KYUNGPOOK Math. J. 52(2012), 49-59 http://dx.doi.org/10.5666/KMJ.2012.52.1.49

# *C*-parallel Mean Curvature Vector Fields along Slant Curves in Sasakian 3-manifolds

JI-EUN LEE Institute of Mathematical Sciences, Ewha Womans University, Seoul 120-750, Korea e-mail: jieunlee120gmail.com

YOUNG JIN SUH\* Department of Mathematics, Kyungpook National University, Daegu 702-701, Korea e-mail: yjsuh@knu.ac.kr

HYUNJIN LEE

Graduate School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, Kyungpook National University, Daegu 702-701, Korea e-mail: lhjibis@hanmail.net

ABSTRACT. In this article, using the example of C. Camci([7]) we reconfirm necessary sufficient condition for a slant curve. Next, we find some necessary and sufficient conditions for a slant curve in a Sasakian 3-manifold to have: (i) a *C*-parallel mean curvature vector field; (ii) a *C*-proper mean curvature vector field (in the normal bundle).

# 1. Introduction

Euclidean submanifolds  $x: M^m \to \mathbb{R}^n$  with proper mean curvature vector field for the Laplacian, that is the mean curvature vector field H satisfying

$$\triangle H = \lambda H, \quad \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$$

have been studied extensively (see [8] and references therein). For instance, all surfaces in Euclidean 3-space  $\mathbb{R}^3$  with  $\triangle H = \lambda H$  are minimal, or an open portion

The first author was supported by National Research Foundation of Korea Grant funded by the Korean Government(Ministry of Education, Science and Technology) (NRF-2011-355-C00013). The second and the third authors were supported by grant Proj. No. NRF-2011-220-C00002.



<sup>\*</sup> Corresponding Author.

Received October 8, 2010; revised September 28, 2011; accepted November 23, 2011. 2010 Mathematics Subject Classification: 58E20.

Key words and phrases: Slant curves, Mean curvature vector fields, C-parallel, Sasakian manifolds.

of a totally umbilical sphere or a circular cylinder.

Arroyo, Barros and Garay [1], [3] studied curves and surfaces in the 3-sphere  $S^3$  with proper mean curvature vector fields. Chen studied surfaces in hyperbolic 3-space with proper mean curvature vector fields [9].

All the space forms which consist of a sphere  $S^3$ , an Euclidean  $\mathbb{R}^3$  and a hyperbolic space  $H^3$  admit canonical almost contact structures compatible to the metric. In particular, all 3-dimensional space forms are normal almost contact metric manifolds. Moreover, except the model space Sol of solvegeometry, all the model spaces of *Thurston Geometry* have canonical (homogeneous) normal almost contact metric structures.

In [13], J. Inoguchi generalized some results on submanifolds with proper mean curvature vector fields in the 3-sphere  $S^3$  obtained in [1], [3] to those in 3-dimensional Sasakian space forms.

In [15], C. Ozgur and M. M. Tripathi studied for Legendre curves in a Sasakian manifold having a parallel mean curvature vector fields and a proper mean curvature vector fields containing a biharmonic curve.

Generalizing a Legendre curve in a 3-dimensional contact metric manifold, we consider a slant curve whose tangent vector field has constant angle with characteristic direction  $\xi$  (see [10]). For a non-geodesic slant curve in a Sasakian 3-manifold, the direction  $\xi$  becomes  $\xi = \cos \alpha_0 T + \sin \alpha_0 B$ , where T and B are unit tangent vector field and binormal vector field, respectively. From this, we know that the characteristic vector field  $\xi$  is orthogonal to the principal normal vector field N.

On the other hand, the mean curvature vector field H of a curve  $\gamma$  in 3dimensional contact Riemannian manifolds is defined by  $H = \nabla_{\dot{\gamma}} \dot{\gamma} = \kappa N$ . Therefore, we have that  $\xi$  is orthogonal to H for a slant curve in Sasakian 3-manifolds.

In this paper, we consider  $\nabla_{\dot{\gamma}} H = \lambda \xi$  and  $\Delta_{\dot{\gamma}} H = \lambda \xi$  corresponding to  $\nabla_{\dot{\gamma}} H = \lambda H$  and  $\Delta_{\dot{\gamma}} H = \lambda H$ , respectively.

Let H be the mean curvature vector field of a curve in 3-dimensional contact Riemannian manifolds M. The mean curvature vector field H is said to be C-parallel if  $\nabla H = \lambda \xi$ . Moreover, the vector field H is said to be C-proper mean curvature vector field if  $\Delta H = \lambda \xi$ , where  $\nabla$  denotes the operator of covariant differentiation of M. Similarly, in the normal bundle we can define C-parallel and C-proper mean curvature vector field as follows: H is said to be C-parallel in the normal bundle if  $\nabla^{\perp} H = \lambda \xi$ , and H is said to be C-proper mean curvature vector field in the normal bundle if  $\Delta^{\perp} H = \lambda \xi$ , where  $\nabla^{\perp}$  denotes the operator of covariant differentiation in the normal bundle of M.

In section 3, using the example of C. Camci([7]) we reconfirm necessary sufficient condition for a slant curve. In section 4, we study a slant curve with C-parallel and C-proper mean curvature vector field in Sasakian 3-manifolds. In section 5, we find necessary and sufficient condition for a slant curve with C-parallel and C-proper mean curvature vector field in the normal bundle in Sasakian 3-manifolds.

#### 2. Preliminaries

Let M be a 3-dimensional smooth manifold. A contact form is a one-form  $\eta$  such that  $d\eta \wedge \eta \neq 0$  on M. A 3-manifold M together with a contact form  $\eta$  is called a contact 3-manifold([4], [5]). The characteristic vector field  $\xi$  is a unique vector field satisfying  $\eta(\xi) = 1$  and  $d\eta(\xi, \cdot) = 0$ .

On a contact 3-manifold  $(M,\eta),$  there exists structure tensors  $(\varphi,\xi,\eta,g)$  such that

(2.1) 
$$\varphi^2 = -I + \eta \otimes \xi, \quad g(\varphi X, \varphi Y) = g(X, Y) - \eta(X)\eta(Y),$$

(2.2) 
$$g(X,\varphi Y) = d\eta(X,Y), \quad X,Y \in \mathfrak{X}(M).$$

The structure tensors  $(\varphi, \xi, \eta, g)$  are said to be the associated contact metric structure of (M, g). A contact 3-manifold together with its associated contact metric structure is called a *contact metric 3-manifold*.

A contact metric 3-manifold M satisfies the following formula [16]:

(2.3) 
$$(\nabla_X \varphi)Y = g(X + hX, Y)\xi - \eta(Y)(X + hX), \quad X, Y \in \mathfrak{X}(M),$$

where  $h = \pounds_{\xi} \varphi/2$ .

A contact metric 3-manifold  $(M,\varphi,\xi,\eta,g)$  is called a Sasakian manifold if it satisfies

(2.4) 
$$(\nabla_X \varphi)Y = g(X, Y)\xi - \eta(Y)X$$

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

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

(2.5) 
$$\nabla_T T = \kappa N, \quad \nabla_T N = -\kappa T + \tau B, \quad \nabla_T B = -\tau N,$$

where  $\kappa = \|\nabla_T T\|$  and  $\tau$  are geodesic curvature and geodesic torsion of  $\gamma$ , respectively. A Frenet curve is said to be a *helix* if both of  $\kappa$  and  $\tau$  are constants.

### 3. Slant curves

Let M be a contact metric 3-manifold and  $\gamma(s)$  a Frenet curve parametrized by the arc length s in M. The contact angle  $\alpha(s)$  is a function defined by  $\cos \alpha(s) = g(T(s), \xi)$ . A curve  $\gamma$  is said to be a slant curve if its contact angle is constant. Slant curves of contact angle  $\pi/2$  are traditionally called *Legendre* curves. The Reeb flow is a slant curve of contact angle 0. We take an adapted local orthonormal frame field  $\{X, \varphi X, \xi\}$  of M such that  $\eta(X) = 0$ .

Let  $\gamma$  be a non-geodesic Frenet curve in a Sasakian 3-manifold. Differentiating the formula  $g(T,\xi) = \cos \alpha$  along  $\gamma$ , it follows that

$$-\alpha' \sin \alpha = g(\kappa N, \xi) + g(T, -\varphi T) = \kappa \eta(N).$$

This equation implies the following result.

**Proposition 3.1([10]).** A non-geodesic curve  $\gamma$  in a Sasakian 3-manifold M is a slant curve if and only if it satisfies  $\eta(N) = 0$ .

Hence the unit tangent vector field T of a slant curve  $\gamma(s)$  has the form

(3.1) 
$$T = \sin \alpha_0 \{\cos \beta(s)X + \sin \beta(s)\varphi X\} + \cos \alpha_0 \xi$$

Then the principal normal vector field N and the characteristic vector field  $\xi$  are respectively given by the following without loss of generality

(3.2) 
$$N = -\sin\beta(s)X + \cos\beta(s)\varphi X,$$

(3.3) 
$$\xi = \cos \alpha_0 T + \sin \alpha_0 B$$

for some function  $\beta(s)$ . Differentiating  $g(N,\xi) = 0$  along  $\gamma$  and using the Frenet-Serret equations, we have

(3.4) 
$$\kappa \cos \alpha_0 + (1-\tau) \sin \alpha_0 = 0.$$

This implies that the ratio of  $\tau - 1$  and  $\kappa$  is a constant. Conversely, if  $\eta'(N) = 0$  and the ratio of  $\tau - 1$  and  $\kappa \neq 0$  is constant, then  $\gamma$  becomes clearly a slant curve. Thus we obtain the following result.

**Theorem 3.2([10]).** A non-geodesic curve in a Sasakian 3-manifold M is a slant curve if and only if  $\eta'(N) = 0$  and its ratio of  $\tau - 1$  and  $\kappa$  is constant.

The equation (3.4) implies the following result (compare with [2]).

**Corollary 3.3.** Let  $\gamma$  be a non-geodesic slant curve in a Sasakian 3-manifold M. Then  $\tau = 1$  if and only if  $\gamma$  is a Legendre curve.

Using the Example 4.2 of C. Camci([7]) we reconfirm necessary sufficient condition for a slant curve as following:

**Example 3.1.** In Sasakian space form  $R^3(-3)$ , we define  $\gamma(s) = (x(s), y(s), z(s))$  by

$$\begin{cases} x'(s) = -2\sqrt{1 - \sigma^2}\sin\theta, \\ y'(s) = 2\sqrt{1 - \sigma^2}\cos\theta, \\ z'(s) = 2\sigma + y(s)x'(s), \end{cases}$$

where  $\theta' = -2\sigma + \frac{2}{1+\sigma}$ . Then the tangent vector becomes

$$T = (\sqrt{1 - \sigma^2} \cos \theta)e + (-\sqrt{1 - \sigma^2} \sin \theta)\varphi e + \sigma\xi$$

and

(3.5) 
$$\nabla_T T = \left[\frac{-\sigma\sigma'}{\sqrt{1-\sigma^2}}\cos\theta - (\theta'+2\sigma)\sqrt{1-\sigma^2}\sin\theta\right]e + \left[\frac{\sigma\sigma'}{\sqrt{1-\sigma^2}}\sin\theta - (\theta'+2\sigma)\sqrt{1-\sigma^2}\cos\theta\right]\varphi e + \sigma'\xi.$$

Since  $\kappa^2 = || \nabla_T T ||$ , we have

$$\kappa^2 = \frac{(\sigma')^2 + 4(1-\sigma)^2}{1-\sigma^2}$$

and  $N = \frac{1}{\kappa} \nabla_T T$ . In 3-dimensional almost contact metric manifold  $M^3 = (M, \varphi, \xi, \eta, g)$ , we define a cross product  $\wedge$  by

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

where  $X, Y \in TM$ .

$$B = T \wedge N = -g(T,\varphi N)\xi - \eta(N)\varphi T + \eta(T)\varphi N.$$

So we get  $\eta(N) = \frac{1}{\kappa}\sigma'$  and  $\eta(B) = -g(T, \varphi N) = -\frac{1}{\kappa}(\theta' + 2\sigma)(1 - \sigma^2) = \frac{2}{\kappa}\sigma - 1$ . Using the Frenet-Serret equation (2.5) we find

(3.6) 
$$(\frac{\sigma'}{\kappa})' + \kappa \sigma = \frac{2}{\kappa} (\tau - 1)(\sigma - 1),$$

If a curve  $\gamma$  is a slant curve, then  $\eta(N) = \frac{1}{\kappa}\sigma' = 0$  and we see  $\sigma$  is a constant.

$$\frac{\tau - 1}{\kappa} = \frac{\kappa \sigma}{2(\sigma - 1)} = constant.$$

Conversely, we suppose that  $\eta(N)' = 0$  and  $\frac{\tau-1}{\kappa} = constant$ , then using the equation (3.6) we obtain that a curve  $\gamma$  is a slant curve.

**Remark 3.4.** In ([7]), for the above curve in Sasakian space form  $R^{3}(-3)$ , he suppose that  $\sigma(s) = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \cos(2\sqrt{2}s))$ , then  $\kappa = 2$  and  $\eta(N)' = \frac{1}{2}\sigma''(s)$  is not zero and therefore the curve  $\gamma$  is not a slant curve.

#### 4. Mean curvature vector fields

Let (M, g) be a Riemannian manifold and  $\gamma = \gamma(s) : I \to M$  a unit speed curve in M. Then the induced (or pull-back) vector bundle  $\gamma^*TM$  is defined by

$$\gamma^*TM := \bigcup_{s \in I} T_{\gamma(s)}M.$$

The Levi-Civita connection  $\nabla$  of M induces a connection  $\nabla^{\gamma}$  on  $\gamma^*TM$  as follows:

$$\nabla^{\gamma}_{\frac{d}{d\tau}}V = \nabla_{\dot{\gamma}}V, \quad V \in \Gamma(\gamma^*TM).$$

The Laplace-Beltrami operator  $\Delta = \Delta^{\gamma}$  of  $\gamma^*TM$  is given explicitly by

$$\Delta = -\nabla_{\dot{\gamma}} \nabla_{\dot{\gamma}}.$$

The mean curvature vector field H of a curve  $\gamma$  in 3-dimensional contact Riemannian manifolds is defined by

$$H = \nabla_{\dot{\gamma}} \dot{\gamma} = \kappa N.$$

In particular, for a Legendre curve  $\gamma$  in Sasakian manifolds we have

(4.1) 
$$H = \nabla_{\dot{\gamma}} \dot{\gamma} = \kappa \varphi \dot{\gamma}.$$

Further, differentiating  $N = \varphi \dot{\gamma}$  along  $\gamma$ , then using (2.4) we get  $\tau = 1$ . Using (2.5), we have

**Lemma 4.1.** Let  $\gamma$  be a curve in a contact Riemannian 3-manifold M. Then

(4.2) 
$$\nabla_{\dot{\gamma}}\nabla_{\dot{\gamma}}\dot{\gamma} = -\kappa^2 T + \kappa' N + \kappa\tau B,$$

(4.3)  $\nabla_{\dot{\gamma}} \nabla_{\dot{\gamma}} \nabla_{\dot{\gamma}} \dot{\gamma} = -3\kappa\kappa' T + (\kappa'' - \kappa^3 - \kappa\tau^2)N + (2\kappa'\tau + \kappa\tau')B.$ 

#### 4.1. C-parallel mean curvature vector field

For a slant curve  $\gamma$  in Sasakian 3-manifolds, from (3.3) and (4.2) we find that  $\gamma$  satisfies  $\nabla_{\dot{\gamma}} H = \lambda \xi$  if and only if

(4.4) 
$$\begin{cases} \kappa^2 = -\lambda \cos \alpha_0, \\ \kappa' = 0, \\ \kappa\tau = \lambda \sin \alpha_0. \end{cases}$$

Therefore we obtain:

**Theorem 4.2.** Let  $\gamma$  be a slant curve in a Sasakian 3-manifold. Then  $\gamma$  has a *C*-parallel mean curvature vector field if and only if  $\gamma$  is a geodesic( $\lambda = 0$ ) or helix with  $\kappa = \sqrt{-\lambda \cos \alpha_0}$ ,  $\tau = \frac{\lambda}{\kappa} \sin \alpha_0$ ,  $\lambda$  is a non-zero constant.

54

In particular, for a Legendre curve we have the following:

**Corollary 4.3.** Let  $\gamma$  be a Legendre curve in a Sasakian 3-manifold. Then  $\gamma$  satisfies  $\nabla_{\dot{\gamma}} H = \lambda \xi$  if and only if  $\gamma$  satisfies  $\nabla_{\dot{\gamma}} H = 0$ .

### 4.2. C-proper mean curvature vector field

For a slant curve  $\gamma$  in Sasakian 3-manifolds, from (3.3) and (4.3) we find that  $\gamma$  satisfies  $\Delta_{\dot{\gamma}}H = \lambda\xi$  if and only if

(4.5) 
$$\begin{cases} 3\kappa\kappa' = \lambda\cos\alpha_0, \\ -\kappa'' + \kappa^3 + \kappa\tau^2 = 0, \\ -(2\kappa'\tau + \kappa\tau') = \lambda\sin\alpha_0 \end{cases}$$

Hence we have:

**Theorem 4.4.** Let  $\gamma$  be a slant curve in a Sasakian 3-manifold. Then  $\gamma$  has no *C*-proper mean curvature vector field.

*Proof.* We assume that  $\lambda = \lambda_0 \neq 0$ , where  $\lambda_0$  is a constant. Then from the above first equation we get  $\kappa^2 = \frac{2}{3}(\lambda_0 \cos \alpha_0)s + a$ , *a* is a constant. Applying this result to the second equation of (4.5), it is a contradiction.

For the case of  $\lambda = 0$ , we have the following:

**Corollary 4.5.** Let  $\gamma$  be a slant curve in a Sasakian 3-manifold. Then  $\gamma$  satisfies  $\Delta_{\dot{\gamma}}H = 0$  if and only if  $\gamma$  is a geodesic.

In [15], C. Ozgur and M. M. Tripathi showed that Legendre curves satisfying  $\nabla_{\dot{\gamma}} H = 0$  or  $\Delta_{\dot{\gamma}} H = 0$  in Sasakian 3-manifolds are geodesic.

#### 5. Mean curvature vector fields in the normal bundle

The normal bundle of  $\gamma$  in M is defined by

$$T^{\perp}\gamma = \bigcup_{s \in I} (\mathbb{R}\dot{\gamma}(s))^{\perp}$$

The connection  $\nabla^{\perp}$  of the normal bundle  $T^{\perp}\gamma$  is called the *normal connection*. The Laplace-Beltrami operator

$$\Delta^{\perp} = -\nabla^{\perp}_{\dot{\gamma}} \nabla^{\perp}_{\dot{\gamma}}$$

of the normal bundle  $T^{\perp}\gamma$  is called the *normal Laplacian* of  $\gamma$ .

Then from (2.5) we have:

**Lemma 5.1.** Let  $\gamma$  be a curve in contact Riemannian 3-manifold M. Then

(5.1) 
$$\nabla^{\perp}_{\dot{\gamma}} \nabla^{\perp}_{\dot{\gamma}} \dot{\gamma} = \kappa' N + \kappa \tau B,$$

(5.2)  $\nabla_{\dot{\gamma}}^{\perp} \nabla_{\dot{\gamma}}^{\perp} \nabla_{\dot{\gamma}}^{\perp} \dot{\gamma} = (\kappa'' - \kappa\tau^2)N + (2\kappa'\tau + \kappa\tau')B.$ 

### 5.1. C-parallel mean curvature vector field in the normal bundle

For a slant curve  $\gamma$  in Sasakian 3-manifolds, from (3.3) and (5.1) we find that  $\gamma$  satisfies  $\nabla_{\dot{\gamma}}^{\perp} H = \lambda \xi$  if and only if

(5.3) 
$$\begin{cases} \lambda \cos \alpha_0 = 0, \\ \kappa' = 0, \\ \kappa \tau = \lambda \sin \alpha_0. \end{cases}$$

From this, we have:

**Theorem 5.2.** Let  $\gamma$  be a non-geodesic slant curve in a Sasakian 3-manifold. Then  $\gamma$  has a C-parallel mean curvature vector field in normal bundle if and only if  $\gamma$  is a circle( $\lambda = 0$ ) or a Legendre helix( $\lambda \neq 0$ ) with  $\lambda = \kappa$ ,  $\kappa$  and  $\tau$  are non-zero constant.

*Proof.* From the second equation of (5.3) we can see that  $\kappa$  is a constant. Using the first equation of (5.3), we get  $\lambda = 0$  or  $\gamma$  is a Legendre curve. If  $\lambda = 0$ , then a slant curve  $\gamma$  becomes a circle as  $\kappa$  is a constant and  $\tau = 0$ . If  $\lambda \neq 0$  then a slant curve  $\gamma$  is a Legendre curve and  $\lambda = \kappa$ .

## 5.2. C-proper mean curvature vector field in the normal bundle

For a slant curve  $\gamma$  in Sasakian 3-manifolds, from (3.3) and (5.2) we find that  $\gamma$  satisfies  $\Delta_{\dot{\gamma}}^{\perp} H = \lambda \xi$  if and only if

(5.4) 
$$\begin{cases} \lambda \cos \alpha_0 = 0, \\ -\kappa'' + \kappa \tau^2 = 0, \\ -(2\kappa'\tau + \kappa\tau') = \lambda \sin \alpha_0 \end{cases}$$

From this, we get

**Theorem 5.3.** Let  $\gamma$  be a non-geodesic slant curve in a Sasakian 3-manifold. Then the slant curve  $\gamma$  has a C-proper mean curvature vector field in the normal bundle if and only if  $\gamma$  is a circle( $\lambda = 0$ ) or a Legendre curve( $\lambda \neq 0$ ) with  $\kappa =$  $a \exp(s) + b \exp(-s), \tau = 1$  and  $\lambda = -2\{a \exp(s) - b \exp(-s)\}$  where a and b are constants.

*Proof.* (I) For the case of  $\lambda = 0$ , we have

(5.5) 
$$\begin{cases} \kappa'' - \kappa \tau^2 = 0, \\ 2\kappa' \tau + \kappa \tau' = 0 \end{cases}$$

Since a curve  $\gamma$  is a non-geodesic slant curve, by Theorem 3.2,  $\tau = a\kappa + 1$ , where a is a constant. From the second equation of (5.5), we have that  $\kappa' = 0$  or  $3a\kappa + 2 = 0$ .

For the case of  $\kappa' = 0$ , we get  $\kappa = constant \neq 0$  and  $\tau = 0$ .

For the case of  $3a\kappa + 2 = 0$ , using the first equation of (5.5) we have  $\tau = 0$ . However, it is contradictory to slant curve condition. Hence, for a non-geodesic slant curve  $\gamma$  in a Sasakian 3-manifold,  $\gamma$  satisfies  $\Delta_{\dot{\gamma}}^{\perp} H = 0$  if and only if  $\gamma$  is a circle with  $\kappa = constant \neq 0$  and  $\tau = 0$ .

(II) For the case of  $\lambda \neq 0$ , we can see that  $\gamma$  is a Legendre curve satisfying

(5.6) 
$$\begin{cases} \kappa'' - \kappa = 0, \\ 2\kappa' = -\lambda. \end{cases}$$

From this, for a slant curve  $\gamma$  in a Sasakian 3-manifold,  $\gamma$  satisfies  $\Delta_{\dot{\gamma}}^{\perp} H = \lambda \xi$ if and only if  $\gamma$  is a Legendre curve with  $\kappa = a \exp(s) + b \exp(-s)$ ,  $\tau = 1$  and  $\lambda = -2\{a \exp(s) - b \exp(-s)\}$  where a and b are constants.

Now, we consider slant curve satisfying (4.4) in the Heisenberg group  $\mathbb{H}_3$ .

**Example 5.1**([6], [10], [12]). The Heisenberg group  $\mathbb{H}_3$  is a Cartesian 3-space  $\mathbb{R}^3(x, y, z)$  furnished with the group structure

$$(x', y', z') \cdot (x, y, z) = (x' + x, y' + y, z' + z + (x'y - y'x)/2).$$

Define the left-invariant metric g by

$$g = \frac{dx^2 + dy^2}{4} + \eta \otimes \eta, \ \eta = \frac{1}{2} \{ dz + \frac{1}{2} (ydx - xdy) \}.$$

We take a left-invariant orthonormal frame field  $(e_1, e_2, e_3)$ :

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

Then the commutative relations are derived as follows:

(5.7) 
$$[e_1, e_2] = 2e_3, \ [e_2, e_3] = [e_3, e_1] = 0.$$

The dual frame field  $(\theta^1, \theta^2, \theta^3)$  is given by

$$\theta^1 = \frac{1}{2}dx, \ \theta^2 = \frac{1}{2}dy, \ \theta^3 = \frac{1}{2}dz + \frac{ydx - xdy}{4}.$$

Then the 1-form  $\eta = \theta^3$  is a contact form and the vector field  $\xi = e_3$  is the characteristic vector field on  $\mathbb{H}_3$ .

We define a (1,1)-tensor field  $\varphi$  by

$$\varphi e_1 = e_2, \ \varphi e_2 = -e_1, \ \varphi \xi = 0.$$

Then we find

(5.8) 
$$d\eta(X,Y) = g(X,\varphi Y),$$

and hence,  $(\eta, \xi, \varphi, g)$  is a contact Riemannian structure. Moreover, we see that it becomes a Sasakian structure.

Let  $\gamma$  be a slant curve in  $\mathbb{H}_3$ . Then for a constant  $\theta$  we put  $\gamma'(s) = T(s) = T_1e_1 + T_2e_2 + T_3e_3$  and  $T_1(s) = \sin\theta\cos\beta(s)$ ,  $T_2 = \sin\theta\sin\beta(s)$ ,  $T_3 = \cos\theta$ . By using Frenet-Serret equations (2.5) we compute the geodesic curvature  $\kappa$  and the geodesic torsion  $\tau$  for a slant curve  $\gamma$  in  $\mathbb{H}_3$ . Then we obtain

(5.9) 
$$\kappa = \sin \theta (\beta'(s) - 2\cos \theta),$$
$$\tau = \cos \theta (\beta'(s) - 2\cos \theta) + 1,$$

where we assume that  $\sin \theta(\beta'(s) - 2\cos \theta) > 0$ .

Here, the tangent vector field T of  $\gamma$  is also represented by the following:

$$T = \left(\frac{dx}{ds}, \frac{dy}{ds}, \frac{dz}{ds}\right) = \frac{dx}{ds}\frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \frac{dy}{ds}\frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \frac{dz}{ds}\frac{\partial}{\partial z}.$$

Then it follows that

$$\frac{dx}{ds} = 2T_1, \ \frac{dy}{ds} = 2T_2, \ \frac{dz}{ds} = 2T_3 + \frac{1}{2}\left(x\frac{dy}{ds} - y\frac{dx}{ds}\right)$$

From C-parallel mean curvature vector field condition of the theorem 4.2 and (5.9), we find  $\beta(s) = As + a$ , where  $A = -\frac{\lambda}{\sin^2 \theta} (\sin \theta - \cos^2 \theta) + 2 \cos \theta$ . Then we can find an explicit parametric equations of slant curves  $\gamma$  which are helices: Then every slant curve with *C-parallel mean curvature vector fields* in  $\mathbb{H}_3$  is represented as

$$\begin{cases} x(s) = \frac{2}{A}\sin\theta\sin(As+a) + b, \\ y(s) = -\frac{2}{A}\sin\theta\cos(As+a) + c, \\ z(s) = \left(2\cos\theta + \frac{2\sin^2\theta}{A}\right)s - \frac{1}{A}\sin\theta\{b\cos(As+a) + c\sin(As+a)\} + d, \end{cases}$$

for a constant contact angle  $\theta$ , where A, a, b, c, d are constants. These slant helices satisfy  $\kappa^2 = -\lambda \cos \theta$ ,  $\kappa \tau = \lambda \sin \theta$ , where  $\lambda$  is a non-zero constant.

In the same way, we can find the slant curves satisfying C-parallel or C-proper mean curvature vector field (in the normal bundle).

Acknowledgements The first author would like to thank J. Inoguchi for useful suggestions and valuable comments in the improvement of the paper. The authors would like to thank the referee for his/her useful comments.

# References

 J. Arroyo, M. Barros and O. J. Garay, it A characterisation of Helices and Cornu spirals in real space forms, Bull. Austral. Math. Soc., 56(1)(1997), 37-4

- [2] C. Baikoussis and D. E. Blair, On Legendre curves in contact 3-manifolds, Geom. Dedicata 49 (1994), 135-142.
- [3] M. Barros and O. J. Garay, On submanifolds with harmonic mean curvature, Proc. Amer. Math. Soc., 123(1995), 2545-2549.
- [4] D. E. Blair, Riemannian Geometry of Contact and Symplectic Manifolds, Progress in Math., 203, Birkhäuser, Boston, Basel, Berlin, 2002.
- [5] D. E. Blair, F. Dillen, L. Verstraelen and L. Varncken, Calabi curves as holomorphic Legendre curves and Chen's inequality, Kyunpook Math. J., 35(1996), 407-416.
- [6] R. Caddeo, C. Oniciuc and P. Piu, Explicit formulas for biharmonic non-geodesic curves of the Heisenberg group, Rend. Sem. Mat. Univ. e Politec. Torino, 62(3)(2004), 265-278.
- [7] C. Camci, Extended cross product in a 3-dimensionsal almost contact metric manifold with applications to curve theory, Turk. J. Math., 35(2011), 1-14.
- [8] B. Y. Chen, Some open problems and conjectures on submanifolds of finite type, Soochow J. Math., 17(1991), no. 2, 169-188.
- B. Y. Chen, Some classification theorems for submanifolds in Minkowski space-time, Arch. Math. (Basel), 62(1994), 177-182.
- [10] J. T. Cho, J. Inoguchi and J.-E. Lee, Slant curves in Sasakian 3-manifolds, Bull. Aust. Math. Soc. 74(2006), no. 3, 359-367.
- [11] J. T. Cho and J.-E. Lee, Slant curves in contact pseudo-Hermitian 3-manifolds. Bull. Aust. Math. Soc., 78(2008), no. 3, 383-396.
- [12] J. T. Cho, J. Inoguchi and J.-E. Lee, Biharmonic curves in Sasakian space forms, Ann. Mat. Pura Appl., 186(2007), 685-701.
- [13] J. Inoguchi, Submanifolds with harmonic mean curvature vector field in contact 3manifolds, Colloq. Math., 100(2004), 163-179.
- [14] J.-E. Lee, On Legendre curves in contact pseudo-Hermitian 3-manifolds, Bull. Aust. Math. Soc. 78(2010), no. 3, 383-396.
- [15] C. Ozgur, M. M. Tripathi, On Legendre curves in α-Sasakian manifolds, Bull. Malays. Math. Sci. Soc., 31(2)(2008), no. 1, 91-96.
- [16] S. Tanno, Sur une variété de K-contact métrique de dimension 3, C. R. Acad. Sci. Paris Ser. A-B, 263(1966), A317-A319.