

**NULL SECTIONAL CURVATURE PINCHING FOR  
CR-LIGHTLIKE SUBMANIFOLDS OF SEMI-RIEMANNIAN  
MANIFOLDS**

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ABSTRACT. In this article we obtain the pinching of the null sectional curvature of CR- lightlike submanifolds of an indefinite Hermitian manifold. As a result of this inequality we conclude some non-existence results of such lightlike submanifolds. Moreover using the Index form we prove more non-existence results for CR-lightlike submanifolds.

1. INTRODUCTION

The theory of submanifolds of a Riemannian or semi-Riemannian manifold is well-known .(see for example, [1] and [6]). However the geometry of lightlike (null) submanifolds (for which the geometry is different from the non-degenerate case) is highly interesting and in a developing stage. In particular, curvature pinching relations are of substantial interest as they give the bounds for the curvature. Analogous to sectional curvature in Riemannian case, Duggal [2] defined the null sectional curvature for lightlike submanifolds. Earlier on, A. Gray [4] investigated different pinchings for sectional and bisectonal curvature under certain conditions in case of Kaehler manifolds. In this article we would like to study CR-lightlike submanifold of an indefinite almost Hermitian manifold (for definite Hermitian manifolds see [5]) and hence obtain the null sectional curvature pinching

$$-K_{\xi}(JY) \leq K_{\xi}(X) \leq 3K_{\xi}(JY)$$

as our main theorem; where  $X, Y$  are two orthonormal vectors in some distribution of  $S(TM)$  and  $K_{\xi}(X)$  is the null sectional curvature [2] . With the help of this null curvature pinching we obtain some non-existence results for CR-lightlike submanifolds of an indefinite almost Hermitian manifold.

In the last we also study some applications of the Index form and Jacobi equation [6], to conclude some more non-existence results.

2. PRELIMINARY

Let  $(\bar{M}, \bar{g})$  be an  $(m + n)$ -dimensional semi-Riemannian manifold and  $\bar{g}$  be a semi-Riemannian metric on  $\bar{M}$  . Let  $M$  be a lightlike submanifold of  $\bar{M}$ .

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**Definition 2.1.** [2] A lightlike submanifold  $M$  of an indefinite almost Hermitian manifold  $\bar{M}$  is said to be CR-lightlike submanifold if and only if the following two conditions are fulfilled:

- (a)  $J(\text{Rad}TM)$  is a distribution on  $M$  such that  $\text{Rad}TM \cap J(\text{Rad}TM) = \{0\}$ ,
- (b) there exists vector bundles  $S(TM)$ ,  $S(TM^\perp)$ ,  $\text{ltr}(TM)$ ,  $D_\circ$  and  $D'$  over  $M$  such that

$$S(TM) = \{J(\text{Rad}TM) \oplus D'\} \perp D_\circ ; JD_\circ = D_\circ ; J(D') = L_1 \perp L_2$$

where  $D_\circ$  is a non-degenerate distribution on  $M$ , and  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  are vector sub-bundles of  $\text{ltr}(TM)$  and  $S(TM^\perp)$  respectively.

It is seen that there exists examples of CR-lightlike submanifolds of an indefinite Hermitian manifold. An example of such kind can be given as follows[2]:

**Example1.** Let  $M$  be a submanifold of codimension 2 of  $R_6^2$  given by the equations

$$x^5 = x^1 \cos \alpha - x^2 \sin \alpha - f(x^3, x^4) \tan \alpha,$$

$$x^6 = x^1 \sin \alpha + x^2 \cos \alpha + f(x^3, x^4)$$

where  $\alpha \in R - \{\frac{\pi}{2} + k\pi; k \in Z\}$  and  $f$  is a smooth function such that  $(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x^3}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^4}) \neq (0, 0)$ . It is easily verified that the tangent bundle of  $M$  is spanned by

$$\begin{aligned} \{\xi &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x^1} + \cos \alpha \frac{\partial}{\partial x^5} + \sin \alpha \frac{\partial}{\partial x^6}; \\ X_\circ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x^2} - \sin \alpha \frac{\partial}{\partial x^5} + \cos \alpha \frac{\partial}{\partial x^6}; \\ X_1 &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x^3} - \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^3} \tan \alpha \frac{\partial}{\partial x^5} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^3} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^6}; \\ X_2 &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x^4} - \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^4} \tan \alpha \frac{\partial}{\partial x^5} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^4} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^6} \}. \end{aligned}$$

Then  $M$  is a 1-lightlike submanifold with  $\text{Rad}(TM) = \text{span}\{\xi\}$ . Moreover by using  $J(x_1, y_1, \dots, x_m, y_m) = (-y_1, x_1, \dots, -y_m, x_m)$  we obtain that  $J\text{Rad}(TM)$  is spanned by  $X_\circ$  and therefore it is a distribution on  $M$ . Hence  $M$  is a CR-lightlike submanifold of codimension 2 of  $R_6^2$ .

**Example 2.** We consider a submanifold  $M$  of codimension 2 in  $R_2^8$  given by the equations

$$x^7 = x^1 \cos \alpha - x^2 \sin \alpha - x^5 x^6 \tan \alpha,$$

$$x^8 = x^1 \sin \alpha + x^2 \cos \alpha + x^5 x^6$$

where  $\alpha \in R - \{\frac{\pi}{2} + k\pi; k \in Z\}$ . Then  $TM$  is spanned by

$$\begin{aligned} U_1 &= (1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, \cos \alpha, \sin \alpha); U_2 = (0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, -\sin \alpha, \cos \alpha); \\ U_3 &= (0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0); U_4 = (0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0); \\ U_5 &= (0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, -x^6 \tan \alpha, x^6); U_6 = (0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, -x^5 \tan \alpha, x^5). \end{aligned}$$

It is easy to check that this submanifold is 1-lightlike submanifold of  $R_2^8$  such that  $\text{Rad}(TM) = \text{span}\{U_1\}$ . Furthermore by using

$$J(x_1, y_1, \dots, x_m, y_m) = (-y_1, x_1, \dots, -y_m, x_m)$$

on  $R_2^8$  we see that  $U_2 = JU_1$ . This shows that  $JRad(TM)$  is a distribution on  $M$ . Hence  $M$  is a CR-lightlike submanifold.

Let  $u \in M$  and  $\xi$  be a null vector in  $T_uM$ . A plane  $P$  of  $T_uM$  is called a null plane directed by  $\xi$  if it contains  $\xi$ ,  $g_u(\xi, X) = 0$  for any  $X \in P$  and there exists  $X_o \in P$  such that  $g_u(X_o, X_o) \neq 0$ . As in case of lightlike submanifolds the collection of null vectors is denoted by  $Rad(TM)$  and non-null vectors by  $S(TM)$  i.e. we always have  $\xi \in Rad(TM)$  and  $X_o \in S(TM)$ . This means that in case of lightlike submanifolds null plane is spanned by a vector of  $Rad(TM)$  and a vector of  $S(TM)$ .

**Definition 2.2.** [2] *The null sectional curvature of  $P$  with respect to  $\xi$  and  $\nabla$  is defined as the real number*

$$K_\xi(X) = \frac{g(R(X, \xi)\xi, X)}{g(X, X)}, \forall \xi \in Rad(TM), X \in S(TM).$$

The null sectional curvature of  $P$  with respect to  $\xi$  and  $\bar{\nabla}$  is defined as the real number

$$\bar{K}_\xi(X) = \frac{\bar{g}(\bar{R}(X, \xi)\xi, X)}{\bar{g}(X, X)}, \forall \xi \in Rad(TM), X \in S(TM).$$

We denote by  $Q_\xi(X)$ , the quantity  $g(R(X, \xi)\xi, X)$  i.e.  $Q_\xi(X) = g(R(X, \xi)\xi, X)$  which gives

$$Q_\xi(X) = \|X\|^2 K_\xi(X). \quad (2.1)$$

Similarly we have  $\bar{Q}_\xi(X)$  in case of  $\bar{M}$ .

In [3] Duggal and Jin defined totally umbilical lightlike submanifolds of a semi-Riemannian manifold.

**Definition 2.3.** [2] *A lightlike submanifold  $M$  of a semi-Riemannian manifold  $\bar{M}$  is totally umbilical if there is a smooth transversal vector field  $H \in \Gamma(tr(TM))$  on  $M$  called the transversal curvature vector field of  $M$ , such that for all  $X, Y \in \Gamma(TM)$ ,*

$$h(X, Y) = Hg(X, Y).$$

A CR-lightlike submanifold which is totally umbilical is called totally umbilical CR-lightlike submanifold.

The following lemma is an important result regarding the null sectional curvature of totally umbilical CR-lightlike submanifold:

**Lemma 2.4.** *Let  $(M, g)$  be a totally umbilical CR-lightlike submanifold of an almost Hermitian manifold  $(\bar{M}, \bar{g})$ . Then the null sectional curvature of  $M$  is equal to the null sectional curvature of  $\bar{M}$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $(M, g)$  be a totally umbilical CR-lightlike submanifold of  $(\bar{M}, \bar{g})$ . Then from [2] we can write

$$\bar{g}(\bar{R}(X, \xi)\xi, X) = g(R(X, \xi)\xi, X) + \bar{g}(h^s(X, \xi), h^s(\xi, X)) - \bar{g}(h^s(X, X), h^s(\xi, \xi)), \quad (2.2)$$

$\forall X \in D_o$  and  $\xi \in Rad(TM)$ . Since  $M$  is totally umbilical we have,

$$\bar{K}_\xi(X) = K_\xi(X).$$

□

3. THE PINCHING THEOREM

Curvature pinching relations are an important tool to study the geometry of a manifold (or submanifold) which is evident from many interesting articles in the literature (for example see [4]). We prove the null sectional curvature pinching theorem in case of CR-lightlike submanifolds of an indefinite almost Hermitian manifold.

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $(M, g)$  be a CR-lightlike submanifold of an indefinite almost Hermitian manifold  $(\bar{M}, \bar{g})$  with non-zero null sectional curvature. Also suppose that  $X, Y$  be any two orthonormal vectors in  $D_o$  such that  $g(X, JY) = \cos \theta$ . Then either*

$$-K_\xi(JY) \leq K_\xi(X) \leq 3K_\xi(JY) \quad (3.1)$$

or

$$\cos \theta = \frac{1}{2}.$$

*Proof.* From the definition of  $Q_\xi(X)$  and the linearity of the curvature tensor  $R$  we conclude that

$$\begin{aligned} Q_\xi(X + JY) &= g(R(X, \xi)\xi, X) + g(R(X, \xi)\xi, JY) \\ &\quad + g(R(JY, \xi)\xi, X) + g(R(JY, \xi)\xi, JY). \end{aligned} \quad (3.2)$$

Similarly we have

$$\begin{aligned} Q_\xi(X - JY) &= g(R(X, \xi)\xi, X) - g(R(X, \xi)\xi, JY) \\ &\quad - g(R(JY, \xi)\xi, X) + g(R(JY, \xi)\xi, JY). \end{aligned} \quad (3.3)$$

Combining equations 3.2 and 3.3, we derive

$$g(R(X, \xi)\xi, X) = Q_\xi(X + JY) + Q_\xi(X - JY) - 2Q_\xi(JY) - Q_\xi(X) \quad (3.4)$$

Let  $X$  and  $JY$  be any two vectors of  $D_o$  such that  $g(X, JY) = \cos \theta$ , then as a consequence of equations 2.2 and 3.4, it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} K_\xi(X) &= \|X + JY\|^2 K_\xi(X + JY) + \|X - JY\|^2 K_\xi(X - JY) \\ &\quad - 2\|JY\|^2 K_\xi(JY) - \|X\|^2 K_\xi(X) \\ &= \{\|X\|^2 + 2\cos \theta + \|JY\|^2\} K_\xi(X + JY) + \{\|X\|^2 - 2\cos \theta \\ &\quad + \|JY\|^2\} K_\xi(X - JY) - 2\|JY\|^2 K_\xi(JY) - \|X\|^2 K_\xi(X) \end{aligned} \quad (3.5)$$

Now we consider the cases depending on the signature of vector fields:

**Case (a)** If  $X$  and  $JY$  are spacelike vectors i.e.  $\|X\|^2 = \|JY\|^2 = 1$ , then from equation 3.5 we have

$$= 2(1 + \cos \theta)K_\xi(X + JY) + 2(1 - \cos \theta)K_\xi(X - JY) - 2K_\xi(JY) - K_\xi(X).$$

Using the linearity of the tensor  $K_\xi$  we calculate the above equation as

$$K_\xi(X) = (1 - 2\cos \theta)K_\xi(JY), \quad \forall X, Y \in D_o. \quad (3.6)$$

Since  $-1 \leq \cos \theta \leq 1$  we obtain that

$$-K_\xi(JY) \leq K_\xi(X) \leq 3K_\xi(JY), \quad \forall X, Y \in D_o.$$

**Case (b)** If  $X$  and  $JY$  are timelike vectors i.e.  $\|X\|^2 = \|JY\|^2 = -1$ , then from equation 3.5 we find

$$2K_\xi(X) = (1 + 2\cos\theta)K_\xi(JY), \quad \forall X, Y \in D_\circ.$$

The above equation implies that

$$-\frac{1}{2}K_\xi(JY) \leq K_\xi(X) \leq \frac{3}{2}K_\xi(JY)$$

or we can say

$$-K_\xi(JY) \leq K_\xi(X) \leq 3K_\xi(JY).$$

**Case (c)** If  $\|X\|^2 = 1$  and  $\|JY\|^2 = -1$ , then from equation 3.5 we derive

$$K_\xi(X) = (1 - 2\cos\theta)K_\xi(JY), \quad \forall X, Y \in D_\circ.$$

which again gives

$$-K_\xi(JY) \leq K_\xi(X) \leq 3K_\xi(JY).$$

**Case (d)** If  $\|X\|^2 = -1$  and  $\|JY\|^2 = 1$ , then equation 3.5 simplifies to

$$K_\xi(JY) = 2\cos\theta K_\xi(JY).$$

This shows that

$$\cos\theta = \frac{1}{2}$$

since  $M$  is with non-zero null sectional curvature.  $\square$

**Remark** :- We see here that one cannot consider the entire  $S(TM)$  for the above pinching of null sectional curvature since from the definition of CR-lightlike submanifolds  $S(TM) = \{J(\text{Rad}TM) \oplus D'\} \perp D_\circ$  and  $JD' \subset \text{ltr}(TM) \perp S(TM^\perp)$ .

From lemma-1 and the above theorem, we immediately have:

**Corollary 3.2.** Let  $(M, g)$  be a totally umbilical CR-lightlike submanifold of an indefinite almost Hermitian manifold  $(M, \bar{g})$  with non-zero null sectional curvature. Also suppose that  $X, Y$  be any two orthonormal vectors in  $D_\circ$  such that  $g(X, JY) = \cos\theta$ . Then either

$$-\bar{K}_\xi(JY) \leq \bar{K}_\xi(X) \leq 3\bar{K}_\xi(JY), \quad \forall X, Y \in D_\circ,$$

or

$$\cos\theta = \frac{1}{2}.$$

We also note the following:

**Corollary 3.3.** Let  $(M, g)$  be a CR-lightlike submanifold of an indefinite almost Hermitian manifold  $(M, \bar{g})$ . Also suppose  $X$  and  $JY$  are both spacelike or timelike orthonormal vectors where  $X, Y \in D_\circ$ . Then there exists no such submanifolds with negative null sectional curvature.

*Proof.* Putting  $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$  in equation 3.6 we have

$$K_\xi(X) = K_\xi(JY).$$

Hence from pinching 3.1 we find

$$-K_\xi(X) \leq K_\xi(X) \leq 3K_\xi(X), \quad \forall X, Y \in D_\circ.$$

which gives that

$$K_\xi(X) \geq 0.$$

Hence the result.  $\square$

**Corollary 3.4.** *Let  $(M, g)$  be a totally umbilical CR-lightlike submanifold of an indefinite almost Hermitian manifold  $(\bar{M}, \bar{g})$ . Also suppose  $X$  and  $JY$  are both spacelike or timelike orthonormal vectors where  $X, Y \in D_\circ$ . Then  $\bar{M}$  cannot be with negative null sectional curvature.*

4. INDEX FORM AND APPLICATION OF NULL CURVATURE PINCHING

In the present section we deal with the application of Index form of non null geodesics of CR-lightlike submanifold of an indefinite almost Hermitian manifold. First we give a brief idea of the variation of a curve.

Let  $M$  be a CR-lightlike submanifold of an indefinite almost Hermitian manifold  $\bar{M}$ , then since the non-degenerate metric of  $\bar{M}$  induce the degenerate metric on  $M$  (c.f. [2]; page-1), we can define the variation of any non-null curve  $\alpha$  in  $M$  of sign  $\varepsilon$ , as defined in [6].

**Definition 4.1.** *A variation of a curve segment  $\alpha : [a, b] \longrightarrow M$  is a two parameter mapping*

$$x : [a, b] \times (-\delta, \delta) \longrightarrow M$$

such that  $\alpha(u) = x(u, 0)$  for all  $a \leq u \leq b$ . The vector field  $V$  on  $\alpha$  given by  $V(u) = x_v(u, 0)$  is called the variation vector field of  $x$ . Similarly the vector field  $A(u) = x_{vv}(u, 0)$  gives the acceleration and we call it the transverse acceleration vector field of  $x$ .

We note that the variation vector field  $V$  on  $\alpha \subset M$  may or may not be a null vector field since in the definition it is not bound to have special causal character.

To find out the change in arc length of a curve segment under small displacements let  $x : [a, b] \times (-\delta, \delta) \longrightarrow M$  be a variation of a curve segment. For each  $v \in (-\delta, \delta)$ , let  $L_x(v)$  be the length of the longitudinal curve  $u \longrightarrow x(u, v)$ . Then it is easy to see that the first variation of the arc length function  $L_x(v)$  is given by

$$L'_x(0) = \varepsilon \int_a^b g\left(\frac{\alpha'}{|\alpha'|}, V'\right) du. \tag{4.1}$$

The second variation of arc length of  $L_x(v)$  is possible in case  $\alpha$  is a geodesic and is given by

$$L''_x(0) = \frac{\varepsilon}{c} \int_a^b \{g(V', V') - g(R(V, \alpha')V, \alpha')\} du + \frac{\varepsilon}{c} [g(\alpha', A)]_a^b$$

where  $\|\alpha'\| = c$ .

It is clear that for a fixed endpoint variation the last term of the above expression is zero and hence we have

$$L''_x(0) = \frac{\varepsilon}{c} \int_a^b \{g(V', V') - g(R(V, \alpha')V, \alpha')\} du. \tag{4.2}$$

**Definition 4.2.** The index form  $I_\alpha$  of a nonnull geodesic  $\alpha \in \Omega(p, q)$ , is the unique symmetric bilinear form

$$I_\alpha : T_\alpha(\Omega) \times T_\alpha(\Omega) \longrightarrow R$$

such that if  $V \in T_\alpha(\Omega)$ , then  $I_\alpha(V, V) = L_x''(0)$ , where  $\Omega(p, q)$  is the collection of all piecewise smooth curve segments  $\alpha : [a, b] \longrightarrow M$  from  $p$  to  $q$ .

Let us assume  $\alpha$  to be a nonnull geodesic in  $M$  of sign  $\varepsilon$ . Then we have the following theorem:

**Theorem 4.3.** Let  $M^n$  be a CR-lightlike submanifold of an indefinite almost Hermitian manifold  $\bar{M}$  with  $\left\| \frac{d\xi}{du} \right\| > 0$ ,  $\forall \xi \in \text{Rad}TM$  and let  $X, Y$  be any two orthonormal vectors in  $D_\circ$  such that  $g(X, JY) = \cos \theta < \frac{1}{2}$ . Then there exists no such submanifolds with non-negative null sectional curvature.

*Proof.* Let  $\alpha$  be any non-null geodesic. The index form  $I_\alpha$  for a nonnull geodesic  $\alpha$  is given by

$$I_\alpha(V, V) = \frac{\varepsilon}{c} \int_a^b \{g(V', V') - g(R(V, \alpha')V, \alpha')\} du.$$

Let  $X, Y$  be any two orthonormal vectors in  $D_\circ$  such that  $g(X, JY) = \cos \theta < \frac{1}{2}$ , then replacing  $\alpha'$  by  $X \in D_\circ$ ,  $V$  by  $\xi \in \text{Rad}(TM)$  we get

$$I_\alpha(\xi, \xi) = \frac{\varepsilon}{c} \int_a^b \{g(\xi', \xi') + K_\xi(X)\} du.$$

It is easy to see that  $V$  can be lightlike vector since by definition of Index form  $V \in T_\alpha(\Omega)$  and  $T_\alpha(\Omega)$  is the tangent space to  $\Omega$  at  $\alpha$  which consists of all piecewise smooth vector fields on  $\alpha$  [6]. Therefore from the last equation we find

$$I_\alpha(\xi, \xi) = \frac{\varepsilon}{c} \int_a^b \{g(\xi', \xi') + (1 - 2 \cos \theta) K_\xi(JY)\} du. \quad (4.3)$$

Now from [2] (equation -2.36; page-160), we note that in general  $\xi'$  i.e.  $\nabla_{\frac{\partial}{\partial u}} \xi$  or  $\frac{d\xi}{du}$  is not purely lightlike in nature. Therefore  $g(\xi', \xi') \neq 0$ . Furthermore since  $g(\xi, \xi) = 0$  implies that  $g(\xi, \xi') = 0$  which shows that  $\xi$  is orthogonal to  $\xi'$ . Combining these facts, we can consider  $\xi'$  to be a vector in  $D_\circ$  which is non-degenerate.

Furthermore if  $M^n$  is a CR-lightlike submanifold of an indefinite almost Hermitian manifold  $\bar{M}$  with non-negative null sectional curvature then since  $\|X\| = +1$  or  $-1$  implies  $\varepsilon = +1$  or  $-1$  respectively and  $\left\| \frac{d\xi}{du} \right\| > 0$ , we see from the above equation 4.3 that  $I_\alpha(\xi, \xi) > 0$ . But then from [6] (lemma-13; chapter-10)  $M^n$  is with index either zero or  $n$ , which being lightlike submanifold, are not possible cases for  $M^n$ . Thus we get a contradiction and hence this proves the non-existence of  $M^n$ .  $\square$

We conclude the following corollary from the above theorem.

**Corollary 4.4.** Let  $M^n$  be a CR-lightlike submanifold of an indefinite almost Hermitian manifold  $\bar{M}$  with  $\left\| \frac{d\xi}{du} \right\| > 0$ ,  $\forall \xi \in \text{Rad}TM$  and let  $X, Y$  be any two orthonormal vectors in  $D_\circ$  such that  $g(X, JY) = \cos \theta < \frac{1}{2}$ . Then  $\bar{M}$  cannot have negative null sectional curvature.

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