

# Some Results Related to Stability in Sasakian Geometry

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# Introduction

Some of this work is joint with Carl Tipler,

“Deformations of Constant Scalar Curvature Sasakian Metrics and K-Stability,” I.M.R.N. 2015.

This talk will consider some results on constant scalar curvature Sasakian (cscS) metrics, and more generally Sasaki-extremal metrics.

We will consider results related to the **K-energy** and **K-stability**, familiar in the study of Kähler manifolds. We will consider

- ▶ A proof of the convexity of the K-energy along weak geodesics, (following ideas of R. Berman and B. Berndtson, 2014),
- ▶ Uniqueness of cscS metrics (and Sasaki-extremal metrics) for a fix transversal holomorphic structure,
- ▶ Existence of cscS metric  $\Rightarrow$  K-energy bounded below.

Considering the larger space of Sasakian structures compatible with a contact structure  $(\eta, \xi)$

- ▶ A small deformation of a cscS structure has K-energy bounded below (by an “adjacent” cscS structure),
- ▶ A small deformation of a cscS structure also admits a cscS structure if it is K-polystable.

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A Riemannian manifold  $(M, g)$  is *Sasakian* if the metric cone  $(C(M), \bar{g})$ ,  $C(M) := \mathbb{R}_+ \times M$  and  $\bar{g} = dr^2 + r^2g$ , is Kähler, i.e.  $\bar{g}$  admits a compatible almost complex structure  $J$  so that  $(C(M), \bar{g}, J)$  is a Kähler structure.

This is a metric contact structure  $(M, \eta, \xi, \Phi, g)$  with an additional integrability condition. One has

- ▶ a contact structure

$$\eta = d^c \log r = Jd \log r$$

with Reeb vector field  $\xi = Jr\partial_r$ , a Killing field, and

- ▶ a strictly pseudoconvex CR structure  $(D, I)$ ,  $D = \ker \eta$ .
- ▶  $I$  induces a transversely holomorphic structure on  $\mathcal{F}_\xi$ , the Reeb foliation, with Kähler form  $\omega^T = \frac{1}{2}d\eta$ .
- ▶  $(C(M), J)$  is an affine variety  $Y$  polarized by  $\xi$ . So  $(Y, \xi)$  is the analogue of a polarized Kähler manifold.
- ▶  $\mathcal{S}(\xi, \bar{J})$  is the space of Sasakian metrics with transversal complex structure  $\bar{J}$ . Analogue of the space of Kähler metrics in a polarization.

The transversal Kähler metrics in  $\mathcal{S}(\xi, \bar{J})$  are

$$\mathcal{H}(\xi, \bar{J}) = \{\omega_{\phi_t} = \omega^T + dd^c \phi \mid (\omega^T + dd^c \phi)^m \wedge \eta > 0\}.$$

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# Background on results

## Uniqueness of cscS structures:

- ▶ [K. Cho, A. Futaki, H Ono 2007](#) Proved uniqueness of toric cscS structures. The geodesic equation is just  $\ddot{G} = 0$ , in terms of symplectic potential  $G$ .
- ▶ [Y. Nitta and K. Sekiya 2009](#) Proved uniqueness of Sasaki-Einstein structures, extending arguments of S. Bando and T. Mabuchi.

This talk considers K-polystability and deformations of constant scalar curvature Sasakian metrics.

- ▶ [Tristan C. Collins, Gábor Székelyhidi 2012](#) defined K-polystability for Sasakian manifolds by defining the Donaldson-Futaki invariant in terms of the Hilbert series on the affine cone  $C(M)$ .
- ▶ and they proved

$$\text{cscS} \Rightarrow \text{K-semistable.}$$

- ▶ The deformation result we give only requires polystability with respect to smooth degenerations, where this is the usual Futaki invariant on central fiber.

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## K-energy

Given a Sasakian manifold  $M$  the **K-energy** is a functional on  $\mathcal{H}(\xi, \bar{J})$ :

$$\mathcal{M}(\phi) = - \int_0^1 \int_M \dot{\phi}_t (S(\phi_t) - \bar{S}) (\omega^T)^m \wedge \eta \, dt, \quad S = \frac{2n\pi c_1(\mathcal{F}_\xi) [\omega^T]^{m-1}}{[\omega^T]^m}$$

X. X. Chen 2000 rewrote this formula to extend  $\mathcal{M}$  to weak  $C^{1,1}$  structures

$$\mathcal{M}(\phi) = \frac{\bar{S}}{m+1} \mathcal{E}(\phi) - \mathcal{E}^{\text{Ric}}(\phi) + \int_M \log\left(\frac{\omega_\phi^m \wedge \eta}{\omega^m}\right) \omega_\phi^m \wedge \eta$$

$$\mathcal{E}(\phi) := \sum_{j=0}^m \int_M \phi \omega_\phi^{m-j} \wedge \omega^j \wedge \eta,$$

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## Convexity of K-energy

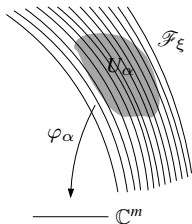


Figure : Transversally complex foliation

The *transversely holomorphic structure* on a foliation  $\mathcal{F}_\xi$  is given by  $\{(U_\alpha, \varphi_\alpha)\}_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}}$  where  $\{U_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}}$  covers  $M$

- ▶  $\{U_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}}$  covers  $M$ ,
- ▶ the  $\varphi_\alpha : U_\alpha \rightarrow V_\alpha \subset \mathbb{C}^m$  has fibers the leaves of  $\mathcal{F}_\xi$  locally on  $U_\alpha$ ,
- ▶ holomorphic isomorphism  $g_{\alpha\beta} : \varphi_\beta(U_\alpha \cap U_\beta) \rightarrow \varphi_\alpha(U_\alpha \cap U_\beta)$  such that

$$\varphi_\alpha = g_{\alpha\beta} \circ \varphi_\beta \quad \text{on } U_\alpha \cap U_\beta.$$

- ▶ There is a Kähler structure  $\omega_\alpha$  on  $\varphi_\alpha(U_\alpha) \subset \mathbb{C}^m$ .

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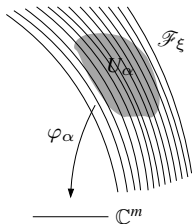


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# Convexity of K-energy

Analysis is done on the foliation charts.

Let  $T_\alpha$  be a closed degree  $(k, k)$  current defined on  $V_\alpha$  so that  $g_{\alpha\beta}^* T_\alpha = T_\beta$ .

$$\text{PSH}(M, \omega) := \{ \phi \mid \phi \text{ u.s.c. inv. under } \xi \text{ and plurisubharmonic on each chart } V_\alpha \}$$

Given  $\phi_1, \dots, \phi_{m-k} \in \text{PSH}(M, \omega)$ , in each  $V_\alpha$  we define (E. Bedford and B. Taylor 1976):

$$\omega_{\phi_1} \wedge \dots \wedge \omega_{\phi_{m-k}} \wedge T_\alpha$$

a positive Borel measure on  $V_\alpha$ , and we take the product measure on each chart which is easily seen to be invariant of the chart by Fubini's theorem, defining

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## Convexity of K-energy

Analysis is done on the foliation charts.

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# Convexity of K-energy

The following will be useful

## Proposition 2.1

Let  $\phi \in \text{PSH}(M, \omega) \cap C^0(M)$ . Then there exists a sequence  $\phi_i \in \text{PSH}(M, \omega) \cap C^\infty(M)$  with  $\phi_i \searrow \phi$  as  $i \rightarrow \infty$ .

We have weak continuity of the Monge-Ampère measure.

Given decreasing sequences  $\phi_1^i \rightarrow \phi_1, \dots, \phi_{m-k}^i \rightarrow \phi_{m-k}$  in  $\text{PSH}(M, \omega)$  we have

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# Convexity of K-energy

Let  $D \subset \mathbb{C}$  then we have the **Homogeneous Monge-Ampère equation**

$$(\pi^* \omega + dd^c U_\tau)^{m+1} = 0 \quad \text{for } U_\tau \in \text{PSH}(M \times D, \pi^* \omega),$$

P. Guan and X. Zhang 2012 solved it for  $D = \{\tau \in \mathbb{C} \mid 1 \leq |\tau| \leq e\}$  and  $U(\cdot, 1) = \phi_0, U(\cdot, e) = \phi_1 \in C_b^\infty(M)$  on  $\partial D$ , and showed  $U$  is weak  $C^{1,1}$ , meaning

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Then

$$\omega + dd^c u_t \geq \text{is weak } C^{1,1} \text{ geodesic connecting } \omega_{\phi_0}, \omega_{\phi_1}, 0 \leq t \leq 1.$$

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If  $u \in \text{PSH}(M, \omega) \cap C^0$  then the first variations of the functionals  $\mathcal{E}$  and  $\mathcal{E}^{\text{Ric}}$  are

$$d\mathcal{E}|_u = (m+1)\omega_u^m \wedge \eta, \quad d\mathcal{E}^{\text{Ric}}|_u = m\omega_u^{m-1} \wedge \text{Ric}_\omega \wedge \eta.$$

And second variations

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## Theorem 2.3

Let  $u_\tau$  be a weak  $C^{1,1}$  geodesic connecting two points in  $\mathcal{H}(\xi, \bar{J})$ . Then  $\mathcal{M}(u_\tau)$  is subharmonic with respect to  $\tau \in D$ . Thus  $\mathcal{M}(u_t)$ ,  $0 \leq t \leq 1$ ,  $t = \log \tau$ , is convex.

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But the main problem is to show that  $T$  defines a non-negative current on  $M \times D$ , i.e. a Borel measure.

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## Some ideas of the proof

**Bergman kernel** for holomorphic functions on the ball  $B \subset \mathbb{C}^m$  with weight  $\phi$ .

$$\beta_k = \frac{m!}{k^m} K_{k\phi} e^{-k\phi}$$

$$K_{k\phi}(x) = \sup_{s \in H^0(B, K_B)} \frac{s \wedge \bar{s}(x)}{\int_B s \wedge \bar{s} e^{-k\phi}}.$$

$$\beta_k \rightarrow (dd^c \phi)^m \quad \text{in total variation.}$$

Choose local psh  $\Phi$  so that  $dd^c \Phi = \pi^* \omega + dd^c U$ ,  $\phi_\tau = \Phi(\cdot, \tau)$ . Define

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Then  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} T_k = T$ .

(B. Berndtsson 2006) Plurisubharmonic variation of Bergman kernels

$$dd^c \log K_{k\phi_\tau} \geq 0 \quad \text{on } B \times D$$

So

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## Consequences of convexity

For  $\phi_0, \phi_1 \in \mathcal{H}(\xi, \bar{J})$  we have

$$\mathcal{M}(\phi_1) - \mathcal{M}(\phi_0) \geq -d(\phi_1, \phi_0)(\text{Cal}(\phi_0))^{\frac{1}{2}},$$

**Calabi Energy**  $\text{Cal}(\phi) := \int_M (S(\phi) - \bar{S})^2 \omega_\phi^m \wedge \eta.$

### Corollary 2.4

Suppose that  $(\eta_0, \xi, \omega_0^T), (\eta_1, \xi, \omega_1^T) \in \mathcal{S}(\xi, \bar{J})$  are two cscS structures. Then there is a  $a \in \text{Aut}(\mathcal{F}_\xi, \bar{J})$ , diffeomorphisms preserving the transversely holomorphic foliation, so that  $a^* \omega_1^T = \omega_0^T$ .

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where  $\mu$  is a smooth volume form.

# Space of Sasakian structures

Consider a fixed contact structure  $(M, \eta, \xi)$ .

## Definition 3.1

- ▶ A  $(1, 1)$ -tensor field  $\Phi : TM \rightarrow TM$  on a contact manifold  $(M, \eta, \xi)$  is called an *almost contact-complex structure* if

$$\Phi\xi = 0, \quad \Phi^2 = -id + \xi \otimes \eta.$$

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$$N_\Phi(X, Y) := [X, Y] + \Phi([ \Phi X, Y ] + [ X, \Phi Y ]) - [ \Phi X, \Phi Y ] = 0 \quad \text{for all } X, Y \in \Gamma(TM).$$

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## Proposition 3.2

Given a  $K$ -contact complex structure  $\Phi_0$ , the manifold  $\mathcal{K}$  is parameterized by operators  $P : T^{1,0}(\Phi_0) \rightarrow T^{0,1}(\Phi_0)$  satisfying the following:

- (i) After lowering an index  $P^b \in \Gamma(S^2(\Lambda_b^{1,0}))$ , basic symmetric tensors, and
- (ii)  $Id - \bar{P}P > 0$ .

And one has

$$T^{1,0}(\Phi) = \text{Im}(Id - P), \quad T^{0,1}(\Phi) = \text{Im}(Id - \bar{P}),$$

where  $\Phi = \Phi_0(Id + Q)(Id - Q)^{-1}$ ,  $Q = \frac{1}{2}(P + \bar{P})$ .

The subspace  $\mathcal{K}^i \subseteq \mathcal{K}$  of Sasakian structures is the subvariety which in the complex parametrization is given by

$$N(P) = \bar{\partial}_b P + [P, P] = 0.$$

The space  $\mathcal{K}$  of  $K$ -contact metric structures is an infinite dimensional Kähler manifold with Kähler form

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# Moment map

Define  $\mathcal{G}$  to be the group of **strict contactomorphism** of  $(M, \eta, \xi)$ .  $\mathcal{G}$  acts on  $\mathcal{K}$  by holomorphic isometries

$$(g, \Phi) \mapsto g_* \Phi g_*^{-1}.$$

The Lie algebra of  $\mathcal{G}$  is

$$\text{Lie}(\mathcal{G}) = (\{X \in \Gamma(TM) : \mathcal{L}_X \eta = 0\}, [\cdot, \cdot]) \cong (C_b^\infty(M), \{\cdot, \cdot\})$$
$$X \mapsto H_X = \eta(X)$$

**Theorem 3.3** (W. He 2011, S. K. Donaldson 1997)

*The action of  $\mathcal{G}$  on  $\mathcal{K}$  is Hamiltonian with equivariant moment map  $\mu : \mathcal{K} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}^*$*

$$\mu(\Phi) = s^T(\Phi) - s_0^T.$$

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## Slice argument

- ▶ Although, a complexification  $\mathcal{G}^{\mathbb{C}}$  does not exist, the Lie algebra  $\text{Lie}(\mathcal{G}) \otimes \mathbb{C} \cong C_b^\infty(M, \mathbb{C})$  acts on  $\mathcal{K}$ . Complexify  $\mathcal{P}$

$$\mathcal{P} : C_b^\infty(M, \mathbb{C}) \rightarrow \Gamma(T\mathcal{K}).$$

Then  $\Phi(t)$  is in the orbit of  $\mathcal{G}^{\mathbb{C}}$  iff

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- ▶ If  $\Phi \in \mathcal{K}^{int}$  and  $f \in C_b^\infty(M)$ , then  $\sqrt{-1}f$  acts on  $\omega^T$  by

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Thus  $\mathcal{G}^{\mathbb{C}}$  induces a holomorphic foliation on  $\mathcal{K}^{int}$  whose leaves are transversal Kähler classes.

- ▶ Moser's argument shows that the  $\mathcal{G}^{\mathbb{C}}$ -orbit of  $\Phi \in \mathcal{K}^{int}$  is the space of all  $(\eta_\phi, \xi, \Phi_\phi, g_\phi)$  with

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We consider a finite dimensional slice for the action of  $\mathcal{G}^{\mathbb{C}}$  on  $\mathcal{K}$ .

Let  $(M, \eta, \xi, \Phi_0)$  be a cscS structure and  $G = \text{Aut}(M, \eta, \xi, \Phi_0)$ .

We have the transversally elliptic  $\mathcal{B}^*$ :

$$0 \rightarrow C_b^\infty(M, \mathbb{C}) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{P}} T_{\Phi_0} \mathcal{K} \xrightarrow{\bar{\partial}_b} \mathcal{B}^2 \rightarrow \dots \quad (1)$$

$$H^1(\mathcal{B}^*) \cong \ker((\bar{\partial}^* \bar{\partial})^2 + \mathcal{P}\mathcal{P}^*)$$

is the space of first order deformations of  $\Phi_0$  modulo the action of  $\mathcal{G}^{\mathbb{C}}$ .

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# Slice argument

## Proposition 3.4

There exists a  $G$ -equivariant  $C^2$  map  $\hat{S}$  from a neighborhood  $B$  of  $0$  in  $H^1(\mathcal{B}^\bullet)$  to  $\mathcal{K}$  with  $\hat{S}(0) = \Phi_0$ , such that  $\mu \circ \hat{S} = (s^T - s_0^T) \circ \hat{S}$  takes value in  $\text{Lie}(G)$ .

Furthermore, the  $G^{\mathbb{C}}$  orbit of every integrable smooth  $\Phi$  close to  $\Phi_0$  intersects the image of  $\hat{S}$ . If  $x$  and  $x'$  lie in the same  $G^{\mathbb{C}}$  orbit in  $B$  and  $\hat{S}(x) \in \mathcal{K}^i$ , then  $\hat{S}(x)$  and  $\hat{S}(x')$  are in the same  $G^{\mathbb{C}}$  orbit in  $\mathcal{K}$ . Moreover,  $\hat{S}$  is tangent to  $S$  at  $0$  to first order.

This idea has been used by [S. Donaldson](#), [G. Székelyhidi](#), [T. Brönnle](#) but there are technical difficulties in applying the implicit function theorem, therefore only  $C^2$  regularity is proved.

## Proposition 3.5

Suppose that  $x \in U$ , after possibly shrinking  $U$ , is polystable for the  $G^{\mathbb{C}}$ -action on  $H^1(\mathcal{B}^\bullet)$ . Then there is  $y$  in the  $G^{\mathbb{C}}$ -orbit of  $x$  such that  $s^T(\hat{S}(y)) - s_0^T = 0$ . If in addition  $\hat{S}(x)$  is integrable, then the corresponding cscS manifold  $(M, \eta, \hat{S}(y))$  is in  $\mathcal{S}(M, \xi, \hat{S}(x))$ .

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# Consequences

## Theorem 3.6

*Let  $(M, \eta, \xi, \Phi_0)$  be a cscS manifold and  $(M, \eta, \xi, \Phi)$  a nearby Sasakian manifold with transverse complex structure  $\bar{J}$ . Then if  $(M, \eta, \xi, \Phi)$  is  $K$ -polystable, there is a constant scalar curvature Sasakian structure in the space  $\mathcal{S}(\xi, \bar{J})$ , unique up to automorphisms.*

## Theorem 3.7

*Let  $(M, \eta, \xi, \Phi_0)$  be a cscS manifold. Then any small deformation  $(M, \eta, \xi, \Phi)$  which is Sasakian is  $K$ -semistable.*

## Proof.

For any test configuration of  $(Y, \xi)$  we have

$$\inf_{g \in \mathcal{S}(\xi, \bar{J})} (\text{Cal}(g))^{\frac{1}{2}} \|v\|_{\xi} \geq c(n) \text{Fut}(Y_0, \xi, v). \quad (2)$$

Slice argument shows that unstable orbits are adjacent to cscS structures. □

The next result was proved by [V. Tosatti 2010](#) in the Kähler case.

## Theorem 3.8

*Let  $(M, \eta, \xi, \Phi_0)$  be a cscS manifold. Then any small deformation  $(M, \eta, \xi, \Phi)$  which is Sasakian has  $K$ -energy bounded below. The lower bound is given  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \mathcal{M}(\phi_t)$  where  $\omega + dd^c \phi_t$  approaches an adjacent cscS structure.*



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## Further work

- ▶ One should be able to prove that the non-polystable orbits do not admit csc Sasakian structures.  
This is proved in Kähler case by [X. Chen and S. Sun 2010](#) using the Calabi flow.
- ▶ Then the space of csc Sasakian structures compatible with  $(\eta, \xi)$  is a complex space with a singular Kähler structure.

*Thank you*