

CR AND SASAKIAN GEOMETRY
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The foliated structure
of contact metric (κ, μ) -spaces

Preliminaries on Contact geometry

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Remark

(1) implies that the **contact distribution** $\mathcal{D} := \ker(\eta)$ can not be integrable. In fact the maximal dimension of an integrable subbundle of \mathcal{D} is n .

Legendre foliations

Let (M^{2n+1}, η) be a contact manifold. Then a distribution L on M^{2n+1} is said a **Legendre distribution** if

- $\dim(L) = n$
- $L_x \subset \mathcal{D}_x$ for all $x \in M$
- $d\eta(X, X') = 0$ for all $X, X' \in \Gamma(L)$

A **Legendre foliation** of (M^{2n+1}, η) is an n -dimensional foliation \mathcal{F} on M^{2n+1} such that $L := T\mathcal{F}$ is a Legendre distribution.

The theory of Legendre foliations was developed by Pang, Libermann et al. in '90s

- M.Y. Pang, *The structure of Legendre foliations*, Trans. Amer. Math. Soc. 1990
- P. Libermann, *Legendre foliations on contact manifolds*, Different. Geom. Appl. 1991

Legendre foliations

A **bi-Legendrian manifold** is a contact manifold (M, η) foliated by two transversal Legendre foliations \mathcal{F}_1 and \mathcal{F}_2 , so that

$$TM = T\mathcal{F}_1 \oplus T\mathcal{F}_2 \oplus \mathbb{R}\xi$$

$(\mathcal{F}_1, \mathcal{F}_2)$ is called a **bi-Legendrian structure** on (M, η) .

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Theorem (C. M., 2005)

Let $(M, \eta, \mathcal{F}_1, \mathcal{F}_2)$ be a bi-Legendrian manifold. There exists a unique connection ∇^{bl} , called the **bi-Legendrian connection** associated to $(\mathcal{F}_1, \mathcal{F}_2)$, such that

- (i) $\nabla^{bl}\mathcal{F}_1 \subset \mathcal{F}_1, \nabla^{bl}\mathcal{F}_2 \subset \mathcal{F}_2, \nabla^{bl}(\mathbb{R}\xi) \subset \mathbb{R}\xi$
- (ii) $\nabla^{bl}\eta = 0, \nabla^{bl}d\eta = 0$
- (iii) $T^{bl}(X, Y) = 2d\eta(X, Y)\xi$ for all $X \in \Gamma(T\mathcal{F}_1), Y \in \Gamma(T\mathcal{F}_2)$
 $T^{bl}(Z, \xi) = [\xi, Z_{\mathcal{F}_1}]_{\mathcal{F}_2} + [\xi, Z_{\mathcal{F}_2}]_{\mathcal{F}_1}$ for all $Z \in \Gamma(TM)$.

Contact Riemannian Manifolds

Let (M, η) be a contact manifold. A Riemannian metric g on M is called an **associated metric** if the following two conditions hold:

- (i) $g(X, \xi) = \eta(X)$ for all $X \in \Gamma(TM)$, that is ξ is orthogonal to \mathcal{D} and has unit length,
- (ii) there exists a $(1,1)$ -tensor φ such that

$$\varphi^2 = -I + \eta \otimes \xi$$

and

$$d\eta(X, Y) = g(X, \varphi Y)$$

We refer to (φ, ξ, η, g) as a **contact metric structure** and to $(M, \varphi, \xi, \eta, g)$ as a **contact metric manifold**.

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

Contact metric (κ, μ) -spaces

A **contact metric (κ, μ) -space** is a contact metric manifold $(M, \varphi, \xi, \eta, g)$ such that

$$R^g(X, Y)\xi = \kappa(\eta(Y)X - \eta(X)Y) + \mu(\eta(Y)hX - \eta(X)hY), \quad (*)$$

for some $\kappa, \mu \in \mathbb{R}$, where

$$h := \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{L}_\xi\varphi.$$

$(*)$ is called “ (κ, μ) -nullity condition”. If in $(*)$ $\kappa = 1$, then $h \equiv 0$ and the manifold is Sasakian.

D.E. Blair, T. Koufogiorgos, B.J. Papantoniou, *Contact metric manifolds satisfying a nullity condition*, Israel J. Math. 1995

Motivations

1. The condition

$$R^g(X, Y)\xi = \kappa(\eta(Y)X - \eta(X)Y) + \mu(\eta(Y)hX - \eta(X)hY)$$

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$$\begin{aligned} R^g(X, Y)Z &= (1 - \mu/2)(g(Y, Z)X - g(X, Z)Y) \\ &+ \frac{1 - \mu/2}{1 - \kappa}(g(hY, Z)hX - g(hX, Z)hY) \\ &+ g(Y, Z)hX - g(X, Z)hY - g(hX, Z)Y + g(hY, Z)X \\ &- \mu/2(g(\varphi Y, Z)\varphi X - g(\varphi X, Z)\varphi Y) \\ &+ \frac{\kappa - \mu/2}{1 - \kappa}(g(\varphi hY, Z)\varphi hX - g(\varphi hX, Z)\varphi hY) \\ &+ \eta(X)((\kappa - 1 + \mu/2)g(Y, Z) + (\mu - 1)g(hY, Z))\xi \\ &- \eta(Y)((\kappa - 1 + \mu/2)g(X, Z) + (\mu - 1)g(hX, Z))\xi \\ &- \eta(X)\eta(Z)((\kappa - 1 + \mu/2)Y + (\mu - 1)hY) + \mu g(\varphi X, Y)\varphi Z \\ &+ \eta(Y)\eta(Z)((\kappa - 1 + \mu/2)X + (\mu - 1)hX). \end{aligned}$$

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3. In the non-Sasakian case ($\kappa \neq 1$) the contact metric structure is not “projectable”. Thus contact metric (κ, μ) -spaces have no analogues in even dimension.

4. A complete classification is known, based on the invariant

$$I_M := \frac{1 - \mu / 2}{\sqrt{1 - \kappa}}$$

E. Boeckx, *A full classification of contact (κ, μ) -spaces*, Illinois J. Math. 2000

The bi-Legendrian structure of a contact (κ, μ) -space

Theorem (Blair, Koufogiorgos, Papantoniou)

Let $(M, \varphi, \xi, \eta, g)$ be a contact metric (κ, μ) -space. Then $\kappa \leq 1$ and $\kappa = 1$ if and only if $(M, \varphi, \xi, \eta, g)$ is Sasakian. Furthermore, in the case $\kappa < 1$, the operator h admits 3 eigenvalues $\lambda, -\lambda, 0$ and the tangent bundle of M splits as the orthogonal sum

$$TM = \mathcal{D}(\lambda) \oplus \mathcal{D}(-\lambda) \oplus \mathcal{D}(0),$$

where

$$\lambda = \sqrt{1 - \kappa}$$

and

$\mathcal{D}(\lambda), \mathcal{D}(-\lambda), \mathcal{D}(0)$ are the eigendistributions corresponding to the eigenvalues $\lambda, -\lambda, 0$, respectively.

The bi-Legendrian structure of a contact (κ, μ) -space

Remarks

1. $\mathcal{D}(0) = \mathbb{R}\xi$
2. $\mathcal{D}(\lambda)$ and $\mathcal{D}(-\lambda)$ are integrable distributions
3. $\dim(\mathcal{D}(\lambda)) = \dim(\mathcal{D}(-\lambda)) = n$
4. For all $X, X' \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D}(\lambda))$ and for all $Y, Y' \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D}(-\lambda))$

$$d\eta(X, X') = 0, \quad d\eta(Y, Y') = 0.$$

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Hence $\mathcal{D}(\lambda)$ and $\mathcal{D}(-\lambda)$ define two transversal (orthogonal) **Legendre foliations** on M .

Consequently,

Any contact metric (κ, μ) -space is a "bi-Legendrian manifold"

Contact (κ, μ) -spaces as bi-Legendrian manifolds

Theorem (C.M. - Di Terlizzi, 2008)

A non-Sasakian contact metric manifold $(M, \varphi, \xi, \eta, g)$ is a contact metric (κ, μ) -space if and only if it admits

- ▶ two mutually orthogonal Legendre distributions L_1 and L_2
- ▶ a (unique) linear connection ∇

satisfying the following properties:

- (i) $\nabla L_1 \subset L_1, \nabla L_2 \subset L_2,$
- (ii) $\nabla \eta = 0, \nabla d\eta = 0, \nabla g = 0, \nabla \varphi = 0, \nabla h = 0,$
- (iii) $T(X, Y) = 2d\eta(X, Y)\xi$ for all $X \in \Gamma(L_1), Y \in \Gamma(L_2)$
 $T(Z, \xi) = [\xi, Z_{L_1}]_{L_2} + [\xi, Z_{L_2}]_{L_1}$ for all $Z \in \Gamma(TM).$

Furthermore, L_1 and L_2 are integrable and coincide with the eigen-distributions of h , and ∇ coincides with the bi-Legendrian connection ∇^{bl} associated to $(L_1, L_2).$

Contact (κ, μ) -spaces as bi-Legendrian manifolds

Corollary (C.M. - Di Terlizzi - Tripathi, 2008)

Every invariant submanifold of a non-Sasakian contact metric (κ, μ) -space is totally geodesic.

A submanifold M' of a contact metric manifold $(M, \varphi, \xi, \eta, g)$ is said to be *invariant* if $\varphi(T_x M') \subset T_x M'$.

Remark

The same result does not hold, in general, for Sasakian manifolds, for which one has the following well-known result:

An invariant submanifold of a Sasakian manifold is totally geodesic *provided that the second fundamental form of the immersion is covariantly constant* (Kon, 1973).

Classification of contact metric (κ, μ) -spaces

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Pang provided a classification of Legendre foliations based on the bilinear symmetric form

$$\Pi_{\mathcal{F}}(X, X') := -(\mathcal{L}_X \mathcal{L}_{X'} \eta)(\xi).$$

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A Legendre foliation \mathcal{F} is called

- **flat** is $\Pi_{\mathcal{F}} \equiv 0$ or, equivalently, $[\xi, X] \in \Gamma(T\mathcal{F})$ for all $X \in \Gamma(T\mathcal{F})$
- **degenerate** if $\Pi_{\mathcal{F}}$ is degenerate
- **non-degenerate** if $\Pi_{\mathcal{F}}$ is non-degenerate
- **positive (negative) definite** if $\Pi_{\mathcal{F}}$ is positive (negative) definite

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When \mathcal{F} is non-degenerate, Libermann defined $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}} : TM \rightarrow T\mathcal{F}$ such that

$$\Pi_{\mathcal{F}}(\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}} Z, X) = d\eta(Z, X)$$

for all $Z \in \Gamma(TM)$, $X \in \Gamma(T\mathcal{F})$. Then we extend $\Pi_{\mathcal{F}}$ to a symmetric bilinear form on TM by setting

$$\bar{\Pi}_{\mathcal{F}} := \begin{cases} \Pi_{\mathcal{F}}(Z, Z') & \text{if } Z, Z' \in \Gamma(T\mathcal{F}) \\ \Pi_{\mathcal{F}}(\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}} Z, \Lambda_{\mathcal{F}} Z') & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Classification of contact metric (κ, μ) -spaces

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Theorem (C.M. - Di Terlizzi, 2008)

For the canonical bi-Legendrian structure $(\mathcal{D}(\lambda), \mathcal{D}(-\lambda))$ of a contact metric (κ, μ) -space one has

$$\begin{aligned}\Pi_{\mathcal{D}(\lambda)} &= (2\sqrt{1-\kappa} - \mu + 2)g|_{\mathcal{D}(\lambda) \times \mathcal{D}(\lambda)} \\ \Pi_{\mathcal{D}(-\lambda)} &= (-2\sqrt{1-\kappa} - \mu + 2)g|_{\mathcal{D}(-\lambda) \times \mathcal{D}(-\lambda)}\end{aligned}$$

Hence $\nabla \Pi_{\mathcal{D}(\lambda)} = \nabla \Pi_{\mathcal{D}(-\lambda)} = 0$, and only one among the following cases occurs:

(I)	Both $\mathcal{D}(\lambda)$ and $\mathcal{D}(-\lambda)$ are positive definite	$I_M > 1$
(II)	$\mathcal{D}(\lambda)$ is positive def. and $\mathcal{D}(-\lambda)$ is negative def.	$-1 < I_M < 1$
(III)	Both $\mathcal{D}(\lambda)$ and $\mathcal{D}(-\lambda)$ are negative definite	$I_M < -1$
(IV)	$\mathcal{D}(\lambda)$ is positive definite and $\mathcal{D}(-\lambda)$ is flat	$I_M = 1$
(V)	$\mathcal{D}(\lambda)$ is flat and $\mathcal{D}(-\lambda)$ is negative definite	$I_M = -1$

Existence of contact metric (κ, μ) -structures

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Question

Let (M, η) be a contact manifold. Does M admit a contact metric (κ, μ) -structure compatible with η ?

Which assumptions ensure the existence of a compatible contact metric (κ, μ) -structure?

Existence of contact metric (κ, μ) -structures

Theorem (C.M.)

Let (M, η) be a contact manifold endowed with a bi-Legendrian structure $(\mathcal{F}_1, \mathcal{F}_2)$ such that $\nabla^{bl}\Pi_{\mathcal{F}_1} = \nabla^{bl}\Pi_{\mathcal{F}_2} = 0$. Assume that one of the following conditions holds:

- (I) \mathcal{F}_1 and \mathcal{F}_2 are positive definite and there exist $a, b > 0$ such that $\bar{\Pi}_{\mathcal{F}_1} = ab\bar{\Pi}_{\mathcal{F}_2}$ on $T\mathcal{F}_1$ and $\bar{\Pi}_{\mathcal{F}_2} = ab\bar{\Pi}_{\mathcal{F}_1}$ on $T\mathcal{F}_2$;
- (II) \mathcal{F}_1 is positive definite, \mathcal{F}_2 negative definite and there exist $a > 0$, $b < 0$ such that $\bar{\Pi}_{\mathcal{F}_1} = ab\bar{\Pi}_{\mathcal{F}_2}$ on $T\mathcal{F}_1$ and $\bar{\Pi}_{\mathcal{F}_2} = ab\bar{\Pi}_{\mathcal{F}_1}$ on $T\mathcal{F}_2$;
- (III) \mathcal{F}_1 and \mathcal{F}_2 are negative definite and there exist $a, b < 0$ such that $\bar{\Pi}_{\mathcal{F}_1} = ab\bar{\Pi}_{\mathcal{F}_2}$ on $T\mathcal{F}_1$ and $\bar{\Pi}_{\mathcal{F}_2} = ab\bar{\Pi}_{\mathcal{F}_1}$ on $T\mathcal{F}_2$.

Then (M, η) admits a compatible contact metric structure (φ, ξ, η, g) such that

- (i) if $a = b$ then $(M, \varphi, \xi, \eta, g)$ is Sasakian,
- (ii) if $a \neq b$ then $(M, \varphi, \xi, \eta, g)$ is a contact metric (κ, μ) -space with

$$\kappa = 1 - \frac{1}{16}(a - b)^2, \quad \mu = 2 - \frac{1}{2}(a + b).$$

Existence of contact metric (κ, μ) -structures

Theorem (C.M.)

Let (M, η) be a contact manifold endowed with a bi-Legendrian structure $(\mathcal{F}_1, \mathcal{F}_2)$. Assume that one of the following conditions holds:

- (IV) \mathcal{F}_1 is positive definite, $\nabla^{bl} \Pi_{\mathcal{F}_1} = 0$ and \mathcal{F}_2 is flat;
- (V) \mathcal{F}_1 is flat, \mathcal{F}_2 is negative definite and $\nabla^{bl} \Pi_{\mathcal{F}_2} = 0$.

Then

- for each $0 < c \leq 4$ in the case (IV)
- for each $-4 \leq c < 0$ in the case (V)

(M, η) admits a compatible contact metric (κ, μ) -structure, where

$$\kappa = 1 - c^2/16, \quad \mu = 2(1 - c/4).$$

Existence of contact metric (κ, μ) -structures

Corollary 1

Any contact metric (κ, μ) -space such that $|I_M| > 1$ admits a compatible Sasakian structure.

Consequently the Betti numbers b_i , $1 \leq i \leq 2n$, of a compact contact metric (κ, μ) -space with $|I_M| > 1$ are even.

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Corollary 2

Any contact metric (κ, μ) -space such that $|I_M| < 1$ admits a compatible Tanaka-Webster parallel structure.

A [Tanaka-Webster parallel structure](#) is a contact metric structure (φ, ξ, η, g) such that the Tanaka-Webster connection $\hat{\nabla}$ satisfies

$$\hat{\nabla} \hat{T} = 0, \quad \hat{\nabla} \hat{R} = 0.$$

E. Boeckx, J.T. Cho, *Pseudo-Hermitian symmetries*, Israel J. Math. 2008

Contact (κ, μ) -spaces and paracontact geometry

Let (M, η) be a contact manifold. Then if there exist

- a $(1,1)$ -tensor $\bar{\varphi}$
- a semi-Riemannian metric \bar{g}

such that

- ▶ $\bar{\varphi}^2 = I - \eta \otimes \xi,$
- ▶ $\bar{g}(\bar{\varphi}X, \bar{\varphi}Y) = -\bar{g}(X, Y) + \eta(X)\eta(Y), \quad d\eta(X, Y) = \bar{g}(X, \bar{\varphi}Y),$
- ▶ $\bar{\varphi}$ induces an almost paracomplex structure on $\mathcal{D} = \ker(\eta),$

An almost paracomplex structure on a $2n$ -dim. manifold is a $(1,1)$ tensor $J \neq I$ such that

$$J^2 = I, \quad \dim(T^+) = n = \dim(T^-),$$

where T^+, T^- are the eigendistributions corresponding to 1 and -1

we say that $(\bar{\varphi}, \xi, \eta, \bar{g})$ is a **paracontact metric structure**.

Contact (κ, μ) -spaces and paracontact geometry

A paracontact metric structure is called:

- **integrable** if, for each $X, Y \in \Gamma(\mathcal{D})$, $N_{\bar{\varphi}}(X, Y) \in \Gamma(\mathbb{R}\xi)$, where
$$N_{\bar{\varphi}}(X, Y) := \bar{\varphi}^2[X, Y] + [\bar{\varphi}X, \bar{\varphi}Y] - \bar{\varphi}[\bar{\varphi}X, Y] - \bar{\varphi}[X, \bar{\varphi}Y] - 2d\eta(X, Y)\xi$$
- **K-paracontact** if ξ is Killing (or, equivalently, the tensor field $\bar{h} := \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{L}_{\xi}\bar{\varphi}$ vanishes identically)
- **para-Sasakian manifolds** if $N_{\bar{\varphi}} \equiv 0$.

para-Sasakian \Rightarrow K-paracontact

Contact (κ, μ) -spaces and paracontact geometry

Theorem (Zamkovoy, Ann. Glob. Anal. Geom. 2009)

On a paracontact metric manifold there exists a unique connection ∇^{pc} , called **canonical paracontact connection**, satisfying the following conditions:

- (i) $\nabla^{pc}\eta = 0, \nabla^{pc}\xi = 0, \nabla^{pc}\bar{g} = 0,$
- (ii) $(\nabla_X^{pc}\bar{\varphi})Y = (\nabla_X^{\bar{g}}\bar{\varphi})Y - \eta(Y)(X - \bar{h}X) + \bar{g}(X - \bar{h}X, Y)\xi,$
- (iii) $T^{pc}(\xi, \bar{\varphi}Y) = -\bar{\varphi}T^{pc}(\xi, Y),$
- (iv) $T^{pc}(X, Y) = 2d\eta(X, Y)\xi$ on $\mathcal{D} = \ker(\eta).$

Moreover, the paracontact metric manifold is integrable if and only if $\nabla^{pc}\bar{\varphi} = 0.$

Contact (κ, μ) -spaces and paracontact geometry

What is the link between paracontact geometry and the theory of contact metric (κ, μ) -spaces?

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Theorem (C.M. 2009)

There is a biunivocal correspondence

$$\Psi : \{\text{almost bi-Legendrian str.}\} \rightarrow \{\text{paracontact metric str.}\}$$

between almost bi-Legendrian structures and paracontact metric structures on the same contact manifold (M, η) .

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Theorem (C.M. 2009)

There is a biunivocal correspondence

$$\Psi : \{\text{almost bi-Legendrian str.}\} \rightarrow \{\text{paracontact metric str.}\}$$

between almost bi-Legendrian structures and paracontact metric structures on the same contact manifold (M, η) .

$$\Psi(\{\text{flat almost bi-Legendrian str.}\}) = \{\text{K-paracontact str.}\}$$

$$\Psi(\{\text{bi-Legendrian str.}\}) = \{\text{integrable paracontact metric str.}\}$$

$$\Psi(\{\text{flat bi-Legendrian str.}\}) = \{\text{para-Sasakian str.}\}$$

Moreover,

$$\nabla^{bl} = \nabla^{pc}.$$

Contact (κ, μ) -spaces and paracontact geometry

Let $(M, \varphi, \xi, \eta, g)$ be a contact metric (κ, μ) -space and $(\mathcal{D}(\lambda), \mathcal{D}(-\lambda))$ the bi-Legendrian structure associated to $(M, \varphi, \xi, \eta, g)$.

Then $\Psi(\mathcal{D}(\lambda), \mathcal{D}(-\lambda))$ is called the **canonical paracontact metric structure** associated to $(M, \varphi, \xi, \eta, g)$.

Question

$$\Psi(\mathcal{D}(\lambda), \mathcal{D}(-\lambda)) = \text{????}$$

Contact (κ, μ) -spaces and paracontact geometry

Theorem (C.M. - Di Terlizzi)

Let $(M, \varphi, \xi, \eta, g)$ be a non-Sasakian contact metric (κ, μ) -space.

Then the canonical paracontact metric structure associated to $(M, \varphi, \xi, \eta, g)$ is given by

$$\bar{\varphi} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{1-\kappa}} \mathcal{L}_\xi \varphi, \quad \bar{g} = d\eta(\cdot, \bar{\varphi}) + \eta \otimes \eta$$

Moreover, $(\bar{\varphi}, \xi, \eta, \bar{g})$ satisfies a " $(\bar{\kappa}, \bar{\mu})$ -nullity condition"

$$R^{\bar{g}}(X, Y)\xi = \bar{\kappa}(\eta(Y)X - \eta(X)Y) + \bar{\mu}(\eta(Y)\bar{h}X - \eta(X)\bar{h}Y)$$

where

$$\bar{\kappa} = \kappa - 2 + (1 - \mu/2)^2, \quad \bar{\mu} = 2.$$

Furthermore

Contact (κ, μ) -spaces and paracontact geometry

.... the canonical paracontact structure $(\bar{\varphi}, \xi, \eta, \bar{g})$ induces on (M, η)

- If $|I_M| < 1$ a (new) contact metric (κ_1, μ_1) -structure $(\varphi_1, \xi, \eta, g_1)$

$$\varphi_1 = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{1 - \kappa - (1 - \mu/2)^2}} \mathcal{L}_\xi \bar{\varphi}, \quad g_1 = -d\eta(\cdot, \varphi_1) + \eta \otimes \eta,$$

with

$$\kappa_1 = \kappa + (1 - \mu/2)^2, \quad \mu_1 = 2.$$

Contact (κ, μ) -spaces and paracontact geometry

.... the canonical paracontact structure $(\bar{\varphi}, \xi, \eta, \bar{g})$ induces on (M, η)

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with

$$\kappa_1 = \kappa + (1 - \mu/2)^2, \quad \mu_1 = 2.$$

- If $|I_M| > 1$ a (new) paracontact metric structure $(\varphi_1, \xi, \eta, g_1)$

$$\varphi_1 = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{(1 - \mu/2)^2 - (1 - \kappa)}} \mathcal{L}_\xi \bar{\varphi}, \quad g_1 = d\eta(\cdot, \varphi_1) + \eta \otimes \eta,$$

satisfying a (κ_1, μ_1) -nullity condition with

$$\kappa_1 = \kappa - 2 + (1 - \mu/2)^2, \quad \mu_1 = 2.$$

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