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# ALMOST YAMABE SOLITON AND ALMOST RICCI-BOURGUIGNON SOLITON WITH GEODESIC VECTOR FIELDS

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Abstract. The aim of this paper is to prove some results about almost Yamabe soliton and almost Ricci-Bourguignon soliton with special soliton vector field. In fact, we prove that every compact non-trivial almost Ricci-Bourguignon soliton with constant scalar curvature is isometric to a Euclidean sphere. Then we show that every compact almost Ricci-Bourguignon soliton whose soliton vector field is divergence-free is Einstein and its soliton vector field is Killing. Finally, we prove that a complete almost Ricci-Bourguignon soliton  $(M, g, V, \lambda, \rho)$ has V as the contact vector field of a contact manifold M with metric g and its Reeb vector field is geodesic, then it becomes a Ricci-Bourguignon soliton and g has constant scalar curvature. In particular, if V is strict, then g is a compact Sasakian Einstein.

### 1. Introduction

On an *n*-dimensional smooth manifold M, a Riemannian metric g and a non-vanishing vector field V define an almost Yamabe soliton [8] if there exists a smooth function  $\lambda$  on M such that

$$\mathcal{L}_V g = (\lambda - R)g,\tag{1}$$

respectively, an almost Ricci-Bourguignon soliton if there exists a smooth function  $\lambda$  on M such that

$$2Ric + \mathcal{L}_V g = 2(\lambda + \rho R)g,\tag{2}$$

where  $\mathcal{L}_V$  denotes the Lie derivative operator in the direction of the vector field V, *Ric* denotes the Ricci curvature tensor field of g, R is the scalar curvature of g, and  $\rho$  is a real constant. For  $\lambda$  constant, they reduce to a Yamabe soliton and a Ricci-Bourguignon soliton respectively. As in the case of almost Ricci solitons, almost

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Ricci-Bourguignon solitons give rise to a self-similar solution of the Ricci-Bourguignon flow

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}g = -2(Ric - \rho Rg), \quad g(0) = g_0.$$

This flow was first considered by Bourguignon [3] and then the short-time existence and uniqueness of the solution of the Ricci-Bourguignon flow on [0, T) was shown by Catino et al. [5] for  $\rho < \frac{1}{2(n-1)}$ .

An almost Yamabe soliton  $(M, g, V, \lambda)$  (or an almost Ricci-Bourguignon soliton  $(M, g, V, \lambda, \rho)$  is said to be shrinking, steady or expanding if  $\lambda$  is positive, zero or negative, respectively. If the potential vector field V is of gradient type,  $V = \nabla f$ , for a smooth function  $f: M \to \mathbb{R}$ , then an almost Yamabe soliton (resp. an almost Ricci-Bourguignon soliton) is called a gradient almost Yamabe soliton (or a gradient almost Ricci-Bourguignon soliton). An almost Ricci-Bourguignon soliton  $(M, g, V, \lambda, \rho)$  is called trivial if V is a Killing vector field, i.e.  $\mathcal{L}_V g = 0$ .

If  $\rho = 0$ , then the almost Ricci-Bourguignon soliton reduces to the almost Ricci soliton, which was first introduced by Pigola et al. [12], and after that many authors have obtained some properties of the almost Ricci soliton. Some characterization results for compact almost Ricci solitons were obtained in [1,13,14]. Gradient Ricci-Bourguignon solitons were studied in detail, for example in [6,7], where the authors called them gradient  $\rho$ -Einstein solitons. Then Dwivedi [9] obtained some results on the almost Ricci-Bourguignon soliton.

We recall an operator  $\Box$  acting on a smooth vector field V such that  $\Box V$  is a vector field and in a local coordinate system  $\{x^i\}$  it has components  $-(g^{jk}\nabla_j\nabla_k V^i + R^i_j V^j)$  where  $R^i_j = g^{ik}R_{jk}$  and  $R_{jk}$  are the components of the Ricci tensor. From [16] we have the following definition.

DEFINITION 1.1. A vector field V on a Riemannian manifold (M, g) is called a geodesic vector field if  $\Box V = 0$ .

Note that the condition for a geodesic vector field is also equivalent to the condition  $g^{jk} \mathcal{L}_V \Gamma^i_{jk} = 0$  and this shows that a Killing vector field and an affine Killing vector field are special examples of a geodesic vector field. Moreover, this definition of a geodesic vector field is different from a vector field whose integral curves are geodesics (see [15,16]). In this paper, we first give the following rigidity result for almost Yamabe soliton.

**PROPOSITION 1.2.** If an almost Yamabe soliton  $(M, g, V, \lambda)$  has a divergence-free soliton vector field V, then V is a Killing vector field.

Motivated by the almost Ricci soliton case, we will prove the following theorem and generalize results of [1].

THEOREM 1.3. Let  $(M^n, g, V, \lambda, \rho)$  be a compact oriented almost Ricci-Bourguignon soliton. If  $d\mu$  denotes the volume form with respect to g, then

$$\int_{M} \left| Ric - \frac{R}{n}g \right|^{2} d\mu = \frac{n-2}{2n} \int_{M} g(\nabla R, V) d\mu.$$
(3)

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Furthermore, if n > 2, the almost-Ricci-Bourguignon soliton is non-trivial and the scalar curvature is constant, then (M,g) is isometric to a Euclidean sphere and almost-Ricci-Bourguignon soliton is gradient.

Consequently, we have the following rigidity result for the almost Ricci-Bourguignon soliton.

COROLLARY 1.4. If a compact Ricci-Bourguignon soliton  $(M, g, V, \lambda, \rho)$  has a divergencefree soliton vector field V, then V is a Killing vector field and g is an Einstein metric.

REMARK 1.5. Every Killing vector field is divergence-free, but the converse need not be true in general. Therefore, Theorems 1.2 and 1.4 provide a condition under which the converse holds.

We now note that the above result holds for a Ricci-Bourguignon soliton without the compactness condition, as follows.

THEOREM 1.6. If a Ricci-Bourguignon soliton  $(M, g, V, \lambda, \rho)$  has a divergence-free soliton vector field V, then for  $\rho \neq \frac{1}{n}$  the vector field V is Killing and g is Einstein metric.

We study almost Yamabe solitons and almost Ricci-Bourguignon solitons when the vector field of the soliton is a geodesic vector field. In fact, we show the following.

THEOREM 1.7. In an almost Yamabe soliton  $(M, g, V, \lambda)$ , V is Killing if and only if V is a geodesic vector field in the sense of the Definition 1.1.

We also prove that following is true.

THEOREM 1.8. In an almost Ricci-Bourguignon soliton  $(M, g, V, \lambda, \rho)$ ,  $\lambda + \rho R$  is constant if and only if V is a geodesic vector field in the sense of the Definition 1.1.

In the following we give some well-known definitions and basic formulas for the contact geometry of [2]. A (2m + 1)-dimensional smooth manifold M is said to be a contact manifold if it carries a 1-form  $\eta$  on M such that  $\eta \wedge (d\eta)^m \neq 0$  on M. For a contact 1-form  $\eta$  there exists a unique vector field  $\xi$  (it is called a Reeb vector field) such that  $d\eta(\xi, \dot{j} = 0$  and  $\eta(\xi) = 1$ . If we polarize  $d\eta$  on the contact subbundle  $\eta = 0$ , we obtain a Riemannian metric g and a (1, 1) tensor field  $\phi$  such that  $d\eta(X, Y) = g(x, \phi Y), \eta(X) = g(\xi, X), \phi^2 = -I + \eta \otimes \xi, \phi(\xi) = 0$ , for any vector fields X, Y on M. If the vector field  $\xi$  is Killing, then the contact manifold is called K-contact manifold and in this case we have  $Ric(\xi, X) = 2mg(\xi, X)$  for any vector field X on M. A vector field X on a contact manifold is called a contact vector field if  $\mathcal{L}_X \eta = f\eta$  for a smooth function f on M, and it is called strict if f = 0. A contact metric g on M is called Sasakian if the almost-Kähler structure induced on the cone  $(M \times \mathbb{R}^+, r^2g + dr^2)$  is Kähler.

Finally, we prove the following results for an almost Ricci-Bourguignon soliton on contact manifolds.

#### Almost Ricci-Bourguignon soliton

THEOREM 1.9. If a complete (2m+1)-dimensional almost Ricci-Bourguignon soliton  $(M, g, V, \lambda, \rho)$  has V as the contact vector field of a K-contact manifold M with metric g, then it becomes a Ricci-Bourguignon soliton and g has constant scalar curvature. In particular, if V is strict, then g is a compact Sasakian Einstein.

REMARK 1.10. All Sasakian manifolds are *K*-contact but the converse need not be true except in dimension three. Therefore, Theorem 1.9 gives a condition under which the converse holds.

COROLLARY 1.11. If a complete (2m+1)-dimensional almost Ricci-Bourguignon soliton  $(M, g, V, \lambda, \rho)$  has V as contact vector field of a contact manifold M with metric g and its Reeb vector field is geodesic in the sense of the Definition 1.1, then it becomes a Ricci-Bourguignon soliton and g has constant scalar curvature. In particular, if V is strict, then g is a compact Sasakian Einstein.

### 2. Proofs of the results

In this section, we prove our results.

*Proof* (Proposition 1.2). Taking trace of the almost Yamabe soliton equation (1) and the condition divV = 0, we get  $R = \lambda$ . Using this in (1) shows that V is Killing.  $\Box$ 

Below we give a lemma that will be used throughout the paper. For a proof of the lemma we need the following formula from [15, pp. 23],

$$\mathcal{L}_V \Gamma_{ij}^k = \frac{1}{2} g^{kl} \left\{ \nabla_i (\mathcal{L}_V g_{jl}) + \nabla_j (\mathcal{L}_V g_{il}) - \nabla_l (\mathcal{L}_V g_{ij}) \right\}, \tag{4}$$
$$\nabla_l (\mathcal{L}_V \Gamma_{k}^k) - \nabla_i (\mathcal{L}_V \Gamma_{k}^k) = \mathcal{L}_V R_{k+1}^k, \tag{5}$$

and

$$\nabla_l (\mathcal{L}_V \Gamma_{ij}^k) - \nabla_j (\mathcal{L}_V \Gamma_{il}^k) = \mathcal{L}_V R_{lji}^k,$$
(5)  

$$\Gamma_{ij}^k \text{ and } R_{lij}^k \text{ are the Christoffel symbols and the components of the curvature}$$

where  $\Gamma_{ij}^k$  and  $R_{lji}^k$  are the Christoffel symbols and the components of the curvature tensor of the metric g in local coordinates, respectively.

LEMMA 2.1. Let  $(M^n, g, V, \lambda, \rho)$  be an almost Ricci-Bourguignon soliton. Then we have

$$\mathcal{L}_V R = (1 - 2(n-1)\rho)\Delta R - 2\rho R^2 - 2\lambda R + 2|Ric|^2 - 2(n-1)\Delta\lambda.$$
 (6)

*Proof.* If we take the Lie derivative of the relation  $g_{lk}g^{kj} = \delta_l^j$  along the vector field V, use the equation (2) and then multiply the equation obtained by  $g^{il}$ , we obtain

$$\mathcal{L}_V g^{ij} = 2R^{ij} - 2(\lambda + \rho R)g^{ij}.$$
(7)

If you substitute (7) into (4), you obtain

 $\mathcal{L}_V \Gamma_{ij}^k = \nabla^k R_{ij} - \nabla_j R_i^k - \nabla_i R_j^k - \nabla^k (\lambda + \rho R) g_{ij} + \nabla_j (\lambda + \rho R) \delta_i^k + \nabla_i (\lambda + \rho R) \delta_j^k.$ (8) By replacing (8) with (5) and using the Ricci identity, you get

$$\begin{split} \mathcal{L}_{V}R_{lji}^{k} &= \nabla_{j}\nabla_{l}R_{i}^{k} - \nabla_{l}\nabla_{j}R_{i}^{k} + \nabla_{j}\nabla_{i}R_{l}^{k} - \nabla_{l}\nabla_{i}R_{j}^{k} + \nabla_{l}\nabla^{k}R_{ij} - \nabla_{j}\nabla^{k}R_{il} \\ &+ (\nabla_{l}\nabla_{i})(\lambda + \rho R)\delta_{j}^{k} - (\nabla_{l}\nabla^{k}(\lambda + \rho R))g_{ij} - (\nabla_{i}\nabla_{j}(\lambda + \rho R))\delta_{l}^{k} + (\nabla_{j}\nabla^{k}(\lambda + \rho R))g_{il}. \end{split}$$

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Contracting this equation with 
$$g^{lk}$$
, you get

$$\mathcal{L}_{V}R_{ij} = \nabla_{j}\nabla_{i}R - \nabla_{k}\nabla_{j}R_{i}^{k} - \nabla_{k}\nabla_{i}R_{j}^{k} + \Delta R_{ij} - (\Delta(\lambda + \rho R))g_{ij} - (n-2)\nabla_{i}\nabla_{j}(\lambda + \rho R).$$
(9)

Taking the Lie derivative of  $R = g^{ij}R_{ij}$  along the vector field V and using the equations (7) and (9), we obtain (6).

*Proof* (Theorem 1.3). We can write (6) as

$$g(\nabla R, V) = (1 - 2(n-1)\rho)\Delta R - 2\rho R^2 - 2\lambda R + 2|Ric|^2 - 2(n-1)\Delta\lambda.$$

By integrating both sides of the last equation and applying the divergence theorem, we obtain that

$$\frac{1}{2} \int_{M} g(\nabla R, V) d\mu = \int_{M} \left[ |Ric|^{2} - \rho R^{2} - \lambda R \right] d\mu$$

$$= \int_{M} \left[ \left| Ric - \frac{R}{n} g \right|^{2} - \frac{(n\rho - 1)R^{2} + n\lambda R}{n} \right] d\mu.$$
(10)

The contraction of (2) leads to  $\operatorname{divV} = n\lambda + (n\rho - 1)R$ , then

$$\int_{M} R \mathrm{div} V d\mu = \int_{M} \left( n\lambda R + (n\rho - 1)R^{2} \right) d\mu.$$

Since

$$\operatorname{div}(RV) = g(\nabla R, V) + R\operatorname{div}V, \tag{11}$$

we conclude

$$\int_{M} g(\nabla R, V) d\mu = -\int_{M} R \mathrm{div} V d\mu.$$
(12)

Inserting (12) into (11) results in

$$\int_{M} g(\nabla R, V) d\mu = -\int_{M} \left( n\lambda R + (n\rho - 1)R^2 \right) d\mu.$$
(13)

If you insert (13) into (10), you get (3). If the scalar curvature R is constant, then (3) implies that g is Einstein. Consequently, the equation (2) reduces to  $\mathcal{L}_V g = 2(\lambda + \rho R - \frac{R}{n})g$ . Assuming that  $\lambda$  is not constant, V is a non-homothetic conformal vector field on M. We set  $h := \lambda + \rho R - \frac{R}{n}$ . We have  $\mathcal{L}_V g = 2hg$  and from [15, pp. 26],  $\mathcal{L}_V R_{ij} = (n-2)\nabla_i \nabla_j h - (\Delta h)g_{ij}$ . If we take the Lie derivative of the relation  $R_{ij} = \frac{R}{n}g_{ij}$  along V, we get

$$\left(\Delta h + \frac{2R}{n}h\right)g_{ij} = (2-n)\nabla_i\nabla_jh.$$
(14)

If you take the trace of the above equation, you get  $\Delta h = -\frac{R}{n-1}h$  and this shows that

$$\Delta h^{2} = 2|\nabla h|^{2} + 2h\Delta h = 2|\nabla h|^{2} - \frac{2R}{n-1}h^{2}$$

If you integrate the above equation over the compact M and using the divergence

theorem, you get

$$\int_{M} |\nabla h|^2 d\mu = \frac{R}{n-1} \int_{M} h^2 d\mu.$$

This implies that R is positive. From (14) and  $\Delta h = -\frac{R}{n-1}h$  we conclude

$$\nabla_i \nabla_j h = -\frac{R}{n(n-1)} h g_{ij}.$$
(15)

Obata's Theorem [11] now implies that (M, g) is isomorphic to a Euclidean sphere of radius  $\sqrt{\frac{n(n-1)}{R}}$ . We can write (15) as  $\mathcal{L}_{\nabla h}g = -\frac{2R}{n(1-n)}hg$  or equivalently  $\mathcal{L}_{-\frac{R}{n(1-n)}\nabla h}g = 2hg$ . Since V is also conformal and satisfies  $\mathcal{L}_V g = 2hg$ , we can use the Hoge-de-Rham decomposition to conclude that  $V = -\frac{R}{n(1-n)}\nabla h + Z$ , where Z is a Killing vector field, so V is the gradient of a smooth function and thus the proof of the theorem is complete.

Proof (Corollary 1.4). If we replace divV = 0 in equation (3), then  $\int_M |Ric - \frac{R}{n}g|^2 d\mu = 0$ , which implies that  $Ric = \frac{R}{n}g$ , i.e. g is Einstein metric. Substituting  $Ric = \frac{R}{n}g$  and  $(1 - n\rho)R = n\lambda$  into (2) gives  $\mathcal{L}_V g = 0$ , which shows that the vector field V is Killing.

Proof (Theorem 1.6). In this case, the equation  $(1 - n\rho)R = n\lambda$  applies. Since  $\lambda$  is constant, we conclude that R is also constant. Thus, the formulas  $(1 - n\rho)R = n\lambda$  and (6) imply that  $|Ric|^2 = \frac{R^2}{n}$ . Substituting this into  $|Ric|^2 - \frac{R^2}{n} = |Ric - \frac{R}{n}g|^2$  gives  $Ric = \frac{R}{n}g$ , i.e. g is Einstein metric. Finally, (2) implies that the vector field V is Killing.

*Proof* (Theorem 1.7). If you take the trace of the equation (1) and then take the covariant derivative of it in an orthonormal frame, you get

$$\nabla_j \nabla_i V^i = n \nabla_j (\lambda - R). \tag{16}$$

In addition, the differentiation of (1) results in

$$\nabla_i \nabla_j V^i + \nabla_i \nabla^i V_j = 2\nabla_j (\lambda - R).$$
<sup>(17)</sup>

If you subtract equation (16) from (17), you get  $R_{kj}V^k + \nabla_i\nabla^i V_j = (2-n)\nabla_j(\lambda-R)$ . This shows that  $\Box V = (2-n)\nabla_j(\lambda-R)$ . Therefore, equation (1) implies that V is a geodesic vector field if and only if V is Killing.  $\Box$ 

*Proof* (Theorem 1.8). First we take the trace of the equation (1) and then we take the covariant derivative of it in an orthonormal frame and get

$$\nabla_j \nabla_i V^i + \nabla_j R = n \nabla_j (\lambda + \rho R). \tag{18}$$

By differentiating (1) and using the twice contracted second Bianchi identity  $2 \operatorname{div} Ric = 2\nabla R$ , we also arrive at the conclusion

$$\nabla_i \nabla_j V^i + \nabla_i \nabla^i V_j + \nabla_j R = 2\nabla_j (\lambda + \rho R).$$
<sup>(19)</sup>

If you subtract equation (18) from (19), you obtain  $R_{kj}V^k + \nabla_i\nabla^i V_j = (2-n)\nabla_j(\lambda + \rho R)$ . This results in  $\Box V = (2-n)\nabla_j(\lambda + \rho R)$ . Therefore, V is a geodesic vector field if and only if  $\lambda + \rho R$  is constant.  $\Box$ 

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*Proof* (Theorem 1.9). According to the definition of the contact manifold, we have  $\omega = \eta \wedge (d\eta)^m \neq 0$ , then  $\omega$  is a volume element and

$$\mathcal{L}_V \omega = (\mathrm{div} V)\omega. \tag{20}$$

Equation  $\mathcal{L}_V \eta = f\eta$  implies that  $\mathcal{L}_V d\eta = d\mathcal{L}_V \eta = df \wedge \eta + f d\eta$ . It follows from the equation (20) that divV = (m+1)f.

On the other hand, from (2) we have  $\operatorname{div} V = (2m+1)\lambda + ((2m+1)\rho - 1)R$ . Then

$$[1 - (2m+1)\rho]R = (2m+1)\lambda - (m+1)f.$$
(21)

With the help of the formula  $\eta(X) = g(\xi, X)$  we derive

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$$(\mathcal{L}_V \eta)(X) = (\mathcal{L}_V g(\xi, X) + g(\mathcal{L}_V \xi, X),$$
(22)

for any vector field X on M. From (2) and  $Ric(\xi, X) = 2mg(\xi, X)$  we get

$$\mathcal{L}_V g)(\xi, X) = 2(\lambda + \rho R - 2m)g(\xi, X).$$
(23)

Inserting (23) and  $\mathcal{L}_X \eta = f\eta$  into (22) results in  $g(\mathcal{L}_V \xi, X) = f\eta(X) - 2(\lambda + \rho R - 2m)g(\xi, X)$  for any vector field X on M and this shows that

$$\mathcal{L}_V \xi = (f - 2\lambda - 2\rho R + 4m)\xi.$$
<sup>(24)</sup>

The inner product of (24) with  $\xi$  yields  $g(\mathcal{L}_V\xi,\xi) = (f - 2\lambda - 2\rho R + 4m)$ . With the Lie derivative of  $g(\xi,\xi) = 1$  along V and using equation (2) and  $Ric(\xi,\xi) = 2m$  we also obtain  $g(\mathcal{L}_V\xi,\xi) = 2m - \lambda - \rho R$ .

If we compare the two values of 
$$g(\mathcal{L}_V\xi,\xi)$$
, the result is  $f = \lambda + \rho R - 2m$ , then

$$\mathcal{L}_V \eta = (\lambda + \rho R - 2m)\eta, \quad \mathcal{L}_V \xi = (2m - \lambda - \rho R)\xi.$$
(25)

Let Q denote the Ricci operator defined by g(QX, Y) = Ric(X, Y) for arbitrary vector fields X, Y on M. If we take the Lie derivative of  $d\eta(X, Y) = g(X, \phi Y)$  along the vector field V and use equation (2) and  $\mathcal{L}_V \eta = f\eta$ , we obtain

$$\eta(Y)\nabla f - (Yf)\xi + 2(f - 2\lambda - 2\rho R)\phi Y = -4Q(\phi Y) + 2(\mathcal{L}_X\phi)Y.$$
(26)  
Substituting  $\xi$  for Y in (26) results in

$$\nabla f - (\xi f)\xi = 2(\mathcal{L}_X\phi)\xi. \tag{27}$$

If we now take the Lie derivative of  $\phi(\xi) = 0$  along the vector field V again and use the second equation of (25), we obtain  $(\mathcal{L}_X \phi)\xi = 0$  and insert it into (27), we obtain  $\nabla f = (\xi f)\xi$ , i.e.  $df = (\xi f)\eta$ . If you take the exterior derivative of this and then take the wedge product with  $\eta$ , you get  $(\xi f)\eta \wedge d\eta = 0$ . Since  $\eta \wedge d\eta$  is nonzero everywhere then  $\xi f = 0$ , i.e. df = 0 and this shows that f is constant on M. Therefore, (26) reduces to  $\mathcal{L}_X \phi = 2Q\phi - (2m + \lambda + \rho R)\phi$ . Since  $f = \lambda + \rho R - 2m$  and f is constant, we conclude that  $\lambda + \rho R$  is constant and (21) shows that R is also constant. Thus  $\lambda$ is constant and the almost Ricci-Bourguignon soliton is simply a Ricci-Bourguignon soliton. This completes the proof of the first part of the theorem.

To prove the second part, we choose f = 0, then  $\lambda + \rho R = 2m$  and thus we have from (21) that R = 2m(2m + 1). Since  $\lambda, R$  are constant, (6) implies that  $|Ric - 2mg|^2 = 0$ , i.e. Ric = 2mg. This shows that g is an Einstein metric. Since (M, g) is complete, (M, g) is compact according to Myers' theorem. From [4,10] every compact K-contact manifold with an Einstein constant greater than -2 is Sasakian. This completes the proof of the theorem.

#### Almost Ricci-Bourguignon soliton

*Proof* (Corollary 1.11). Since the Reeb vector field is geodesic, we have from [13, Theorem 3] that the metric contact manifold is a K-contact manifold. Therefore, the Theorem 1.9 completes the proof.

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