

# ON SPECIAL WEAKLY RICCI SYMMETRIC, RICCI BI-SYMMETRIC AND $R$ -HARMONIC QUASI-EINSTEIN MANIFOLDS

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**Abstract:** In this paper, we have studied some geometric properties of special weakly Ricci symmetric quasi-Einstein manifold, special weakly Ricci bi-symmetric quasi-Einstein manifold and  $R$ -harmonic quasi-Einstein manifold.

## 1. Introduction

A non-flat Riemannian manifold  $(M^n, g)$  ( $n \geq 3$ ) is called quasi-Einstein manifold [5] if its Ricci tensor  $S$  of type  $(0, 2)$  is not identically zero and satisfies the condition

$$(1.1) \quad S(X, Y) = ag(X, Y) + b\eta(X)\eta(Y)$$

where  $a, b$  are scalars of which  $b \neq 0$  and  $\eta$  is a nonzero 1-form such that

$$(1.2) \quad g(X, \xi) = \eta(X) \quad \forall X,$$

and  $\xi$  is a unit vector field. In such a case  $a, b$  are called the associated scalars,  $\eta$  is called the associated 1-form and  $\xi$  is called the generator of

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the manifold. Such an  $n$ -dimensional manifold is denoted by the symbol  $(QE)_n$ .

In [1], [6], [7] and [4], the authors studied quasi-Einstein manifolds and gave some examples of quasi-Einstein manifold. Quasi-Einstein manifolds arose during the study of exact solutions of the Einstein field equations as well as during considerations of quasi-umbilical hypersurfaces of semi-Euclidean spaces. For instance the Robertson–Walker spacetime are quasi-Einstein manifolds [9].

As a generalization of Chaki's pseudosymmetric and pseudo Ricci symmetric manifolds (see [2] and [3]), the notion of weakly symmetric and weakly Ricci symmetric manifolds were introduced by L. Tamássy and T. Q. Binh (see [15] and [16]). These type of manifolds were studied with different structures by many authors (see [8], [11] and [12]). The notion of special weakly Ricci symmetric manifold was introduced and studied by Singh and Khan in [13].

An  $n$ -dimensional Riemannian manifold  $(M^n, g)$  ( $n > 2$ ) is called a special weakly Ricci-symmetric manifold  $(SWRS)_n$  (see [13]) if the Ricci tensor  $S$  satisfies the condition

$$(1.3) \quad (\nabla_X S)(Y, Z) = 2\alpha(X)S(Y, Z) + \alpha(Y)S(X, Z) + \alpha(Z)S(Y, X),$$

for any vector fields  $X, Y, Z$  on  $M^n$ , where  $\alpha$  is 1-form and is defined by

$$(1.4) \quad \alpha(X) = g(X, \rho),$$

where  $\rho$  is a associated vector field and  $\nabla$  is the Levi-Civita connection of  $M^n$ .

Also the notion of special weakly Ricci bi-symmetric manifold was introduced by Singh and Sinha [14]. An  $n$ -dimensional Riemannian manifold  $(M^n, g)$  ( $n > 2$ ) is said to be a special weakly Ricci bi-symmetric manifold  $(SWRBS)_n$  (see [14]) if it satisfies the condition

$$(1.5) \quad (\nabla_W \nabla_X S)(Y, Z) = 2\beta(W, X)S(Y, Z) + \beta(W, Y)S(X, Z) + \beta(W, Z)S(Y, X),$$

where  $\beta$  is a 2-form and is defined as

$$(1.6) \quad \beta(W, X) = g((W, X), T),$$

where  $T$  is a vector field.

A non-flat Riemannian manifold  $(M^n, g)$  ( $n > 2$ ) is said to be a  $R$ -harmonic manifold (see [10]) if its Ricci tensor  $S$  satisfies the condition

$$(1.7) \quad (\nabla_X S)(Y, Z) = (\nabla_Z S)(X, Y),$$

for all vector fields  $X, Y, Z$  on  $M^n$ .

Motivated by the above studies, in this study we consider special weakly Ricci symmetric quasi-Einstein manifold, special weakly Ricci bi-symmetric quasi-Einstein manifold and  $R$ -harmonic quasi-Einstein manifold. The paper is organized as follows: First, it is shown that if a special weakly Ricci symmetric quasi-Einstein manifold admits a cyclic parallel Ricci tensor with  $a + b \neq 0$  then the 1-form  $\alpha$  must vanish. Next, it is proved that if in such a manifold the generator is a parallel vector field then the scalar function  $a$  of such a manifold is constant along the generator. Also, the condition under which the generator of such a manifold is parallel is enquired. Moreover a special weakly Ricci bi-symmetric quasi-Einstein manifold has been studied. Further some interesting properties regarding  $R$ -harmonic quasi-Einstein manifold are obtained.

## 2. Preliminaries

We consider a  $(QE)_n$  with associated scalars  $a, b$ , associated 1-form  $\eta$  and generator  $\xi$ . Since  $\xi$  is a unit vector field,

$$(2.1) \quad g(\xi, \xi) = 1 \quad \text{i.e.} \quad \eta(\xi) = 1.$$

Contracting (1.1) over  $X$  and  $Y$  we get

$$(2.2) \quad r = na + b,$$

where  $r$  denotes the scalar curvature of the manifold. Putting  $Y = \xi$  in (1.1) we have

$$(2.3) \quad S(X, \xi) = (a + b)\eta(X).$$

Putting  $X = Y = \xi$  in (1.1), we have

$$(2.4) \quad S(\xi, \xi) = (a + b).$$

Let  $L$  be the symmetric endomorphism of the tangent space at each point corresponding to the Ricci tensor  $S$ . Then

$$(2.5) \quad g(LX, Y) = S(X, Y) \quad \forall X, Y.$$

Also,

$$(2.6) \quad L\xi = (a + b)\xi.$$

These results will be used in the sequel.

### 3. On special weakly Ricci symmetric quasi-Einstein manifolds

In this section we consider a special weakly Ricci symmetric quasi-Einstein manifold  $M^n$ , i.e. equations (1.1), (1.2), (1.3) and (1.4) are satisfied in  $M^n$ . Taking cyclic sum in (1.3), we get

$$(3.1) \quad (\nabla_X S)(Y, Z) + (\nabla_Y S)(Z, X) + (\nabla_Z S)(Y, X) \\ = 4[\alpha(X)S(Y, Z) + \alpha(Y)S(X, Z) + \alpha(Z)S(X, Y)].$$

Let  $M^n$  admit a cyclic parallel Ricci tensor. Then (3.1) reduces to

$$(3.2) \quad \alpha(X)S(Y, Z) + \alpha(Y)S(X, Z) + \alpha(Z)S(X, Y) = 0.$$

Taking  $Z = \xi$  in (3.2) and using (2.3), (1.4) and (1.2) we have

$$(3.3) \quad (a + b)\alpha(X)\eta(Y) + (a + b)\alpha(Y)\eta(X) + \eta(\rho)S(Y, X) = 0.$$

Now putting  $Y = \xi$  in (3.3) and using (2.1), (2.3) and (1.4) we get

$$(3.4) \quad (a + b)\alpha(X) + (a + b)\eta(\rho)\eta(X) + (a + b)\eta(\rho)\eta(X) = 0.$$

Taking  $X = \xi$  in (3.4) and using (2.1) and (1.4) we obtain

$$(3.5) \quad (a + b)\eta(\rho) = 0,$$

which implies  $\eta(\rho) = 0$  provided  $(a + b) \neq 0$ . Using  $\eta(\rho) = 0$  in (3.4) we have

$$(3.6) \quad \alpha(X) = 0, \quad \text{since} \quad (a + b) \neq 0$$

for any vector fields  $X$  on  $M^n$ . Hence we can state the following theorem:

**Theorem 1.** *If a special weakly Ricci symmetric quasi-Einstein manifold admits a cyclic parallel Ricci tensor with  $a + b \neq 0$  then the 1-form  $\alpha$  must vanish.*

Next we suppose that the vector field  $\xi$  is parallel in  $M^n$ . Then  $\nabla_X \xi = 0$ , which implies  $R(X, Y)\xi = 0$ . Hence contracting this equation with respect to  $Y$  we obtain  $S(X, \xi) = 0$ . So from (2.3) we have  $a + b = 0$ , which implies  $a = -b$ .

Then equation (1.1) becomes

$$(3.7) \quad S(X, Y) = a[g(X, Y) - \eta(X)\eta(Y)],$$

which implies that

$$(3.8) \quad \begin{aligned} (\nabla_X S)(Y, Z) &= X[a][g(Y, Z) - \eta(Y)\eta(Z)] \\ &\quad - a[(\nabla_X \eta)(Y)\eta(Z) + \eta(Y)(\nabla_X \eta)(Z)], \end{aligned}$$

where  $X[a]$  denotes the derivative of  $a$  with respect to the vector field  $X$ . Since  $\xi$  is a parallel vector field,  $(\nabla_X \eta)(Y) = 0 \quad \forall X, Y, Z$ . Therefore equation (3.8) becomes

$$(3.9) \quad (\nabla_X S)(Y, Z) = X[a][g(Y, Z) - \eta(Y)\eta(Z)].$$

Since  $M^n$  is special weakly Ricci symmetric, by the use of (1.3) and (3.9), we can write

$$(3.10) \quad X[a][g(Y, Z) - \eta(Y)\eta(Z)] = 2\alpha(X)S(Y, Z) + \alpha(Y)S(X, Z) + \alpha(Z)S(Y, X).$$

Putting  $X = \xi$  in (3.10) and using (3.7), we have

$$(3.11) \quad \xi[a] = 2a\alpha(\xi).$$

Taking  $Z = \xi$  in (3.10) and using (3.7), we get

$$(3.12) \quad \alpha(\xi) = 0.$$

So, in view of (3.11) and (3.12) we have  $\xi[a] = 0$ , which implies  $a$  is constant along the vector field  $\xi$ . Hence we can state the following theorem:

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $M^n$  be a special weakly Ricci symmetric quasi-Einstein manifold under the condition that  $\xi$  is a parallel vector field. Then the scalar function  $a$  is constant along the vector field  $\xi$ .*

Now we assume that the associated scalars  $a$  and  $b$  are constants in  $M^n$ . Then for a  $(QE)_n$ , we have from (1.1),

$$(3.13) \quad (\nabla_X S)(Y, Z) = b[(\nabla_X \eta)(Y)\eta(Z) + (\nabla_X \eta)(Z)\eta(Y)].$$

From (1.3) and (3.13) we have,

$$(3.14) \quad \begin{aligned} 2\alpha(X)S(Y, Z) + \alpha(Y)S(X, Z) + \alpha(Z)S(Y, X) \\ = b[(\nabla_X \eta)(Y)\eta(Z) + (\nabla_X \eta)(Z)\eta(Y)]. \end{aligned}$$

Putting  $Z = \xi$  in (3.14) and using (2.3) we get,

$$(3.15) \quad 2(a+b)\alpha(X)\eta(Y) + (a+b)\alpha(Y)\eta(X) + \alpha(\xi)S(Y, X) = b(\nabla_X \eta)(Y).$$

Taking  $Y = \xi$  in (3.15) and using (2.3) we obtain,

$$(3.16) \quad (a+b)\alpha(X) + (a+b)\alpha(\xi)\eta(X) = 0.$$

Putting  $X = \xi$  in (3.15) we have

$$(3.17) \quad 2(a+b)\alpha(\xi)\eta(Y) + (a+b)\alpha(Y) + (a+b)\alpha(\xi)\eta(Y) = b(\nabla_\xi \eta)(Y).$$

Replacing  $Y$  with  $X$  in (3.17), we have

$$(3.18) \quad 3(a+b)\alpha(\xi)\eta(X) + (a+b)\alpha(X) = b(\nabla_\xi \eta)(X).$$

Adding (3.16) and (3.18) we obtain,

$$(3.19) \quad 2(a+b)\alpha(X) + 4(a+b)\alpha(\xi)\eta(X) = b(\nabla_\xi \eta)(X).$$

Again, taking  $X = \xi$  in (3.14) we have

$$(3.20) \quad \begin{aligned} 2\alpha(\xi)S(Y, Z) + (a+b)\alpha(Y)\eta(Z) + (a+b)\alpha(Z)\eta(Y) \\ = b[(\nabla_\xi \eta)(Y)\eta(Z) + (\nabla_\xi \eta)(Z)\eta(Y)]. \end{aligned}$$

Now putting  $Y = Z = \xi$  in (3.20), we get

$$(a+b)\alpha(\xi) = 0,$$

which implies

$$(3.21) \quad \alpha(\xi) = 0, \quad \text{provided } (a+b) \neq 0.$$

Again  $Y = \xi$  in (3.20) implies,

$$(3.22) \quad 3(a+b)\alpha(\xi)\eta(Z) + (a+b)\alpha(Z) = b(\nabla_\xi \eta)(Z).$$

Replacing  $Z$  by  $X$  in (3.22) implies

$$(3.23) \quad 3(a+b)\alpha(\xi)\eta(X) + (a+b)\alpha(X) = b(\nabla_\xi \eta)(X).$$

Now, from (3.19) and (3.23), we have

$$(3.24) \quad (a+b)\alpha(X) + (a+b)\alpha(\xi)\eta(X) = 0.$$

So, in view of (3.21) we get from (3.24)

$$(3.25) \quad \alpha(X) = 0, \quad \forall X \quad [:\ (a+b) \neq 0].$$

Now, by virtue of (3.21) and (3.25) we obtain from (3.15)

$$(3.26) \quad (\nabla_X \eta)(Y) = 0, \quad [:\ b \neq 0].$$

We can write (3.26) as follows:

$$(3.27) \quad g(\nabla_X \xi, Y) = 0, \quad \forall X, Y.$$

From (3.27) it follows that

$$\nabla_X \xi = 0,$$

which implies that the vector field  $\xi$  is parallel. Hence we can state the following theorem:

**Theorem 3.** *Let  $M^n$  be a special weakly Ricci symmetric quasi-Einstein manifold with constants associated scalars  $a, b$  and  $(a+b) \neq 0$ . Then the generator of such a manifold is parallel.*

#### 4. On special weakly Ricci bi-symmetric quasi-Einstein manifolds

Let us consider a special weakly Ricci bi-symmetric quasi-Einstein manifold  $M^n$  ( $n > 3$ ), which is conformally flat. It is known [17] (p. 40) that for a conformally flat  $(M^n, g)$ , the Riemann curvature tensor has the following form:

$$(4.1) \quad \begin{aligned} {}^rR(X, Y, Z, W) = & \frac{1}{n-2} [S(Y, Z)g(X, W) - S(X, Z)g(Y, W) \\ & + S(X, W)g(Y, Z) - S(Y, W)g(X, Z)] \\ & + \frac{r}{(n-1)(n-2)} [g(X, Z)g(Y, W) - g(Y, Z)g(X, W)], \end{aligned}$$

where  $'R(X, Y, Z, W) = g(R(X, Y, Z), W)$ . Taking bi covariant derivative of (4.1) with respect to  $X$  and  $W$ , respectively, we get

(4.2)

$$(\nabla_W \nabla_X R)(Y, Z, V) = \frac{1}{n-2} [(\nabla_W \nabla_X S)(Z, V)Y - (\nabla_W \nabla_X S)(Y, V)Z].$$

Permuting twice the vectors  $X, Y, Z$  in equation (4.2) and using Bianchi's second identity, we get

$$(4.3) \quad \begin{aligned} & (\nabla_W \nabla_X S)(Z, V)Y - (\nabla_W \nabla_X S)(Y, V)Z \\ & + (\nabla_W \nabla_Y S)(X, V)Z - (\nabla_W \nabla_Y S)(Z, V)X \\ & + (\nabla_W \nabla_Z S)(Y, V)X - (\nabla_W \nabla_Z S)(X, V)Y = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Using (1.5) in (4.3) and also using the symmetric properties of Ricci tensor, we have

$$(4.4) \quad \begin{aligned} & \beta(W, X)S(Z, V)Y - \beta(W, X)S(Y, V)Z + \beta(W, Y)S(X, V)Z \\ & - \beta(W, Y)S(Z, V)X + \beta(W, Z)S(Y, V)X - \beta(W, Z)S(X, V)Y = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Contracting (4.4) with respect to  $X$ , we have

$$(4.5) \quad \beta(W, Z)S(Y, V) - \beta(W, Y)S(Z, V) = 0.$$

By factoring off  $V$  in (4.5), we get

$$(4.6) \quad \beta(W, Z)L(Y) - \beta(W, Y)L(Z) = 0.$$

Contracting (4.6) with respect to  $Y$ , we have

$$(4.7) \quad \beta(W, Z)r - \beta(W, L(Z)) = 0.$$

Putting  $Z = \xi$  in (4.7), we get

$$(4.8) \quad \begin{aligned} & \beta(W, \xi)r = (a + b)\beta(W, \xi), \quad [\text{using (2.6)}] \\ & \text{or, } \{r - (a + b)\}\beta(W, \xi) = 0, \\ & \text{or, } \beta(W, \xi) = 0, \quad [:\because r \neq a + b], \end{aligned}$$

i.e. the 2-form  $\beta$  is zero for all  $W$  and the vector field  $\xi$ .

**Theorem 4.** *In a special weakly Ricci bi-symmetric quasi-Einstein manifolds  $M^n$ , the 2-form  $\beta$  is zero for all vector fields  $X$  and the vector field  $\xi$ , i.e.  $\beta(X, \xi) = 0, \forall X$ .*



## 5. On $R$ -harmonic quasi-Einstein manifolds

Next we assume that  $M^n$  is an  $R$ -harmonic quasi-Einstein manifold. If  $\xi$  is a parallel vector field then from (1.7) and (3.9) we have

$$(5.1) \quad (\nabla_X S)(Y, Z) - (\nabla_Z S)(X, Y) \\ = X[a][g(Y, Z) - \eta(Y)\eta(Z)] - Z[a][g(X, Y) - \eta(X)\eta(Y)] = 0.$$

Now taking  $X = \xi$  in (5.1) we get

$$\xi[a] = 0,$$

which implies that  $a$  is constant along the vector field  $\xi$ . This leads to the following theorem:

**Theorem 5.** *Let  $M^n$  be an  $R$ -harmonic quasi-Einstein manifold under the condition that  $\xi$  is a parallel vector field. Then the scalar function  $a$  is constant along the vector field  $\xi$ .*

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