non-Legendrian contact magnetic curves in quasi-Sasakian 3-manifolds with constant α . Note that under this assumption, M is α -Sasakian or cosymplectic.

Theorem 5.2. *Let M be a quasi-Sasakian manifold whose structure function α is constant and γ a non-Legendre magnetic curve with strength q . Then γ is a geodesic for the Okumura type connection*

$$\dot{\nabla}_X Y = \bar{\bar{\nabla}}_X Y - \frac{q}{\cos\theta} \eta(X)\varphi Y.$$

Remark 5.2. Conformally flat quasi-Sasakian 3-manifolds with constant α are classified by Olszak [19, Theorem 3.6] as follows:

Theorem. *Let M be a quasi-Sasakian 3-manifold. Then the following four statements are equivalent:*

- (1) *M is locally symmetric;*
- (2) *M is conformally flat and its scalar curvature is constant;*
- (3) *M is conformally flat and its structure function α is constant;*
- (4) (a) *M is a cosymplectic manifold which is locally a product of the real line \mathbb{R} and a two dimensional Kähler space of constant Gaussian curvature, or*
 (b) *M is of constant positive curvature and its structure can be obtained by a homothetic deformation of a Sasakian structure. In this case M is α -Sasakian.*

Let us observe that when M is cosymplectic, non-Legendre magnetic curves are geodesic for the Okumura type connection

$$\dot{\nabla}_X Y = \nabla_X Y - \frac{q}{\cos\theta} \eta(X)\varphi Y.$$

In order to prove a converse of Theorem 5.2, let us give the following useful assertion.

Lemma 5.1. *Let γ be a unit speed curve in a quasi-Sasakian 3-manifold which is a geodesic for the Okumura type connection (5.2). Then γ is a slant curve, that is the angle θ between its velocity vector and the characteristic vector field ξ is constant.*

Proof. Since γ is unit speed, the contact angle θ is defined by $\cos\theta = \eta(\gamma')$. We have

$$\frac{d}{ds} \eta(\gamma') = \frac{d}{ds} g(\gamma', \xi) = g(\bar{\nabla}_{\gamma'} \gamma', \xi) + g(\gamma', \bar{\nabla}_{\gamma'} \xi) = 0.$$

Hence θ is constant. □

Let γ be a unit speed curve in a quasi-Sasakian 3-manifold which is a geodesic for the Okumura type connection (5.2). Then, γ can be interpreted as a magnetic curve with non-constant strength

$$q(s) = -[a(\gamma(s)) + \alpha(\gamma(s))] \cos \theta.$$

Remark 5.3. The magnetic curves with variable strength generate, in the Euclidean plane \mathbb{E}^2 , beautiful aesthetic curves. See e.g. [27]. Applications of magnetic curves in \mathbb{E}^3 with variable strength to CAD systems are described in [26].

We close this Section with the following result.

Theorem 5.3. *Let γ be a unit speed curve in a quasi-Sasakian 3-manifold whose structure function α is constant. Suppose that γ is a geodesic for the Okumura type connection (5.2) with $a \in \mathbb{R}$. Then γ is a magnetic curve with strength $q = -(a + \alpha) \cos \theta$.*

Remark 5.4. On almost contact metric manifolds of arbitrary dimension, the following one-parameter family $\{\tilde{\nabla}^t\}_{t \in \mathbb{R}}$ of linear connections was introduced in [8]:

$$\tilde{\nabla}_X^t Y = \nabla_X Y - \frac{1}{2}\varphi(\nabla_X \varphi)Y - \frac{1}{2}\eta(Y)\nabla_X \xi - t\eta(X)\varphi Y + (\nabla_X \eta)(Y)\xi,$$

for all vector fields X and Y . Here t is a real constant. The connection $\tilde{\nabla}^0$ is the (φ, ξ, η) -connection introduced by Sasaki and Hatakeyama in [20]. More than 30 years later, Cho defined and studied [3] the connection $\tilde{\nabla}^1$. Note that on a Sasakian manifold of dimension 3, the connection $\tilde{\nabla}^t$ coincides with the linear connection introduced by Okumura. In particular, $\tilde{\nabla}^1$ is called the *Okumura connection*. On contact metric 3-manifolds, $\tilde{\nabla}^{-1}$ coincides with the *Tanaka-Webster connection* [21, 25]. All the structure tensor fields φ , ξ , η and g are parallel with respect to $\tilde{\nabla}^t$.

On a normal almost contact metric 3-manifold M , $\tilde{\nabla}_X^t Y$ is given by

$$\tilde{\nabla}_X^t Y = \nabla_X Y + \alpha\{g(X, \varphi Y)\xi + \eta(Y)\varphi X\} + \beta\{g(X, Y)\xi - \eta(Y)X\} - t\eta(X)\varphi Y.$$

Thus, for a quasi-Sasakian 3-manifold the connection $\tilde{\nabla}^t$ coincides with the Okumura type connection $\bar{\nabla}$ defined by (5.2) with $a = -t$.

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